

THE MORRIS COUNTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN

Minutes

September 21, 2011, 6:30 PM

In attendance: Edith Frank, Chair, Dianne Hartshorn, Sibi Saenz-Williams, Pam Bennett-Santoro, Patricia O'Dowd Donohue, Maryellen Wenten, Carole Harper

Absent- Ginny Lyttle, Michelle Roers, Elaine Muller

Resigned- Gail Sommers

Roll Call- Meeting called to order at 6:40 PM by Edith Frank, Chair

1. Spent a few minutes introducing ourselves to Mr. Frank Pinto, who is now in the job that Mary Jo Buchanan had.
2. Due to health issues, Gail Sommers has resigned from our committee. We wish her well, and hope she can return once her health care issues are successfully resolved.

Minutes: June 16, 2011 written by Elaine Muller, read to group by Sibi Saenz-Williams, approved as written. Frank Pinto asked for June 2011 minutes to be sent to him. Pam Bennett-Santoro said she would do this.

Old Business

1. Meeting was held with Freeholders John Murphy and Anne Grossi attended by Michelle Roers and Patricia Donohue, and Mr. Frank Pinto. Patricia reports topics discussed were state of childcare in Morris County, creating a Woman of the Year award from County, and they liked the October 14th program. We were invited to publicize our upcoming event "Redefining Cinderella" at the Morristown Festival on the Green. Sunday, October 2, 10:00 am - 4:00 PM. It was discussed that perhaps we could do a brief questionnaire, asking Festival attendees what they thought were important issues for Morris County Women, and to do it in Spanish too. Also Joe Garifo would be able to help us with press for October 14th event, and the County would like to help us with our website.

Frank Pinto suggested we look at www.morrisplanning.org, as this is how he plans to restructure much of the Morris County human resources website. Including a

mission statement and our annual reports. More discussion to follow at November meeting.

2. Back to School Supply Drive 2011- Pam Bennett-Santoro

Another successful drive completed with Girl Scouts of Morris County. 260+ lbs of supplies were donated to the Interfaith Food Pantry and then distributed to needy families in Morris County. Thank you letter from Interfaith Food Pantry was received, and read to Women's Advisory Committee. 9 Girl Scout troops in Morris County worked with us. Discussion on whether we should continue to do this next year. Citing difficulties with Girl Scout troops and summer projects, donor fatigue, Staples no longer allowed soliciting for donations in front of their stores, school opened later in September, and "competition" with many other groups collecting Back to School Supplies, it was suggested that we follow up with a discussion at the Interfaith Food Pantry, and see if perhaps we could work with Girl Scouts on a Food Drive instead sometime when their donations are low. It was announced that the Interfaith Food Pantry was moving into one of the non-profit buildings in the new Morris County non-profit center at the old Greystone Hospital site. Should be open by mid-October. We had a discussion on this year's publicity and a thank you extended to Joe Garifo from the County Office. Pam will also find the weblink for the Morris Plains patch.com and e:mail it to the committee, so that everyone can see the interview that was done about the 2011 Back to School Supply Drive.

Discussion on when to have Freeholders recognize the Girl Scouts. Possible dates are Wednesdays October 12 or Dec. 14, 2011.

3. Morris County Web Site - Ginny Lyttle and Edith Frank

This discussion was postponed until after the October 14 Cinderella event. Frank Pinto offered to help facilitate our website design and had several ideas for us.

NEW BUSINESS

2011 NEW Projects

Redefining Cinderella AT CCM Sibi Saenz-Williams

Friday, October 14, 2011

9:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Sibi and her committee have been meeting all summer long, and have a fabulous program planned for all of us. We were encouraged to e:mail the latest flyer to all our contacts in Morris County, and we are hoping for a great turnout for this special event. Speakers have been organized. Luncheon planned with the help of the CCM staff. There will be a place for vendors and attendees to leave information/brochures about their businesses. We have three sponsors to help us, Provident Bank, Valley National Bank and County College of Morris. Thanks to United Way for helping with many of the details, and for their helpful publicity. And of course, thanks to the Morris County Freeholders for their support. It is hoped that Frank Pinto will be able to arrange with one or two of the Freeholders to attend and speak briefly to our group. Edith and Frank will invite Freeholder Anne Grossi and John Murphy.

Although the program is free, we are asking all folks to RSVP by Monday, October 10, to Liz Kisatsky in Frank's office, so we can be sure to have enough lunch for all the attendees. Also Joe Garifo's office can be used for publicity about this event.

Sibi also distributed the day's agenda to those of us at the meeting. There will be a program also distributed on the day of the meeting, listing all our sponsors in alphabetical order, and Women's Advisory Committee suggested that we be sure to have all the Freeholders listed in the program.

October 14th agenda-

9:30 AM coffee & breakfast

10:00 AM -Betty Simmons VP at CCM, will welcome us to event. Possible freeholders speak.

10:30 AM- Keynote speaker- Linda House, PhD, professor & mentor at Widener University Center for Social Work Education & NJU Gender Parity Committee.

11:15 - Noon - Virginia Lyttle, "Why So Few?" AAUW report about young women going into STEM (Science, Technology and Math)

Lunch will have an activity and discussion

1:00 - 1:15 PM Panel introductions

1:15 PM- 2:20 PM Panel Forum, discussing how these women achieved what they have achieved. 3 panelists- Florence Block, ED of the NJ Chapter of the US Green Building Council, Judy Woop, Owner of JW Consultants, Professor of Nursing Education at Caldwell College and Butler councilwoman, Bernadette Mueller, Ex VP for Valley National Bank.

2:20 - 2:40 pm Q & A

2:40 - 2:50 PM Summary by Michelle Roers

2:50 - 3 PM Closing remarks/activity by Sibi Saenz-Williams

Since we have the Cinderella theme, all of the Women's Advisory Committee is asked to wear tiaras for the event. If you don't have your own, Sibi is bringing some with her.

Liz Kisatsky, of Frank Pinto's office, will do the RSVP and nametags for all the attendees. She is also sending out parking permits for CCM, for those people who register ahead of time.

There will also be a table for vendors to put out information about their business, i.e. Dress for Success, United Way mentoring programs.

"Redefining Cinderella- Challenging Gender Roll Expectations and Stereotypes" - the committee will meet tonight (9/21/11) after this meeting is adjourned.

Next Women's Advisory Committee meeting Date- Thursday, November 17, 2011
Last meeting of the year

Announcements

1. Edith Frank asked all to help her with "Step Out/Walk to Stop Diabetes" October 29,2011- more information to follow with e:mail
2. Dianne Hartshorn spoke about her daughter and all the other 9/11/01 First Responders from Morris Township and a lovely 10 year recognition ceremony held in Morris Township. Most of the group with her daughter were teenagers at the time, as they raced in their ambulance, into NYC to help at Ground Zero.
3. Patricia O'Dowd Donohue mentioned another 9/11 memorial ceremony that she had attended. She recommended we all visit it in Jersey City, along the water.

Adjournment around 8:20 PM.