

WYOMING COUNCIL FOR WOMEN'S ISSUES
Minutes for July 7, 2007 - Lander, WY

Members Attending:

Michelle Aldrich	Pamela Downing	Teresa de Groh
Suzey Delger	Sherrill Helzer	Jenny Ingram
Scarlet Skorcz	Jan Torres	

Members Absent:

Cynthia Chavez-Kelly	Merna Rierson	Julie Simon
Kim Capron	Maureen Neavill	

STAFF ATTENDING:

Diane Moser, WBC Liaison

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 am by Teresa de Groh.

I. NEW BUSINESS:

A. *Woman of Distinction Award*

Jenny Ingram announced that all nominees have been informed and the luncheon will be held on Friday, September 7, at Little America Hotel in Cheyenne. The recipient (Willadean Chamberlain) will be asked to provide a list of people she would like invited by August 7th and reservations will be accepted until September 1st, when we have to give the hotel a head count. Our cost per person is \$16.95 and tickets will be \$20. WCWI will pay for all nominees and one guest. A full-page ad will be purchased honoring all the nominees in mid-August in the Casper Star Tribune Sunday edition. Sherrill Helzer has been appointed to the Home & Community committee and will assist Jenny in arranging for the program and corsages for the nominees in attendance. She will also work on name tags for the event. Since we decided not to send anyone to a national convention this summer, we should have sufficient funds.

There was some discussion about devoting the next newsletter to the event but the Job Fair is also planned before the next edition. The deadline for the newsletter is July 14th. We will prepare an ad about the event and encourage nominations for next year. The summary booklet needs to be updated with last year's recipient added as well. Diane will arrange for the cracker barrel award to be ready. Diane asked Little America for a room to accommodate 75 people and there was some discussion about whether or not we might need more space since the recipient is so well known. Diane will check on a room for as many as 150 guests. Certificates for the other nominees were not given last year and will not be given this year.

Council members generated suggestions for a guest speaker for the event and a number of suggestions were made. (Charlotte Farr, Sarah Askelson and Joy Surdam) Teresa will open the luncheon and describe WCWI's purpose and programs. All council members who are available should attend and the event starts at noon.

B. Job Fair

Jan distributed brochures and posters and asked members to take them to libraries in their service area. Michelle suggested we contact Janet Devries and ask her (or a designee) to attend so she would be aware of the amount of effort WWCC has made to host the event. LCCC has expressed interest in hosting the Job Fair as well and we think Sheridan College's Gillette campus might also be very interested. We had initially planned to hold the event in Casper on even years and at the outlying colleges other years.

Michelle wondered if there is some way to recognize WWCC as a valuable partner in Women's Issues and asked that we investigate a small engraved plaque acknowledging their efforts. An on-campus committee has made arrangements for most of the speakers and publicity and she complimented the quality of the work being produced. She also suggested we make sure the Executive Director of the Wyoming Community College Commission be invited and that all of the colleges receive a letter that acknowledges the WWCC effort. Local legislators should be invited as well, particularly Rae Lynn Job, who has been very supportive of the wage-gap issues that precipitated the Fair. Pamela will make sure the Workforce Council is also invited. Jan will arrange for a PDF file of the brochure to be sent to Diane so it can be incorporated into our newsletter. She asked all members to check out the website and report on any problems. Michelle said most schools on the western side of the state who could not attend last year are excited about the event and planning to send students.

The opening session will be emceed by Jackie Freeze (WWCC Dean of Students) who will introduce Teresa as the Chair. Teresa is hoping she can appear on stage in her fire-fighting gear.

C. Calendar:

Each meeting, we will review upcoming meetings and events of interest to women in Wyoming and we have identified several annual opportunities in our media plan (see page 13). Other than those already identified, members mentioned the following: Career & Technical Educators will meet June 9, 2008 in Torrington; Women's Exposition is in Casper on October 19 and the Casper Events Center has a webpage of upcoming events; International Women's Day is March 8th; the second Tuesday in April is Equal Pay Day. The Wyoming Library Conference is the same weekend as the Women of Distinction Luncheon in Cheyenne, as is the Wyoming Book Festival. Pam and Jenny plan on attending the WLC and will make sure a booth is set up and WCWI materials are available.

D. Media Plan:

The Legal Rights & Responsibilities Committee key message is "make your voice heard". The Home & Community message is still being generated.

The media plan timetable needs the Summit Award information added.

The Council broke for lunch at 11:35 am.

II. OLD BUSINESS

Diane provided the Website report which shows lots of hits and high average use.

Jenny moved to approve the consent agenda; seconded by Pam and agreed to a friendly amendment to pull the April 21st minutes. Motion passed. Other items for the consent agenda were approved and included the Financial Report, Website Traffic summary and Committee reports from the Legal Rights & Responsibilities, Employment Practices Committee Report, Home & Community Committee Report.

A. Minutes for April Meeting

Teresa asked for some corrections to minutes, which included deleting the word Afghanistan and clarifying language on the problems of Wyoming women. On page 3, the minutes were clarified to suggest we remove Resource Directory "PDF" so users would not use it as a resource. Diane was asked to make sure the link leads directly to the Connect.WY URL.

III. MATTERS FROM COUNCIL AND PUBLIC

Pamela distributed information on the Race for the Cure and said we would join the Wyoming Business Council as a team with the name "Councils for a Cure". WCWI Members interested in the race need to register under that name.

Diane announced that Bob Jensen is the new CEO of the Wyoming Business Council. Jill Jensen is the honorary survivor for Wyoming's Race for the Cure and we will mention her in our newsletter.

Michelle met with Marty Coe and she is still interested in serving on the Friends of the Council. Jenny is still working on setting up the Foundation.

No nominations have been received for the Summit Award but Diane reported that many times nominations come in during the last week. She has already sent out a reminder news release last week.

Dona Playton has reviewed the draft of the Legal Handbook and added citations but has not forwarded them yet. It is expected those revisions will be sent this week. When it arrives, the editing committee needs to look at the changes before it is forwarded to the Attorney General's office. Diane talked to Dona about updates as laws change but has had no response. Teresa believes we need to get the Handbook going without further delay. Michelle is concerned about laws that went into effect first of July not being reflected. We need to make sure we have a disclaimer about changes that occur after printing. There was some discussion about printing now and adding supplements annually and the decision was to update the Handbook and reprint it every three years. Diane will ask Dona for a cost estimate to reflect annual changes. Kim and Teresa will assume responsibility for the changes and getting it processed after the edit. Final payment to Ms. Playton has been made. We hope to have it ready for dispersal on December 1st but the handbook still needs to be formatted by Sanya.

Teresa announced an update on members and reported that Merna Rierson has officially resigned and Cynthia has been notified by the Governor's

Office that her seat has been replaced. Two new members have been added:
Donna Whitson from Powell and Lori Clifford from Casper.

IV.ADJOURNMENT

Jenny moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:05 pm

ATTACHMENTS:

Committee Reports

Financial Report

Website Traffic Report

Approved on October 13, 2007

_____ Secretary