

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN 2003 WORK PLAN

INTRODUCTION

For the year 2003, the Commission will continue to lead the effort on the Women's History Month Essay Contest and the Marcile N. Wood Award.

In addition to these two annual activities, the Commission will study the (July 17, 2001) Policy Agenda and develop a report indicating the areas in which the Commission can support the City Council with their Themes, Goals, and Objectives. This report will form the foundation of future Commission work.

ANNUAL COMMISSION ACTIVITIES

Women's History Month Essay Contest – The Commission will continue to sponsor an essay contest for the Poudre School District junior high students. A committee will work with Tom Tonoli in the Poudre School District with the coordination of the contest packets and picking up the completed essays. Student entries will be reviewed in February and winners will be selected. The winners will be honored at a special event, with a presentation of certificates by Mayor Ray Martinez. The Fort Collins Coloradoan will be notified of the winning essays and encouraged to publish the students' names in recognition and support of Women's History Month.

Marcile N. Wood – The Commission will continue to sponsor the Marcile N. Wood Award recognizing an outstanding citizen in the Fort Collins community who has made considerable contributions to the status of women. A committee will send out and review applications and select a winner in the fall of 2003. The winner will be publicly announced and celebrated during the annual Women's Award Night event at the Women's Center.

COMMISSION LIAISONS

Relationship with City Council – The Commission will continue to report to our City Council liaison, Karen Weitkumat, 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 concern to women in Fort Collins.

Relationship with the Human Rights Resources and Education Office – The Commission will continue to work with Barbara Catbagan-Spalding regarding our mission and future activities. The Commission looks forward to continuing the partnership with the City's Human Rights Office and interfacing on projects and issues concerning the city and community.

Relationship with the Senior Advisory Board – The Commission has developed a relationship with the Senior Advisory Board and has started to track and monitor issues pertaining to seniors, specifically senior women. In 2002, the Commission assisted the Senior Advisory Board with a survey to gain a better understanding of issues in which both groups should concentrate their efforts for 2003.

GENERAL TIME-LINE

January:

- Welcome new members and elect new officers.
- Complete Annual Report to be presented to the City Council by the end of the month.
- Discuss the Women's History Month Essay Contest
 - Confirm contest prize gift certificates with the Foothills Fashion Mall.
 - Assign tasks to Commission members for the location of the event, scheduling the Mayor, and organizing the food.
 - Determine schedule for reading essays.
 - Contact the Coloradoan (Dorothy Bland)
- Discuss the City Council Policy Agenda and the position of the Commission within the Agenda.

February:

- Read essays or choose day in early March to read them.
 - Pick up awards.
 - Create an outline for the evening.

March:

- Women's History Month Essay Contest event with Mayor Ray Martinez.
- Recognize Marcile N. Wood winner at the Women's Center event.

April:

- Discuss the City Council Policy Agenda and begin to produce a report for Karen Weitkunat.
- Put all information relative to the Essay Contest in one location (folder, disk, etc.).

May:

- Continue working on the report for Karen Weitkunat.

June:

- Present report to Karen Weitkunat.

July:

- Start to organize Marcile N. Wood event.
 - Update mailing list for the Marcile N. Wood event.

August:

- Present Women's Equality Day Proclamation at the City Council meeting.
- Contact Tom Tonoli about the Women's History Essay Contest

September:

- Continue working on Marcile N. Wood event
 - Public relations with the Coloradoan
- Women's History Essay Contest for 2004
 - Update flyer and present to Tom Tonoli.

October:

- Work on joint project with the Senior Advisory Board.
- Discuss new member application process.

November:

- Complete 2003 Work Plan to be presented to the City Council.

December:

- Completion of Marcile N. Wood event: essays read, winner chosen.
- Begin working on 2003 Annual Report.
- Women's History Month Essay Contest
 - Make sure Tom Tonoli has what he needs to distribute the flyers to the teachers on time.