

**July 29, 2017 - Retreat Minutes**

***The Marin Women’s Commission represents women and girls of diverse backgrounds and circumstances and advocates for equality through policy, education and collaboration.***

**Purpose for the retreat:** Agree on MWC 2017-18 projects that align with the MWC mission with goals to improve lives of women in Marin, that can be measured and accomplished during the new year.

**Date:** July 29. **Location:** Central Marin Police Station, 250 Doherty Dr, Larkspur, CA 94939

**Time:** 9-4PM

9:10 am call to order:

Present: Sherene Chen, Kyla Burke, Amanda Grey, Ann Morrison, Keiko Ehret, Jacqueline Janssen, Emily Knoles, Crystal Martinez and Catherine Hargrave Staff: Chris Shaw Facilitator: Lisa Saffron

Absent: Kate Byrne

Catherine Hargrave, Chair: Greeted all with the message to , “Think Big” and introduces new commissioners in attendance.

Lisa Safran, Facilitator explained Improv rules: – saying yes and adding positive – look at what’s possible instead of what’s impossible – you need to play bigger – start really big – I can tone you down – let’s see how we can make it better – be present - making your partner be brilliant – our ego stays out of it – look for connections – allow for change – anything possible – look at the bigger picture – find the joy in failure. Allow ourselves to make mistakes.

Ice Breaker Activity: Pairs create their own handshake, word, dance move and cheer.

Ann & Keiko gave out a handout and spoke on :

The Mission and History of the Consent Decree and the Status of Women.

Catherine introduced and spoke about the importance of the “Elevator Pitch”:  the outreach and voice we want to have.

* + Examples of opportunities to outreach:
    - Rotary event in SF 2. Celebration of women in rotary for 35 years
    - Marin City Health Fair – table at the Health Fair
  + Think on your feet, engage well, explain why you care enough to serve on this commission.
  + Mingle exercise: Why we serve on the Commission: passion, resource, connection
  + Short elevator pitch is 30 seconds and leaving them wanting to know more.
  + Use of an I statement is powerful and filled with emotion.
  + We work better and are more engage with people, “We know, like & trust.”
  + This is a job, a serious position and we are here to make a difference.
  + Know your audience

Lisa – Lead the activity on fine tuning the final version of our elevator pitch

10:30  Break.   Set up coffee dates

10:50 Lisa gathered everyone and asked for feedback on what was going well and what was not.

10:55 Catherine spoke on the goals and expectations of the day:

* Walk away with actions and responsibilities
* Prepare before every Business Meeting
* What’s happening in current events with women?
* What’s happening in your district?
* What’s the feedback from the Community?
* Outwardly focused
* Decision Models is to help keep us realistic and honest with the resources we have
  + What tangible things do we really have?
  + What is realistic with families, jobs, etc
  + What can we really accomplish.
  + How do we become thought leaders?
  + How do we find advocates?
  + What does success look like?
* Today is to brain storm, what ideas come out without thought to budget.
* Ejector Seat metaphor = the creative area in the classroom where the kid can go to write what they are creatively thinking and talking about

For the next year, what would we like to take on?

Racial profiling in high schools, , research , national trail, inclusive, museum, resource center, education program on women, free childcare, senior citizen women housing, homelessness, addressing those who near homeless.

1. Where were we
   1. Movie, fundraiser, film festival, museum, women’s center,
2. Where are we
   1. Imagining, research, portrait of Marin’s data, education programs, hygiene
3. Where are we going
   1. Low income housing, more women running for office, more intersectional, housing for family, education, free childcare

12:15 Break for Lunch

1:00 Amanda presented “Being Statements”; giving us the opportunity to invent who we want to be as a part of this Commission. Deciding on who we are and what we stand for.

* List three people in your life who you admire
* Three adjectives or phrases for each person you listed
* Write who they had to be to get where they are
* Imagine what your loved ones would say about you, what you would hope they would say are the best parts of you.
* You might lose inspiration someday, but this statement will cheer you up and honor the work that you do and have done.
* Who you are being committed to the world by answering: “Who I am in the world…”

1:45 Jacqueline presented a review of Criteria Model - refer to hand out (originally from Diane Krantz) to help us find what we want and how long it takes and what success looks like.

Lisa facilitates a review of the Survey Results on the Areas of Focus - see handout

-Opportunity for commissioners to discuss other ideas.

-How many do we want to pick to work on? Reach consensus.

-Select initiatives we want to work on

-Choose chairs and select first meeting time/ groups, etc. actions

* What is our passion? What is going to drive us to use service hours throughout the year?
* Financial empowerment from women;
* In regards to Community based research – where are the gaps?
* How many inquiries on a topic?
* Marin Teen Girl Conference – Ann Morrison, Chair
* Per Emily on Legislative impact: It is a lot of research and a lot of set up, but not a lot of energy and a huge impact.
* Yellow card – resource card
* Community Listening Tour
* Trail of Women
* Housing issue – what’s out there and how can we help.

Lisa asked: “In your particular area – could there be a place in your wheelhouse to help?”

3:45 Wrap up with Catherine’s comments – Adjourn 4:15pm