

Women's Commission 2010 WORK PLAN

INTRODUCTION

For the year 2010, the Fort Collins Women's Commission is going to reinvigorate its efforts. The Commission wants to transition into a stronger voice for the City Council and the community on behalf of the women of Fort Collins.

The Commission has decided to discontinue the Women's History Month Essay Contest, and in addition, will hold a retreat in early February 2010, focusing on a three to five year strategic plan.

GOALS

The Women's Commission has established the following goals for 2010:

[1] Evaluate ways to celebrate women's contributions to our community, culminating in the *Marcile N. Wood Award*. This will become a more celebratory event, replacing the past presentation to the City Council followed by a dinner with Commission members.

[2] Review and capitalize on the research available from existing sources to provide a picture of the status of women in the community. These sources include, but are not limited to, the Shriver Report, updates from the National Association of Commissions on Women, Larimer County's Pathways Past Poverty research, Larimer County Compass website, and information from local agencies and organizations.

[3] Evaluate the current newsletter and look at better ways to share information, possibly an online newsletter distributed more frequently.

[4] Look at a more efficient system for supporting its work. One possibility is to form sub committees. Possible committees include communications/e-newsletter, community outreach, advocacy, education, and/or event planning.

ANNUAL COMMISSION ACTIVITIES

The Women's Commission will go forward with activities determined at the February 2010 retreat. However, the Commission will continue to sponsor the *Marcile N. Wood Award*. This will probably be in a different format than previously produced. We hope to focus on recognizing women volunteers in the community. One suggestion is to tie this award to a community event to celebrate extraordinary local women.

Other activities include:

- Producing written materials related to annual goals which will be available in both electronic and paper form.

- Working with local radio station KRFC to produce and air two programs in 2010 – one focusing on the winner of the *Marcile N. Wood Award* and the other on a topic to be determined by the Commission.
- Participating and/or arranging community events that highlight issues pertinent to women in Fort Collins.

COMMISSION LIAISONS

Relationship with City Council – The commission will continue to report to our City Council liaison, to track the Council's policy agenda and, in the Commission's advisory role, provide information and appropriate comments to the City Council on issues of information gathered by the commission.

Relationship with city staff liaison Suzanne Jarboe-Simpson – Continue the wonderful association with this valuable and dedicated city employee.

Relationship with Colorado State University – Reestablish this relationship and strengthen our ties with CSU.

GENERAL TIMELINE

January:

- Welcome new members and elect new officers (chair, vice chair, secretary).
- Complete the 2009 Annual Report to be presented to the City Council by the end of the month.
- Set up the 2010 Commission Retreat for February
- Assign the *Women's History Month Proclamation* for the Mayor to present on March 2.
- Establish a liaison with CSU

February:

- Retreat.
- Approve the *Women's History Month Proclamation*.

March:

- Develop and post information about the 2010 goals.
- Reschedule the year based on information from the February Retreat.
- Discuss topics and time table for the radio programs. Develop the materials throughout the year.
- Explore publicity options for promoting events, winners, and honoring women within the community at large.
- Attend City Council meeting (March 2) where the mayor will present the *Women's History Month* proclamation.
- Discuss plans for Take Back the Night participation and support.

April:

- Discuss plans for Older Americans Month (May).
- Additional scheduling from the Retreat.
- Discuss ways to support graduates of the Women's Studies program at CSU.
- Assign the *Women's Wellness Week Proclamation* for the Mayor to present in May.

April – December:

- Additional scheduling from the Retreat.
- Discuss 2011/2012 budget.
- Schedule meeting with City Council liaison.

May:

- Provide support for graduates of the Women's Studies program at CSU.
- Attend City Council meeting where the mayor will present the *Women's Wellness Week* proclamation.
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June:

- Planning as determined by the Commission – review rest of 2010 and make adjustments as necessary.
- Discuss September radio program – determine topic – make arrangements with KRFC.
- Arrange for presentation of the *Women's Equality Day Proclamation*. The date for the proclamation will be July 20.

July:

- Planning as determined by the Commission.
- Present *Women's Equality Day Proclamation* at the City Council meeting.

August:

- Discuss new member application process.

September:

- Radio program on KRFC.

October:

- Begin planning for *Marcile N. Wood Award* for 2011.
- Assign Commission members to subcommittees
- Begin working on 2011 Work Plan.

November:

- Complete 2011 Work Plan to be presented to the City Council.
- Plan December activity to review the year and team build with members.

December:

- Begin working on 2010 Annual Report.