



INGHAM COUNTY WOMEN'S COMMISSION
INGHAM COUNTY COURTHOUSE
P.O. BOX 319
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INGHAM COUNTY WOMEN'S COMMISSION MISSION STATEMENT

*To advise the Ingham County Board of Commissioners with regard to the impact of the Board's actions and policies relative to women and children, and to research and recommend better ways of meeting the needs of women and children; and
To work with other County groups to improve the quality of life for women and children in Ingham County; and
To recognize women's political and civil accomplishments and contributions to Ingham County.*

THE INGHAM COUNTY WOMEN'S COMMISSION WILL MEET ON
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2004 AT 7:00 P.M. IN CONFERENCE ROOM B OF THE
HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING, 5303 S. CEDAR STREET, LANSING.

Call to Order

Approval of February 11, 2003 Minutes

Budget Status Report

Additions to the Agenda

Limited Public Comment

1. Eighth Grade Girls Essay Contest
2. 30th Anniversary Celebration and Resolution
3. Women's History Month Celebration/Subcommittee
4. Report on 26th Annual Susan B. Anthony Birthday Celebration
5. Continued Discussion Item: Women & Victims of Rape and Rape Kits
6. Report on Turner Dodge House Program
7. Women's Commission Brochures

Announcements

Public Comment

Adjournment

**PLEASE CONTACT SHELLY RENDER IN THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE IF YOU ARE
UNABLE TO ATTEND AT 676-7262.**

INGHAM COUNTY WOMEN'S COMMISSION
February 11, 2004
Meeting Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Doris Carlice, Becky Brimley, Mary Finch, Albert Le Blanc,
Brenda Wellwood

MEMBERS ABSENT: Angela Bouler and Kathie Kuhn

OTHERS PRESENT: Maureen Sheppard

Chairperson Brimley called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. in Conference Room B of the Human Services Building, 5303 S. Cedar Street, Lansing.

Approval of the November 12, 2003 Minutes

MOVED BY MS. FINCH, SUPPORTED BY MS. WELLWOOD TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 12, 2003 MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Ms. Bouler and Ms. Kuhn.

Additions to the Agenda: Discussion Item: Women & Victims of Rape and Rape Kits

Budget Status:

The balance of the budget was reported as \$500.00. Chairperson Brimley submitted a letter to Teri Younger to reappropriate the 2003 balance of \$4,817.09. Chairperson Brimley distributed copies of letter and other budget information.

Limited Public Comment: None

1. Guest Speaker - Maureen Sherppard, Secret Shopper

Ms. Sheppard is the Director of Women's Health/Customer Service Community Benefits at Ingham Regional Medical Center. The program Conversations with Women began two years ago. It is a series of focus groups to identify the needs of women. The focus group, with approximately 30 attendees, meets quarterly usually on Mondays at the Greenlawn Campus. There are no requirements for joining. Ms. Sheppard explained the about the Secret Shoppers Program and how it can improve customer service. The Secret Shopper program was formed through the Conversations with Women. The secret shoppers will survey different companies by phone or in person. The companies may or may not be notified. Most recently, they shoppers surveyed Ingham Regional Medical Center by phone. The female shoppers felt good about their experiences. Some shoppers reported back on the promptness of the phone service, how long they were on hold, and how many people did they talked to before getting the information they needed. More information can be found on the Conversations for Women website at www.irmc.org. There was further discussion.

Chairperson Brimley thanked Ms. Sheppard for supplying the Committee with the secret shoppers information. She will ask Becky Bennett if www.irmc.org (Conversations for Women) could be linked to the Women's Commission website.

2. Eighth Grade Girls Essay Contest

Mr. Le Blanc distributed information from the CADL website regarding the contest. Mr. Le Blanc updated the Committee on the status of the contest. Mr. Le Blanc added girls that are home schooled can also compete. There was discussion about sponsoring the prize money for the contest. Ms. Finch and others commended Mr. Le Blanc for attending the meetings and representing the Committee. There was further discussion.

MOVED BY MR. LE BLANC, SUPPORTED BY CHAIRPERSON BRIMLEY TO SPONSOR THE PRIZES FOR THE EIGHTH GRADE GIRLS ESSAY CONTEST FOR A TOTAL COST NOT TO EXCEED \$700.00 CONTINGENT UPON THE RESTORATION OF 2003 FUNDS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Ms. Boulter and Ms. Kuhn.

4. Women's History Month Celebration/Subcommittee

Ms. Carlice stated she had contacted the Main Library and they are willing to allow a window display. There will be displays at the HSB, Wexford School, and the at Lansing City Hall. She is in the process of arranging a bus field trip with Wexford to go to the Michigan Women's Historical Center and Hall of Fame. Allen Street School is interested the displays and/or information. Ms. Carlice submitted a printed budget of items to purchase for the Women's History Month Celebration. Ms. Carlice added the National Women's History Project suggested putting information on their website. The Committee thanked Ms. Carlice for her hard work on the project. There was further discussion.

MOVED BY MS. WELLWOOD, SUPPORTED BY LE BLANC TO PURCHASE ITEMS FOR THE WOMEN'S HISTORY DISPLAYS IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$158.55. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Ms. Boulter and Ms. Kuhn.

Ms. Carlice inquired about a resolution declaring March as Women's History Month. In response to Ms. Carlice, Ms. Render stated a resolution will go to County Services on February 17 recognizing Women's History Month. It will be adopted by the full Board on February 24. A copy of the resolution was passed around. The Committee agreed to help Ms. Carlice with the displays and etc. There was further discussion.

3. 30th Anniversary Celebration and Resolution

Chairperson Brimley asked Ms. Render to check with Becky Bennett about an invitation list from the 25th Anniversary celebration. Chairperson Brimley would also like to know how many people attended, what were the expenses for the 25th celebration, are there anymore bookmarks, and how did they extend invitations to previous members. There was further discussion.

7. Women's Commission Brochures

Ms. Wellwood stated "*What We Do?*" needs to be changed on the brochure. Committee members would like to receive a copy of the "*First Years Last Forever*" video. The Committee

continued the brochure discussion. The Eighth Grade Girls Essay Contest and Women's History Month will be added to the brochure. Harvest House and Michigan Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence will be deleted. Ms. Wellwood will draft a new brochure. The language Supports Eve's House will be changed to Supports Eve's House and Other Project of Domestic Violence. Ms. Render will check with Becky Bennett to see if there is any information on acquaintance rape prevention education for high school students throughout Ingham County. There was further discussion.

6. Turner Dodge House Program

Ms. Finch will be doing a presentation on the History of the Ingham County Women's Commission at the Turner Dodge House on March 4, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. She will send everyone a reminder about the event. It will be taped and shown on a local television station. Chairperson Brimley asked everyone to attend. Ms. Finch will make copies of her speech and provide a copy of the tape for the Committee. There was further discussion.

8. Discussion Item: Women & Victims of Rape and Rape Kits

Mr. Le Blanc informed Ms. Finch about a discussion he had with a former Ingham County Commissioner. The former Commissioner thought there may be some type of discrimination against women in Ingham County who are victims of rape. When a victim seeks medical attention and a rape test is done, the victim is obligated to pay the hospital for those services. Mr. Flores from the Prosecutors Office stated anyone that is assaulted is responsible for their own medical care. The patient is not charged for the rape kit. Victims only pay for the services provided. There is a program which allows reimbursement for their expenses. The victim must fill out an application and must press charges to become eligible. The victims are helped with the process of filling out the application. The reimbursed funds are paid through the Crimes Victims Compensation. Ms. Finch stated she does not think that paying for the services was discriminatory. It applied to all victims for assault. There was discussion regarding having someone attend from Eve's House and others to speak on the issue during a future meeting. There was further discussion.

5. 26th Annual Susan B. Anthony Birthday Celebration

Ms. Carlice stated she would not be able to attend the dinner. Ms. Render was invited to attend the dinner for Ms. Carlice. Ms. Render accepted the invitation. Ms. Render will take the "First Years Last Forever" tapes with her to the dinner to distribute.

Announcements None

Public Comment: None

Adjournment:

Chairperson Brimley adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:45 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Shelly McReynolds Render