

Commission on Women Minutes for 2/08/06

Members present: Jane Hovland, Susana Pelayo Woodward, Joy Michalicek, Kim Riordan, Stacey Stark, Linda Klint, Lisa ZumHofe, Martha Eberhart, Cindy Christian, Deborah Petersen-Perlman

Members excused: Denise Cater, Sasha Aramalay,

I. Minutes: MSC (Joy, Martha)

II. Outreach: Kim can be at the dorm by 5:30; Lisa will arrive with the program materials at 5:45, Joy will be there as well. We think Sasha volunteered to participate as well. Martha provided the gift certificate (\$25), and Joy ordered the food. Joy reported that chocolate covered strawberries cost \$1/ea, so she went with bars, chocolate fondue and fresh fruit. There will be ice water to drink.

III. Grants: Stacey reported that no new grants have been submitted. Cindy will take care of the disbursement of funds (working through Mary Allen) to the recipient after Stacey has notified the recipient of the award. Stacey mentioned that the Commission helped support Safe Sex week with a grant of \$1000. The organization was tabling in Kirby. We need to verify that they acknowledge Commission support.

IV. Stacey reported the Leadership cohort had a great session on 2/7, in spite of absences due to sick children (and one late arrival). Karen directed the session on setting goals, based on a book called Have a Great Year. Karen directed the participants in what tools they need to have in order to have a great year. The group is really bonding. DPP will write an article extolling the benefits and success of this program. Stacey emphasized that the group clearly wants this program. Denise sent out a message asking if last year's cohorts would agree to have their names published. Denise and Stacey will inquire the same of this year's cohort. Cindy will explore what needs to happen to get Karen paid. We will ask Karen if we could put her bio up on the website.

V. Elections: Deborah has sent an announcement encouraging women to run for election to ddd and bizann. Susan Hudec will join us at our next meeting.

VI. Posters: Susana reported that WRAC has enough posters. Deborah will send the letter (as corrected) to Greg Fox. Joy announced that Facilities has some frames.

VII. Speakers for Spring Luncheon: Lisa suggested we consider Beth Magolama, a woman who does work in business training for women in Tanzania (they fund 40 women to get started in business, the women then pay back the loan). Lisa said that Beth and her husband sell products made by the women, and would want to do so at this event. Lisa suggested we enlist a percussion ensemble to do African music. Other recommendations for speakers included Karen Keenan, Toni Thorstad, or Sonia Bonilla. Sonia, Toni and Beth all fit with the Women in Poverty theme we explored at the Gallery of Grants. There was interest in the idea of combining entertainment with whomever we select as a speaker. Additional entertainment options suggested include the St. Mark's AME dancers, step dancers, etc.

VIII. Post cards: Add information about the Linda Larson award. We should also make sure that the revised guidelines for the award are on the web.

IX. For future meetings: Stacey asked that we revisit the issue of the image we're using to represent the Commission on Women. Kim suggested that as it looks now, there's no representation of the typical UMD student (white girl) included. Stacey also reminded us that we had discussed having a banner made with a CW image included. (BTW—we're not talking logo, because that invites certain rules regarding representation of UMD; we're talking about an image). We will address this at our next meeting.

X. Upcoming events: Look for information about Black History Month events (films, speakers); Foreign Language Film Festival, and Women's History Month. Susana reported that the Women's History Month poster still has room for information. She also reported that Tina Welch will be the keynote speaker for Women's History month. The memorial for Liz Witherspoon, Sharon Witherspoon's daughter, will be held Friday, February 10 at 11 a.m. at the Coppertop church.

XI. Meeting adjourned at 1:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Petersen-Perlman