



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Oregon Commission for Women
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MINUTES

Oregon Commission for Women
Friday, November 20, 2009
11:30 AM – 1:30 PM
Sussman Shank LLP
1000 SW Broadway, Suite 1400
Portland, OR 97205-3089

ATTENDEES

Chairwoman: Sue Castner
Vice Chair: Nena Cook
Commissioners: Donna Harris (*teleconference*), Megan Jacquot (*teleconference*), Rep. Betty Komp, Sen. Martha Schrader
Guests: Jan Dilg, Eliza Canty-Jones, Nancy Sloan
Staff: Joy Howard

I. Call to Order

Chair Castner called the meeting to order at 11:33 AM

II. Adoption of Agenda

Adoption of agenda was motioned and approved unanimously

III. Approval of Minutes

Minutes were motioned and approved unanimously

IV. Nancy Sloan, VA Women's Center

The [Women Veterans Health](#) Strategic Health Care Group provides programmatic and strategic support to implement positive changes in the provision of care for all women veterans.

VA began providing medical and psychosocial services for women in 1988, when women represented 4.4 percent of all veterans. By 2010, women veterans are expected to make up more than 14 percent of the total U.S. veteran population.

In July 2010, the Women's VA Clinic facility will be completed. Services that will be available include mental health, social work, and physical health.

How can OCFW help?

Currently, there are a lot of education initiatives for women going into the military. OCFW and help get information to groups who are about to be deployed and educate them on some of the issues facing women veterans and resources available. Also, go into the schools to educate young girls of these issues. There are programs to deal with issues after an incident, but it's not embedded into the curriculum.

Women Veteran Facts:

- As of 9/30/2007, the percentage of U.S. veterans who are women is 7.4 percent.
- The average age of women veterans is 47 years, compared to 61 years for their male counterparts.
- In 2006 and 2007, PTSD, hypertension, and depression were the top three diagnostic categories for women veterans treated by VHA.
- In 2007, 22 percent of women veterans who used the VA for health care screened positive for Military Sexual Trauma (MST).
- Although sexual trauma occurs more frequently among women than among men, slightly more male veterans than female veterans report experiencing MST, due to the disproportionate ratio of men to women in the military

Handouts and useful information:

- [Women Veterans Health Care Brochure](#)
- [VA Women Center Facts](#)
- [VAMC PowerPoint](#)
- “Love My Rifle More Than You” by Kayla Williams

V. **Jan Dilg, Project Director, [Oregon Women Suffrage Centennial Committee](#)**

The Oregon Suffrage Centennial is a project of the [Northwest History Network](#), a volunteer, 501(c)3 consortium of history professionals. The 2012 Committee is comprised of colleagues in the history and archival community who focus on women's history and public history in Oregon and the Pacific Northwest.

The upcoming centennial is an opportunity for all Oregonians to reflect on important topics: the ongoing role women have played in our state's history, the lessons of the suffrage movement, the achievements of citizen-based political movements, and the importance of civic engagement -- among many other important historic and contemporary issues.

How can OCFW help?

- Scholarships and education (e.g., achievements and education of women contributions)
- Assist organization in obtaining access to legislators
- Have a member of OCFW on the board to provide leadership and support
- Identify partnerships and collaborations with different organizations

Vote:

Senator Schrader motioned to have OCFW partner with Oregon Women Suffrage Centennial Committee, Vice Chair Cook seconded, approved unanimously

Action:

Senator Schrader volunteered to research ways the Oregon Women Suffrage committee can get a memorial for the 2012 celebration.

VI. **Chair's Report to Commission**

a. Newsletter

- i. The next edition of the OCFW newsletter will be distributed before the end of the year
- ii. Vice Chair Cook and Commissioner Jacquot will report by mid-December to Chair Castner an estimation of when the “Oregon Women and the Law” book will be updated
- iii. Chair Castner will contact Commissioners Harris and Shimada for input

b. WOA Brunch – 2009

- i. Still waiting on final bill from the Nines and other expenses/revenues in order to wrap up event
- ii. Estimated profit of about \$12,000 from event
- iii. There was criticism that there was not enough diversity in award recipients. Next year the Commission will work to find a way to better communicate and show more diversity
- iv. Ticket prices will remain low and affordable

VII. Report on Commissioner Projects and Objectives

a. Bylaws vs. Statutes

- i. The statutes currently state that the Governor appoints the OCFW chair
- ii. Commissioner Jacquot stated that if the Commission wants women to have a voice, then OCFW should vote for its own chair
- iii. Vote:
 1. This item has been tabled until the January 22, 2010 meeting. Sen. Schrader will find out whether or not changes can be made.

VIII. Adjournment at 12:50 PM