



# Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, Governor

**Oregon Commission for Women**  
“Advocating Equality and Diversity”  
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## Minutes

### Oregon Commission for Women (OCFW)

Friday, November 15, 2013

12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

State Office Building, 800 NE Oregon St., Room 612, Portland, OR 97232

#### **ATTENDANCE:**

**Chair:** Stephanie Vardavas  
**Vice Chair:** Jeanne Burch (phone)  
**Commissioners:** Jessica Rodriguez-Montegna, Dr. Barbara Spencer, Mariahm Stephenson  
**Absent:** Megan Jacquot, Stephanie Swanson, Rep. Komp, Sen. Monnes Anderson  
**Staff:** Lucy Baker, Nancy Kramer  
**Guests:** Jodi Ballard-Beach, Chair, and Katharine Quince, Friends of the OCFW; Lorenzo Rodriguez-Montegna

#### **I. Call to Order**

The Commission was called to order at 12:19pm. Quorum was established part-way through the meeting.

#### **II. Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda was adopted by common consent.

#### **III. Approval of the September 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes and Strategic Planning Session Minutes**

Both sets of minutes were approved by common consent, as written.

#### **IV. OCFW Old Business**

##### **A. Recruiting for OCFW**

Chair Vardavas identified a possible new commissioner, C.M. Hall. She speaks American Sign Language and has experience in development and graphic design. Chair Vardavas attended the Vision 2020 conference and announced the OCFW is recruiting. She also announced that the Women of Achievement Awards nominations close on December 15, 2013.

##### **B. Women of Achievement Awards update**

The Commissioners briefly discussed possible nominees. It was agreed that the nomination form should be sent to county and city officials in Multnomah County and

beyond if possible. Chair Vardavas also announced at the Vision 2020 conference that the Women of Achievement Awards nominations close on December 15, 2013.

The planning meeting for the WOA is Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. Other items were touched on briefly, including the possibility of a celebrity MC; creating a video or PowerPoint about the OCFW's history, with cameos by past winners; having nominators introduce the nominees at the event; the option of adding a small fee to each ticket to cover the cost of sending an OR Women Firsts poster to a school and make the event family-friendly by inviting the Portland Thorns.

The Commissioners liked the idea of using a large sized postcard for the WOA invitation or program that would have the OR Women Firsts poster on one side and either the evening's program or a save the date on the other side.

C. New Commissioner Handbook

Commissioner Spencer is near completing the review draft of the handbook on which she has been working. There is more outreach to conduct. With Lucy's assistance Frank Garcia will be asked to review certain portions of the handbook. She is enjoying the process.

D. Collective Impact Model (CIM)

Chair Vardavas reached out to OCBA Commissioner Karol Collymore. Commissioner Collymore is interested and she will attend the next steering committee meeting.

The Friends spoke with the PSU Populations Services Department data center regarding data collection and analysis for shared indicators for women's issues and the cost is \$3,500. If the Friends moved ahead with this idea the report would be owned by the OCFW. The current balance in the Friends' account is ~\$4,000.

Kimberley Goddard stepped down from the Friends' board due to personal circumstances. Jodi is working on recruiting other board members.

E. OCFW Social Media

Chair Vardavas reminded the OCFW Commissioners to ask their friends to like the OCFW's Facebook page. Facebook posts for women's issues/news at the national level are welcome, as well as Oregon stories.

V. **OCFW New Business**

A. Ratification of E-vote for Katharine Quince to join the Friends of the OCFW.

Katharine introduced herself to the group. She moved to Portland 10 years ago and was first involved in nonprofit canvassing. Her long-term goal is to be working on issues that affect women and girls and she is excited to be joining the Friends.

**MOTION (Spencer/Rodriguez-Montegna):** Katharine Quince to become a member of the Friends of the Oregon Commission for Women. **CARRIED.**

B. Human Trafficking

Commissioner Spencer, Lucy Baker, Oregon Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (OCAPIA) Commissioner Jennifer Kleskie, and Oregon Commission on Hispanic Affairs Commissioner (OCHA) Commissioner Judy Parker met with Chanpone Sinlapasai, an immigration lawyer and Hannah Horsley of the US District Attorney's Office, to discuss human trafficking. Oregon is affected by this issue. A follow-up meeting with Hannah Horsley was postponed indefinitely due to her being assigned to a different case. But Hannah is introducing the interested Commissions to her replacement in Human Trafficking at the US Attorney's Office. Lucy has reached out to that person to offer the Commissions' support and interest.

Lucy met with the Bureau of Labor and Industries recently and learned the Commissioner Avakian is interested in this subject as well. Lucy will set a meeting to explore the option of a joint internship on this topic with interested OAC Commissioners and Commissioner Avakian. Attorney General Rosenblum recently convened a seminar on sex trafficking protections.

Lucy noted that the OCBA is concerned about the growing lawlessness in some counties of Oregon, and rural hate crimes. Vice Chair Burch, who lives in a rural area, was particularly interested in this information. Lucy will connect Vice Chair Burch with OCBA Commissioner Robin Morris Collin. Vice Chair Burch noted that she is not aware of human trafficking issues in the rural areas of Fossil, but that wild game poaching is a big issue for the area.

#### C. Joint Meetings of the Oregon Advocacy Commissions (OACs)

A bill was passed in the 2013 Oregon legislative session that adds a statutory meeting for the OACs to meet jointly at least annually to conduct business of mutual interest to the Advocacy Commissions. The new statute goes into effect January 1, 2014. The first joint meeting of the Commissions will be scheduled for January 2014, and the OACs Leadership group is working with Frank Garcia to invite the Governor to participate for a brief part of the meeting.

Due to the Governor's limited availability the meeting date will be selected in deference to Governor Kitzhaber's schedule, with a request that the meeting take place before the February short session begins. The next step for the OAC Leadership to send Frank a memo of interest and a draft agenda.

During their planning meeting with Mr. Garcia, he also noted the OACs willingness and active participation in the Governor's Diversity and Inclusion Kitchen Cabinet and complimented the OACs' public policy internship work. Chair Vardavas noted how much she appreciates Frank Garcia's support and partnership since he joined the Governor's Office. She has found him to be attentive to the Commissions' interest and actively engaged in a number of key discussions with them.

#### D. Prosperity Initiative

Chair Vardavas, Jodi Ballard, Elizabeth Nye, Lucy and Nancy met by conference call with Oregon's First Lady Cylvia Hayes to discuss her Prosperity Initiative. It uses a

prosperity lens to review the state's biennial budget planning and the Governor's 10-Year Plan, so as to identify what issues directly or indirectly affect poverty.

The First Lady noted that it is important to include a women's perspective within the prosperity lens, and appreciated gaining that awareness while talking with the group. She has invited Chair Vardavas to attend the next meeting of the Prosperity Task Force.

**E. Upcoming OCFW Meetings**

The Commissioners reviewed the 2014 schedule of OCFW meeting and, due to already-scheduled travel on the part of the Chair, agreed to hold the January 2014 on January 24th (instead of the 17<sup>th</sup>) and the May meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup> (instead of May 16<sup>th</sup>). Nancy will update the schedule and redistribute.

**VI. Administrator's Report - Lucy**

**A. Staffing Plans and budget request for the OACs**

Lucy Baker, Nancy Kramer, Frank Garcia and Vicki Jorgensen, the OACs' Human Resources support person met a last month to discuss the Commissions' interest in expanding the OACO staff. DAS HR discussed with the group potential job descriptions that might meet the Commissions' needs and prepared a list of 8 possible positions. It will be shared amongst the Commissioners in the next few weeks. This spring the Commissions will approve their proposed staffing plan for the OACO and meeting with key legislators, asking for their support in adding much-needed staff.

**B. Department of Administrative Services' Managers' Survey**

OACO was asked to participate in a DAS Managers' survey that focuses on the duties and responsibilities of managers. She will distribute her survey response to all Commissioners for review and comment.

**C. Direct Deposit**

Nancy announced that DAS is switching to Direct Deposit for all employees and Commissioners. All Commissioners who receive stipends are asked to enroll in Direct Deposit, which involves completing a form and submitting a voided check.

**VII. Good of the Order**

**A.** Next OCFW meeting January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014, 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM, 800 NE Oregon Street, Room 612, Portland, OR 97232

**B.** Commissioner Stephenson is volunteering in the community by answering questions and ensuring people are aware of how to register for health insurance through Cover Oregon.

**VIII. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned by common consent at 1:30pm.