

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COMMISSION

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 5:30 P.M.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Heidi Simonson	Scott MacDonald	Francesca Raphael
Larry Biggam	Steve Robbins	Bob Lee
Alan Hiromura	Irwin Joseph	JoAnn Allen
Kathy Loughlin	Todd Mayer	Jackie Grubelnik
Charles Molnar	Celia Organista	

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED:

Dee O'Brien	Linda Starn	Patrick Meehan
Jewell Roberts	Gillian Greensite	

COMMISSIONERS UNEXCUSED:

Mary Simoni	Melissa Berrengue	JoAnna Goodman
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OTHERS PRESENT:

Jennifer Pike	Mark Molyer	Kristie Clemens
Jennifer Buesing		

1. **Call to Order.**

Chair Simonson called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

2. **Roll Call: Introduction of Members.**

Each Commissioner introduced him/herself.

3. **Additions or Deletions to Agenda.**

There were no Additions or Deletions.

4. **Approval of March and May Minutes.**

Bob Lee made a motion to approve the June Minutes with the understanding that referenced to "Vice-Chair Lee" would be replaced with "DA Lee". Joann Allen seconded that motion. Celia Organista abstained. *The June Minutes were approved.*

5. **Oral Communications from the Community.**

No oral communications were made.

6. **Old Business.**

A. Awards Ceremony

DA Lee met with Supervisor Mark Stone. They discussed, and Supervisor Stone agreed to, holding the DVC Awards Ceremony at the Board meeting scheduled for October 24th. Biographical material should be sent prior to the award presentation for Supervisor Stone to review. Sheriff Robbins volunteered to provide food for the reception that will follow the ceremony and DA Bob Lee will coordinate a press release two weeks prior.

B. Update DVC Web page

Alan Hiromura reported that he had sent the DVC web link to each commissioner via email for suggestions. The web page contains information on the Brown Act, By-Laws, Agendas and Minutes and activities for Domestic Violence month. Chair Simonson recommended that each commissioner review the site.

C. Future Annual Reports

Scott MacDonald reported that he reviewed the goals of the subcommittee and asked other commissioners to critique the annual report and bring suggestions to the table for improvements. The subcommittee gave a questionnaire to providers and the commissioners. All but one had been returned. He plans to meet with the subcommittee to discuss the responses. Further, he reviewed the last two community reports and felt that data on batterers should be included. Such as how many batterers are in programs, how many have graduated, how many are new to programs, and how many have been terminated from a program. If the commissioners agree to add this type of data he would like to begin tracking it in 2007.

D. Mandate of Probation for Batterers Treatment

Jennifer Buesing provided a hand out on domestic violence requirements, PC1203.097. She stated that the Probation Department relies on this code, as it is the requirements made by the court. The Probation Department utilizes the code as an outline on how to follow up with victims and assess their needs. Further, it mandates assessments of defendants, defines requirements for certification, site visits and monitoring. Officers receive specialized training on how to deal with domestic violence cases and the sensitive issues that surround them. She stated that Probation works closely with the DAO Victim Advocate and feels that they are deserving of an award.

7. New Business

A. **Subcommittee Reports:**

1. By-Laws Taskforce

Chair Simonson reported that she has received the first revision of the draft By-Laws. DA Lee stated that during the subcommittees attempt to draft them; they found several minimal discrepancies in the work copies. Not all of the By-Laws they were using had been adopted. The subcommittee is currently using the 1996 adopted By-laws to compare to. This item will be revisited on the next agenda.

2. Education Subcommittee

Kristie Clemens reported that two presentations have been scheduled. October 16th the Ground Rounds will be held in Watsonville and on October 20th it will be held at Dominican Hospital. Bob Lee and Ramona Smith will speak. Details will be finalized soon and posted on the DVC web page.

Ramona Smith stated that a presentation needs to be made that would interest the doctors. Their time is valuable and they find it hard to commit. Also, invitations need to be made.

Kristie Clemens stated that presentations on domestic violence in the workplace have begun and their first presentation will be at the DAO on September 14th.

3. Annual Report Subcommittee

This topic was discussed in Old Business, 6.C. Future Annual Reports.

4. Executive Committee

(See *Action Items B - E.*)

B. *Action Item:* Annual Report 2005

Scott MacDonald made a motion to approach the Board for the purpose of informing them of the DVC goals and improvements for the Annual Report. Bob Lee seconded the motion. *The motion was passed.*

C. *Action Item:* Responses to Grand Jury Report

Chair Simonson reminded everyone that a narrative of the Grand Jury report was emailed but if needed she can email him or her again. Any questions and concerns should be sent to her. The deadline is October 1st. JoAnn Allen made a motion to authorize Heidi Simonson to submit the Grand Jury report to the Board. Sheriff Robbins seconded the motion. *The motion was passed.*

D. *Action Item:* Amended Bylaws

This topic was previously discussed.

- E. *Action Item:* DV Awareness Month; Announcement of Nominations and Attendance at Supervisor's meeting.

A list of nominees were provided for approval. Todd Mayer explained the actions of his nominees. The commissioners decided to change their category to Community Heroes. JoAnn Allen made a motion to approve the list of nominees and to authorize Heidi Simonson to work with Allen Hiromura to arrange the presentation. Francesca Raphael seconded the motion. *The motion passed.*

8. **Announcements.**

9. **Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.