

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

WOMEN'S ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

THURSDAY, November 30, 2000 at 7:00p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:25 p.m. by Chair Wendy Krueger.

A. Roll Call:

Roberta Sue Buckner

Gretchen Fine

Julia Gandelsman

Barbara Hamaker

excused absence

Mina Kedar

Wendy Krueger, Chair

Nadine Le Gouguec

Judy Lubin

Judith Mayo, Vice Chair

Rae Mitchell

Marcy Norton

STAFF: Fran Solomon, Larissa Fooks, Roz Helfand

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Judy Lubin noted that the minutes of the October 26, 2000 meeting of the Board incorrectly reflected that her absence from that meeting had been unexcused when it had, in fact, been excused, which staff confirmed. With that correction, Sue Buckner made a motion to approve the Minutes of the October 26, 2000 meeting as amended. Julia Gandelsman seconded. The motion passed by consensus.

III. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no items from the public.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Educational Town Hall Forum – Election 2000

The Educational Town Hall Forum sub-committee (Nadine Le Gouguec and Rae Mitchell) gave a post-event report about this 90-minute cable television program

which the Women's Advisory Board sponsored in anticipation of the November 2000 election. There were five speakers who discussed topics including reproductive rights, economic issues, gay and lesbian issues, women as caretakers, health and education; a representative of the League of Women Voters discussed the ballot propositions; and Deanna Stevenson acted as moderator. Three members of the Women's Advisory Board (Rae Mitchell, Barbara Hamaker and Wendy Krueger) asked questions. The show has aired five times. Nadine reported that she wanted to send thank-you notes to the participants but has not yet gotten the necessary information from Deanna: staff said that they will take care of sending her form letter out for her.

B. Women's History Month

The Board heard status reports from representatives of the various sub-committees working on different aspects of the planning for Women's History Month in March, 2001, as follows:

1. Marcy Norton reported that the **Banner Sub-Committee** (consisting of herself and Rae Mitchell) had met earlier today and had reviewed the history of the selection process which had been used previously, a list of the women on the existing banners and a list of suggestions made by previous committees and others for women who might be honored next time. The sub-committee will review and consider suggestions of specific women to be honored narrow the list down to perhaps four and present those, along with the sub-committee's recommendations for two of those, to the full Board for decision at its next meeting.
2. Sue Buckner reported that the **Women in Business Sub-Committee** met on Tuesday, November 28, 2000. They had worked on a mission statement as to who can be honored at this "recognition ceremony for local women in the commercial, industrial and professional business community." The members of the Board discussed possible refinements to this description and decided to leave it as the sub-committee had crafted it. Sue asked for members of the Board to think about and nominate women whom they think should be honored with these awards. The ceremony is scheduled for March 14, 2001, from 6 to 8 p.m., to be held at the Treasury, a design showroom on Santa Monica Boulevard. Wendy described the awards that are to be presented at the ceremony. Fran made a suggestion for a special one-time award to honor a past president of the Women's Advisory Board at the time of this ceremony.
3. Nadine Le Gouguec reported for the **International Women's Day Sub-Committee** (consisting of herself, Mina Kedar and Wendy Krueger). She stated that International Women's Day will be on March 8, 2001, but the sub-committee has not yet decided what it wants to do on that day. The Board reviewed a tape of a suggested

feminist poet who might be available to do readings for whatever event is planned. Julia Gandelsman said that she knows of a Nicaraguan woman writer and political activist who might be interesting and available. Julia was added to the sub-committee as a member and was asked to look into this possibility.

4. Wendy Krueger, Mina Kedar and Judy Lubin, who comprise the **Poetry Sub-Committee**, showed a tape of a woman who is a feminist poet and may be available to do a reading of her works in connection with the celebrations of Women's History Month. The other Board members expressed their support for such an idea.
5. Wendy Krueger reported on behalf of the **Art Sub-Committee** (of which she is the sole member). She stated that she needs to coordinate with Alison Maxwell (City Staff), who has just returned from vacation and has not yet been available but should be soon.
6. Judith Mayo reported on behalf of the **Women's Health Issues Sub-Committee** (consisting of herself and Barbara Hamaker), stating that they have not met yet. It was mentioned that this sub-committee could have a role to play beyond Women's History Month Larissa advised that Ivy Bottini and the women on the Gay and Lesbian Advisory Board are also interested in coordinating on women's health issues.
7. Sue Buckner reported that the "**Saturdays in the Park**" **Sub-Committee** (consisting of herself and Barbara Hamaker) has not yet met. It was mentioned that this is another sub-committee that could have a role to play beyond its involvement in Women's History Month.

Larissa advised that all planning by the various sub-committees should be finalized by January so that we can then begin on an informational campaign and the other work necessary in time to have whatever events are to occur for Women's History Month happen on time.

C. **Legislative Update**

Rae Mitchell passed out a chart showing the results of the recent elections across the country and the local propositions. There was a discussion about these results and other issues related to the election. Rae also recommended phoning Vice President Al Gore at (202) 863-7151 and telling him that we support his effort to protect our democracy and the right to have each vote counted. She asked that we call as soon as possible and urge our friend to do likewise so that the number of calls will be known before his lawyers argue before the Supreme Court. Marcy Norton, who had been hired to help run the Democratic campaign headquarters in

West Hollywood, thanked the members of the Women's Board who had volunteered their time and efforts at the headquarters to help get out the vote.

D. Retreat Follow-up

Roz Helfand reported that she will ask Pamela, the retreat facilitator, to come back and participate in a discussion of how we are doing in reaching the goals we established for ourselves as a Board at the last retreat. Roz will keep the Board posted on plans for such a follow-up.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. V-Day

Wendy Krueger noted that there will be a rally on Valentine's Day, 2/14/01, at Madison Square Garden in New York City to support the V-Day movement to end violence against women. The Board members were provided an information packet about V-Day activities and events. Rae Mitchell noted that the organizers are asking for a worldwide V-Day initiative and suggested that we should do something to support it. It was decided that the Board members should read the informational packet and be prepared to discuss ideas related to this event at the next Board meeting.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

There were items discussed by several Board members, as follows:

- A. Wendy Krueger announced that she is no longer working at her former place of employment. The Board members encouraged her to be open to all sorts of opportunities and wished her well with her job search.
- B. Judith Mayo thanked Rae Mitchell for her help and Guidance in locating an employment situation that Judith is very happy with.
- C. Gretchen Fine advised the Board that artist Marilyn Sunderman, who did a beautiful signed piece for us and donated it to the City, has leukemia. Gretchen asked that we send her a get-well card signed by all the Board members, and it was decided that this would be done at our next meeting.
- D. Mina Kedar announced that the Downtown Women's Center is holding its holiday open house and invited all board members to attend.
- E. Everyone thanked and complimented Gretchen Fine on the lovely dinner she provided for the Board members at this evening's meeting.

VII. ITEMS FROM THE STAFF

Fran Solomon advised the Board that the final item on next Monday' (12-4-00) City Council meeting agenda is the filling of Board and Commission vacancies including two positions currently available on this Board. She advised that we have a number of good candidates who have applied for the positions and suggested that we might like to attend or watch the Council meeting to find out who will be joining us. Board members were asked to encourage any women they know who might be interested to apply for a position on the Board.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m. by chair Wendy Krueger, upon a consensus vote of the Board members present, to their next regular meeting at 7 p.m. on December 28, 2000 in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90069.