

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**Santa Cruz Police Department
Community Room
155 Center Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Wednesday, March 12, 2003, 5:30 p.m.**

Commissioners Present:

Mark Tracy, Chair
Kathy Agnone
JoAnn Allen
Kim Austin
Melissa Berrengé
Judy Cox
Alison Harlow
Lynn Harrison
Anita Henri
Alan Hiromura
Tom Kelly

Bob Lee
Jim McMillan for Larry Biggam
Charles Molnar
Dee O'Brien
Celia Organista
Francesca Raphael
Mary Simoni
Heidi Simonson
Linda Starn

Commissioners Absent:

Amy Christey
Lisa Gifford
Loretta Kuechle
Ernesto Lopez Molina

Francine Nickell
Maria Isabel Vargas

Others Present:

Jennifer Rose
Jenny Sarmiento

Julie Schneider

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:34 p.m. by Chair Mark Tracy.

2. Introductions

Commissioners and guests introduced themselves.

3. Approval of Minutes of February 12, 2003 Meeting

On the motion of Anita Henri, and second by Dee O'Brien the minutes of February 12, 2003 were approved as submitted with Celia Organista abstaining.

4. Oral Communication from the Community

The following items were added under item 9:

- a. Family Courts South County Update
- b. Attorney General's Office Survey

5. Oral Communication from the Community

There was no oral communication offered from the community.

6. Impact on recent budgetary constraints upon providers, agencies probation, etc. What are some of the strategies agencies/providers are employing to address the crisis. What can agencies/providers assist each other.

Due to the severe state budget crisis, the impact on services to the community involving domestic violence issues, was discussed. Celia Organista suggested that each agency/provider outline the anticipated impacts to their organization, and submit them to Jeanne Rodriguez so that she can include them with the April agenda.

7. What projects are the organizations/agencies represented on the commission working on. Please share them briefly with the Commission.

Mark Tracy announced that the Sheriff's Office has been awarded an in-custody drug treatment program. This will be an intensive program for individuals housed at the Rountree facility.

Jennifer Rose stated that the Walnut Avenue Women's ^{Center} Shelter has received a grant from the Federal Government that will focus on safety mechanisms for clients.

Kathy Agnone announced that CPVAW sponsored a workshop for eighth grade through high school students addressing women and violence and healthy relationships. Anyone interested in volunteering for future workshops should contact her at CPVAW.

CPVAW will also be sponsoring a self-defense class for Spanish speakers at Holy Cross Church. She asked for suggestions on how to notify the Spanish speaking community about the class.

8. ACTION ITEM: Appoint Chair for Direct Services Committee.

Dee O'Brien made a motion that Mary Simoni chair the Direct Services Committee with Alan Hiromura seconding. Motion passed.

9. Reports from Committees

a. South County Family Courts

A meeting was scheduled for April 8, 2003, at noon in Department 6 to discuss family court issues.

b. Attorney General's Survey

Alan Hiromura surveyed all Commissioners who were present on a survey sent from the Attorney General's Office.

1. Evaluation

JoAnn Allen's subcommittee reviewed information from the Probation Department regarding their evaluation process for batterers' treatment. The Probation Department will provide the subcommittee with a list outlining the demographics of the population they serve.

JoAnn circulated a list of questions to Commissioners for a qualitative review of providers.

2. Annual Report

Alan Hiromura presented the Commission with preliminary data on batterers programs and law enforcement domestic violence statistics. He notified Commissioners of changes made in the Superior Court--Civil questionnaire. (A copy of the revised questions is attached to these minutes.)

3. D.V. Service Providers

Jennifer Rose reported on a proposed project for the subcommittee. This proposed project is a safety audit in domestic violence cases which is a systematic observation and analysis of the routines within and between agencies, and the paper trails used in processing "cases" of domestic abuse.

10. Announcements from Commissioners

Mark Tracy distributed a calendar for the balance of the Domestic Violence Commission meetings for the calendar year 2003.

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11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m. to ***April 9, 2003 at 5:30 p.m. at the Santa Cruz Police Department Community Room.***

Approved by Commission on:

Submitted by:

Jeanne M. Rodriguez, Secretary
Domestic Violence Commission