

Minutes May 19, 2011 Women's Advisory Committee Meeting

In attendance: Pam Bennett-Santoro, Edith Frank, Michelle Roers, Virginia Lyttle, Sibi Williams, Carole Harper, Patricia O'Dowd Donohue

Not in Attendance: Elaine Muller, Dianne Hartshorn, Gail Sonners, Maryellen Wentz

Guest: Mary Jo Buchanan

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM

Edith introduced Carole Harper who was attending her first meeting. Edith also mentioned that all 11 seats on the Women's Advisory Committee were filled at this time. We went around the table and introduced ourselves to Carole.

Edith asked everyone to check the contact list to assure its accuracy. Sibi announced there has been a name change where she works, Morristown Memorial Hospital is now called Morristown Medical Center.

Old Business:

Edith reviewed the Orientation and Bylaws folder that was provided by Mary Jo's office. The original plan was to review this at our January Orientation meeting, but it was cancelled due to snow, so the folder was distributed at our March Meeting. We read and discussed the "Policy and Procedures for Advisory Bodies- the Conflict of Interest Policy." As we have no funding to disperse, it did not pertain to the Women's Advisory Committee.

March's Minutes approved as written.

2010 Annual Report- Michelle will create a final draft, with photos, for presentation to the Freeholders on Wednesday May 8. Virginia will proofread it, and Mary Jo Buchanan will schedule it on the Freeholders agenda. Edith asked that as many members of the Women's Advisory Committee that can come, to please attend this Freeholders meeting.

New Business:

2011 Back to School Supply Drive- Pam presented a report, with the Girl Scout Council sending e:mails to all the Morris County Scout leaders inviting them to participate. Edith and Patricia are also on this committee. Pam had a few RSVPs from troops already, more to come. Dates decided upon were August 1 - August 20, with the last week being used to get supplies to agency for distribution. Asked Advisory Committee for suggestions for a place to give the supplies to this year. Several places were suggested that reached a larger part of Morris County's needy children. Suggestions were Childcare Directors Association, Interfaith Food Pantry, Council for Homeless, Zufall Health Clinic. Pam will investigate and let the committee know which group will be this year's beneficiary. (**Interfaith Food Pantry chosen**)

New Project- October 2011 Committee's Forum- Discussion ensued about purpose of the annual seminar, keeping in mind our committee's advisory role to the Freeholders. Also discussed our committee's limitations, no funds, no staff to do research. Some felt that generating a conversation was a concrete purpose. Voted to narrow down the topic from the list from March's meeting to "Women and the Cinderella Myth". Or as Girls Incorporated calls it - "A Man is Not a Plan". This is just a working title, the committee will decide on

specifics. Carole offered to get a date from County College of Morris, preferably a Friday afternoon in October. (October 14 was reserved) Virginia will look into getting us a few books, Nancy Retzlaff was one author. Michelle will work on a Survey Monkey to find out what attendees think about topic prior to attending. Edith suggested Cinderella Myth- Work/Life balance. "Cinderella doesn't live here anymore." A suggestion was made to invite Heather Clarke-Peterson to moderate again this year. Committee will meet to plan.

Announcements-

Virginia Lyttle will not be at our next meeting in June.

Relay for Life for Morristown at Mennen Arena on Friday June 3-4, a fundraiser for American Cancer Society, Pam announced.

AAUW annual book sale is coming up in August. Virginia Lyttle for more details. Donate books and come buy some books!

Michelle invited us to the United Way Public Officials Forum "Bridging the Workforce Divide" on Monday, May 23 at College of St. Elizabeth with special guest speaker Harold Wirths, Commissioner of the NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development (see photos of Pam, Edith and Patricia in Daily Record at event)

Next Meeting dates in 2011- Third Thursday of Alternate months, 6:30 PM Board Room at Morris View (except July & August)

June 16, September 22, November 17

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Pam Bennett-Santoro