MINUTES
Oregon Commission for Women
Friday, May 13, 2011
11:30 AM – 1:30 PM
PSU, School of Social Work
1800 SW 6th Ave., Portland

ATTENDEES
Acting Chair: Sunny Petit
Commissioners: Jenny Greenleaf, Megan Jacquot, Mariahm Stephenson, Darlene Taylor
Speakers: Torii Fields, Jamie Ross: PATH for Women
Staff: Lucy Baker

I. Call to Order and Roll Call
Meeting called to order at 11:35 a.m. A quorum was established.

II. Adoption of agenda and approval of March 2011 minutes
Motion: Jacquot/Taylor to approve the agenda – Carried
Motion: Taylor/Stephenson to approve the minutes – Carried

III. Representative from PATH on women’s health research, Oregon’s 2011 grade (in recognition of Women’s Health Week)
Torii Fields and Jamie Ross reported on Policy Advocacy Towards Health for Women (PATH). PATH is collaboration between OHSU and PSU. It collects and analyses medical data on women’s health for legislators and other policy makers. There are 38 indices for women’s health that are collected state by state. They reveal that indices for PAP smears, binge drinking, and Chlamydia infections have not improved, but smoking, colorectal screening, and cancer death rates have improved. They noted that OHSU is focusing on breast and cervical cancer and works with legislators on policy in this area. The National Women’s Law Center provides a number of online resources on Women’s Health. The Commission thanked them for their presentation.

The Commission discussed current health related awareness and policy efforts affecting women. This year is the first year that May is being celebrated as Lupus Awareness because of legislation passed in this session. Lupus affects women more than men. Paid sick days are an important benefit for women with lupus. Also, there is a work-life task force being discussed in this legislative session, that if passed, will help legislators better understand the health disparities among women. There are large numbers of Latino women who are uninsured. Chair Petit would like to see the OCFW’s Annual Report for 2011 address these and other disparities among cultural groups.
IV. **Coordinator’s report**
Lucy reviewed the favorable OACO Budget Hearing before Joint Ways and Means. All the Commission Chairs testified in support of the OAC budget and 10 other partner agencies and supporters also testified in support. They included Urban League of Portland, CAUSA, APANO, AAUW, Center for Intercultural Organizing, BOLI, Governor’s Office of Inclusion, Diversity, and Affirmative Action, OCBA Masters Intern, and Rep. Lew Frederick. She discussed the General Fund financial reports for the OAC and the OCFW. She reviewed the Other Fund balance for the OCFW. The OAC office has also been assisting the OCFW with submitting its testimony on key issues.

V. **Chair’s report**
Chair Petit reviewed legislation of interest with the OCFW. The legislation allowing OCFW to elect its own chair will pass. She reviewed the bills that the OCFW have testified regarding and discussed their current situation including:
HB2861 and 2863; on wage discrimination and public accommodation
HB 5030, on maintaining TANF programs and budget
HB 2313, on allowing OCFW election of officers
HB 2438, on teen sexual violence
SB 695, on eliminating BPA in infant products
SB 433, on treatment options for gynecological cancers
And reviewed the OCFW press release on Equal Pay Day

Commissioner Stephenson added information on HB 3311 on low birth weight babies, and volunteered to provide testimony on HB 2235 covering maternal mental health.

The Chair provided an overview of the nomination process and outreach for WOA. There are a strong set of applicants for the 2011 awards.

Chair Petit reported on Vision 2020. It is a way for engaging women in the political process and includes parity. She asked the Commission to consider becoming a partner in the Oregon Vision 2020 project on gender parity on state boards and commissions. The OCFW would have the opportunity to sponsor legislation in 2011 on gender parity on OR Boards and Commissions in support of the Vision 2020 plan. The potential involvement for OCFW in Vision 20/20 can include sponsoring legislation, discussion of Vision 2020 progress at each Commission meeting, host forums for Vision 20/20 at varying cities with invitations to the Mayor, AAUW and local League of Women Voters Chapter to talk about gender parity. It would encourage cities to consider improving gender parity in their towns as well. The Vision 2020 project ends in the fall of 2012.

**Motion:** Greenleaf/Stephenson to approve OCFW participation in Vision 20/20 and Sunny Petit as the OCFW delegate. – **Carried.** 4 in favor, 1 abstention.

Chair Petit reported on the meeting she hosted with Frank Garcia and leaders of Women’s groups on key women’s issues. Mr. Garcia was fully engaged and wishes to
be included in the future. The group will have a phone conference to follow-up on collaboration ideas shared at the meeting.

NACW is meeting July 21-23 Phoenix, Arizona. Sunny hopes to attend for the Commission. Commissioner Taylor is also interested in attending.

VI. OCFW Business and Commissioner Reports

2011 Women of Achievement Awards
The Commission discussed the location for the 2011 WOA awards. During discussion they agreed to pursue hosting the event in Salem at the Governor or Secretary of State offices and invite the Governor and Secretary of State to present the awards. Sunny and the OACO office will work on those arrangements.

The Commission reviewed the 2011 WOA nominations for:
   Minalee Saks*
   Dr. Jane Lubchenco*
   Midge Purcell
   Miriam Richards
   Dr. Jill Ginsberg
   Rita Sullivan
   * Have been nominated previously

The awards will be in the Fall at the Secretary of State office or Governor’s office. What the award will be is still being decided.

Motion: Jacquot/Petit to approve awarding 4 Women of Achievement awards in 2011.—Carried.

The Commission members rated the applications individually and added the points.

The top scoring nominees for 2011 are:
   o Minalee Saks
   o Jill Ginsberg
   o Jane Lubchenco
   o Rita Sullivan

Motion: Greenleaf/Stephenson to give 2011 WOA awards to Minalee Saks, Jill Ginsberg, Jane Lubchenco, and Rita Sullivan.—Carried.

Lucy will check the files for the 2010 award letter and provide it to the Commissioners as a model for them to alert the winners.

OCFW Election of Officers
Sunny reminded the Commission that in July, they will be able to vote for their Chair and Vice Chair. She noted that those that wish to run as Chair or Vice Chair to let her know.

**OCFW representation on the Oregon Environmental Task Force**

Mariah Stephenson reported on her interest in representing the OCFW on the Environmental Justice Task Force. It was established in 1979 to represent those who are affected by environmental issues. The other 3 Commissions are part of the Environmental TF. She asked the Commission to consider being a regular participant on the Environmental Justice Task Force and volunteered to be the OCFW representative.

**Motion:** Petit/Greenleaf to have Commissioner Stephenson represent the OCFW on the Environmental Task Force meetings. – **Carried.**

**Guidelines for posting on OCFW Facebook.**

Jenny Greenleaf reported on guidelines for posting on Facebook. She provided a draft of guidelines for the OCFW to follow for posting on Facebook. Discussion followed. Currently, anyone can post on the OCFW wall, but it can be locked to allow only posts by the OCFW. Jenny will add more and get the next draft out to the Commission for adoption.

**OCFW e-mailing lists**

Commissioner Greenleaf reported on her meeting with Joy Howard regarding the OCFW list of e-mail lists. She discovered that there are few organized e-mail lists. When Jenny prepared a newsletter in May, she used a trial subscription with Emma. The OACO has a State listserv, but Jenny feels it is not very user friendly. The other software, Emma, is $24/mo looks good and would like to have a 1 year subscription which includes a customized template for a newsletter and stationery. She recommends purchasing a subscription and using it for the OCFW’s summer newsletter.

**Motion:** Petit/Greenleaf to purchase a 1 year subscription with Emma using General Fund. – **Carried.**

**New Commissioners and OCFW Advisory Council**

The Commission considered potential Commissioners for the OCFW.

Chair Petit noted the OCFW also has an option to establish an advisory group. She asked the Commission to consider establishing such a group that could include Sen. Schrader, Eugene Mayor Kitty Piercy, and other opinion leaders.

**OCFW meetings and planning for 2011-2012**

Sunny noted that the OCFW annual planning meeting will be held during the summer to choose their strategies and direction into 2012. She recommends that the Commission engage a professional facilitator to support the planning process. Discussion followed on the benefit of having a facilitator for such retreats. While not unanimous, there was general agreement to pursue engaging a facilitator immediately and have that person
begin the pre-planning process with the Commissioners. The Commission will e-vote on the facilitator cost and scope of work.

Every Woman’s Expo and Princess for a Day.
Darlene Taylor reported on the Every Woman’s Expo in Medford. She attended the Expo and hosted a table for the OCFW with brochures and photos. It was well attended. Princess for a Day was also well attended and provided information to the participating teens on College and the OCFW.

VII. Adjourn
There being no further business, announcements or testimony, the meeting adjourned by common consent at 2:30 pm.