

Minutes from the
St. Mary's County Commission for Women Meeting
April 9, 2012

Juanita Nether called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. Members present were: Juanita Nether (Chair), Marta Kelsey (Vice-Chair), Katie Werner (Secretary), Krisanne Bentley, Kyle Bishop, Terry Hall, Gretchen Hardman, Jamilliah Thomas and Stephanie Figeroux, Commission Liaison. Members absent were Denise Krumenacker, Sharisse Swales, and Meredith Wilkins-Arnold.

Also present were Honorable David W. Densford and Lynn Fitrell (Maryland Commission for Women).

Minutes – The January meeting minutes were not ready for review and will be discussed at the April meeting. The minutes from the March 12, 2012 meeting were reviewed. Krisanne Bentley moved and Marta Kelsey seconded to approve the minutes as presented; the motion was approved with all members voting in favor of same.

Budget – Stephanie Figeroux presented a draft budget, however it was not complete. There are three outstanding checks in the amount of \$160.00. In addition there would be an additional \$180.80 to reimburse for printing and \$40.00 to reimburse for the gift to our banquet speaker. Stephanie will have an updated budget at the May meeting.

Website – Stephanie Figeroux reported that she has a temp who has started the process of getting the past minutes up-to-date on the website. She will be calling Katie Werner and Marta Kelsey to get any past minutes that are missing.

Family Violence Coordinating Council – There was no meeting because of early voting. Krisanne Bentley will be leaving and we need another representative to sit on the Family Violence Coordinating Council to attend meetings. Krisanne is willing to introduce the new representative to the Council and help with the transition. The meetings are usually on the 3rd Wednesday of each month between 5:30 p.m. and 6/7 p.m. There are usually no meetings in November or January. If interested, please let Krisanne know by the next meeting. The representative can be someone not on the Commission for Women, but will need to be willing to attend both meetings. If anyone is interested in joining the Commission for Women please complete an application to the County Commissioners.

Healthy Relationships Program – Presentations of the play were given at all three high schools. It was interesting watching the reaction of the students. In the future it would be nice if the Superintendent of Schools and members of the Board of Education went to the performances in the schools so they can see the student's reactions. The week after the Banquet the schools had Safety Festivals – pencils and shoe cards were given out; the door prizes were also given out at the Safety Festivals. The 10th graders at Chopticon High School wrote essays. Norma Pipkin went to the presentation at Great Mills High School; Krisanne Bentley and Marta Kelsey went to the presentation at Leonardtown High School; Juanita Nether went to the presentation at Chopticon High School. In addition, there was a lot of response from the community performance. The royalty for each performance is \$65.00; the cost of 310 scripts was \$400.00; the schools purchased an additional 400 scripts. They are now working on having the play presented to the students in the Charles County Public Schools. It was a good idea to put the shoe cards on the tables and window sills so the students could pick them up inconspicuously without going to the table.

Banquet. Suggestions for next year's banquet would be to add more tables (or perhaps longer tables) and recognize the judges, and have nametags for the nominees. Marta Kelsey will make sure that nametags are on the check list. Another suggestion would be to use criteria when writing the biographies for the programs. New members to the Commission should be oriented to what happens at the banquet. There was a brief discussion to consider reserved seating. Duties should be delegated in advance. The banquet is usually earlier in the year but it was dependent on the schedule of the public schools. It

makes a difference as to when everything is due. This year we had 197 people registered. This would also be a perfect opportunity to look for new members (Sue Creighton).

Resource Guide. We need a guide for women in the County. This should be a project for next year.

Officers. We need nominations for next year's officers at the May meeting. Marta Kelsey will be the nominating committee. Please get nominations to Marta by the end of the month.

Guest – Judge Densford attended the meeting and thanked everyone for the hard work done on the banquet; it was a great event.

Marta Kelsey moved to adjourn the meeting, Jamilliah Thomas seconded the motion; the motion was approved with all members voting in favor of same. The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Werner, Secretary

OUR NEXT MEETING IS MAY 14th
5:30 P.M., ROOM 14
SEE YOU THEN ☺