

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**County Office of Education
Pacific Ocean Room
809 Bay Avenue
Capitola, CA 95010**

Wednesday, May 14, 2003, 5:30 p.m.

Commissioners Present:

Mark Tracy, Chair
JoAnn Allen
Kim Austin
Melissa Berrengé
Michelle Finch for Judy Cox
Gillian Greensite
Anita Henri

Charles Molnar
Francine Nickell
Dee O'Brien
Francesca Raphael
Linda Starn

Commissioners Absent:

Larry Biggam
Amy Christey
Lynn Harrison
Alan Hiromura
Julie Hopfner
Lisa Gifford
Tom Kelly
Loretta Kuechle

Bob Lee
Dixie Mitchell-Clow
Ernesto Lopez Molina
Celia Organista
Mary Simoni
Heidi Simonson

Others Present:

Jennifer Rose

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by Chair Mark Tracy.

2. Introductions

Commissioners and guests introduced themselves.

3. Approval of Minutes of April 9, 2003 Meeting

Because there was no quorum, the April 9th minutes will be placed on the June 11, 2003 agenda for approval.

4. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

None

5. Oral Communication from the Community

None was offered.

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.

There was a roundtable discussion on the budget impacts.

Dee O'Brien Jennifer Rose stated, that given upcoming budget cuts that the Women's Center is focusing on utilizing volunteers whenever possible. The agencies are encouraged to work together to fill in gaps. Charles Molnar, Senior Commission representative, suggested that senior could be utilized in the position. He asked that agencies contact him for referrals.

Dee O'Brien also announced that the Women's Center is offering a Thursday night support group for monolingual Spanish speaking women.

Gillian Greensite announced that ^{SC. City Council}~~CPAAW~~ has reduced the coordinator's hours from 30 hours to 20 hours per week.

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

8. Reports from Committees

a. Evaluation

None was offered.

b. Annual Report

None was offered.

c. Direct Services Committee

Jennifer Rose announced that a meeting is scheduled for May 28th to look at gaps in services.

10. Announcements from Commissioners

Francesca Raphael stated the Domestic Violence Commission web site membership and meeting dates has update. She will continue to work with Karen Gillette to update the links.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. to ***June 11, 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

May 27, 2003

At this weekend's apolitical Imagine America event in Santa Cruz I was thrilled to hear public servant Rep. Dennis Kucinich speak to the subject of domestic violence (hitting children and spouse beating). He likened the ripple effects of such private torments to the effect of a butterfly wing flapping (Chaos Theory) in terms of what it does to us as a society.

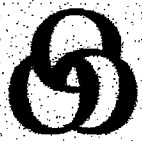
I am heartened that he is spearheading a group developing the concept of a peace department in government. This recognizes that the work for profound peace requires a cultural shift, with applied day-to-day attention and innovation in all fields, to enable us to move beyond the old paradigm thinking of redemptive violence.

We are seeing an increasing number of initiatives in restorative justice, conflict resolution and positive parenting - Santa Cruz County is a leader in this regard - and a peace department would support and promote and expand effective programs of this nature.. All things considered, it seems plausible that we could together eliminate domestic violence from our communities in our lifetime.

Sincerely,



Corrina McFarlane
(831) 423 3612



WomenRise for Global Peace

to raise consciousness and stand up to proclaim that:

- We *can* live in celebration and respect for all life and all love.
- The power of our individual choices to be peaceful *does* change the world.
- We *can* promote peace as a world solution more effectively than others promote war.

www.womenrise.org info@womenrise.org 888-549-5922

Imagine

a new America, where civil rights, affordable housing opportunities, workers' rights and a real concern for the environment reign supreme. ☆ ☆

- ❖ a new America which celebrates diversity, where all people-- regardless of race, sex, religion, or orientation--are equally respected, protected and affirmed by the law. ☆ ☆
- ❖ a new America which guarantees universal health care for all citizens before it commits billions of dollars on a war thousands of miles away.
- ❖ a new America where a Department of Peace is in place to address domestic and international conflicts.

Imagine America was created in Louisville by a committee of ten people who envisioned the event as a catalyst for dialogue and progressive social change across the country. Rep. Kucinich speaks with the voice of the people, and the Imagine America format provides for an opportunity for his vision to be shared with countless people across the country.

Along with best-selling authors Marianne Williamson and John Robbins, Rep. Kucinich presented a vision of a new world order, with justice and fairness and compassion at the forefront. On March 14, 2003, more than 1600 people packed Memorial Auditorium in Louisville to participate in the first version of Imagine America.

Moderated by Prof. Ricky L. Jones, the event was extremely well received by the audience, and each speaker received numerous standing ovations. On Saturday, March 15, 2003, more than 700 people packed the Kentucky Theatre in Lexington, KY for a similar event, with a similar response from the audience.

May 25: Imagine America in Santa Cruz:
events@ImagineAmerican.net
Go to www.imagineamerica.net

Now.....Imagine

- a city where...
- ...young people are leading the way forward
- ...public schools are thriving community learning centers
- ...neighborhoods and institutions work together to share ideas and resources
- ...and all citizens recognizes and applies their talents to create a positive future for themselves and their community
- This is *Imagine Chicago*, working and weaving a new reality for the past 10 years.
- www.imaginechicago.net
- Imagine Chicago* poses the question for us:

What do you imagine and hope for your city? Who can work with you to bring your vision to life? What will you work to create?

In September 2002, 150 people from six continents responded to *Imagine Chicago's* invitation to gather in Chicago for the first meeting of Imagine projects around the world and those interested in being in dialogue with them.

Imagine Chicago founder Bliss Browne was recently in Santa Cruz. She inspired **WomenRise for Global Peace** to start the conversation for **Imagine Santa Cruz**. To hear the story of the early beginnings of *Imagine Chicago* is to know categorically that *intergenerational learning and action is key*.

At the launch of *Imagine America* in Santa Cruz, Sara Nelson pointed out to the gathering of visionary activists that the Baby Boomers and the Millennials (late '70s- mid '90s generation) are the two biggest generation ever in the history of the world, representing unprecedented potential, a huge economic and social force that has the power together to shift the world - *intergenerational learning and action is key*.

Think like a mother was Bliss Browne's profound insight in their early exploration of "Faith, Imagination and Public Life": "This new work would likely require hope, attention and faithfulness to life's promise and mystery more than it would require ambition and strategy."

The understanding, that in a true economy "unemployed" is an oxymoron (a moronic concept to boot), is integrated in Paul Hawken's *Ecology of Commerce*, in his and the Lovins' *Natural Capitalism*, in Bioneers thinking... We must catch and weave every thread already spun as we move into *Imagine Santa Cruz*...

We must 'think like a mother':
"Motherhood is a sustained response to the promise embedded in the creation of new life." Sara Ruddick