

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN 2005 WORK PLAN

INTRODUCTION

For the year 2005, 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 continue to develop a resource list in the nine areas of concern:

- 1) Housing
- 2) Child Care
- 3) Safety
- 4) Health
- 5) Identify
- 6) Welfare
- 7) Economics Well-Being
- 8) Education
- 9) Transportation

We will also link these nine areas to the policy agenda when the new version is completed in 2005.

Other activities to be completed by the Commission include:

- Change the name of the commission.
- Consider other information linked to the commission to see if changes need to be made, such as the By-laws, Boards and Commission's Manual, and Division 10 of Ordinance.
- Develop a website for the Commission.
- Consider having a CSU liaison to the Commission.

ANNUAL COMMISSION ACTIVITIES

Women's History Month Essay Contest – The Commission will continue to sponsor the annual essay contest for Poudre School District junior high students. A committee will work with Cindy Ronan 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 the Mayor. 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 sponsor the 2005 Marcile N. Wood Award recognizing an outstanding citizen in the Fort Collins community who has made a

significant contribution to the well-being of women. In January, the Commission will send out applications for this award. The winner will be chosen in February and will be publicly announced and celebrated during the 6th Annual Women's Awards Night event in March. Members of the Commission will serve on the Women's Awards Night committee to ensure this event is a success and to network with local non-profit groups.

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 William King on 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 Colorado State University – The Commission will work to reestablish a relationship with CSU. The Commission is excited about renewing this relationship for the additional resources and insight it offers.

GENERAL TIME-LINE

January:

- Welcome new members, if any, and elect new officers.
- Complete the 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 Downtown Business Association.
 - 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) to put information about the contest in the *Coloradoan*.
- Discuss Marcile N. Wood Award Contest
 - Complete mailing list.
 - Determine schedule for printing and mailing applications.
 - Work with city to have information posted on fcgov.com.
- Submit website content for approval.

February:

- Schedule Karen to speak at the April meeting to present City Council 101.
- Review applications for Marcile N. Wood Award and choose a winner.
 - Plan Women's Awards Night presentation.

- Collect essays from Cindy Ronan at Poudre School District.
 - Finish planning Women's History Month event.
 - Pick up awards.
 - Create an outline for the evening.

March:

- Present Marcile N. Wood Award at Women's Awards Night.
- Present Women's History Month Essay Contest Awards.

April:

- Karen will present how to work with the City Council at this meeting.
- Post mortem on both contests.

April – December:

- Discuss the City Council Policy Agenda and link our Areas of Concern to the new Policy Agenda items. Complete report to give to Karen.
- Interview local groups working on women's issues to gain a greater understanding of most pressing issues as they relate to the City Policy Agenda.
- Finish organizing website and have a working site.

August:

- Present Women's Equality Day Proclamation at the City Council meeting.
- Discuss new member application process.

October:

- Begin planning for Marcile N. Wood Award and Essay Contest for 2006.
- Begin working on 2006 Work Plan.

November:

- Complete 2006 Work Plan to be presented to the City Council.

December:

- Begin working on 2005 Annual Report.
- Announce essay contests to PSD.