



# BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: May 9, 2007, 5:00 pm

**Location:** Mexico Lindo Restaurant, Kent, WA

**Board members present:**

Non-Fiduciary	Trisha Blomquist	Kristin Gauthier	Karin Schuyleman
	Kerry Annette Wade	Lora Dear	Margie Staulcup
	Betty Nomura	DeDe White	
Fiduciary	C.C. Scott	Don Lincoln	Marsha Medgard
	Vyrn Muir		

**Board members excused:** Kim Bennett Cathy Williams

**Guests present:** Jean Hueston Lela Brugger

**Staff members present:** Dianne Heide Denese Bohanna Cyndy Bracelen

**Call to order** – Acting Chair Betty Nomura called the meeting to order at 5:00

**Quorum** – There was a quorum.

**Agenda** – Approved as written.

**Announcement from Acting Chair Betty Nomura**

Betty informed the Board that Clem Benton has taken the job in Iraq and has taken a one year leave of absence from the SKCCN Board. He would love to hear from everyone via his email address but please not everyone at once. As per the Bylaws Betty will act as Chair until terms end on June 30, 2007.

**From the Heart Speech**

Minutes for Heart speeches will be provided only if the presenter provides a written brief for the minutes. Kerry Annette Wade presented in May and Vyrn Muir will present in June.

**Approval of April 11 Minutes**

**Motion 1** Karin moved to approve the April 11 minutes with changes. Second by Don. The motion passed.

**Betty Nomura Term as Vice Chair**

The Board was asked to clarify the issue of Betty's term as Vice Chair. According to SKCCN policy when a member begins their term on the Board or Executive Committee after January 1 that year does not count towards their term limits as specified in the SKCCN Bylaws. Florenda Wyatt left the Board in November of 2006 and Betty Nomura was appointed to fill that position. Policy for Disbursements say they must be signed by one Executive Committee member and on other Board member. Betty did not attend an Executive Committee meeting until January but she did sign Disbursements in December as the Executive Committee representative.

Betty asked for clarification on her term – did it start when she attended her first meeting or did it start when she signed the Disbursements in December? The Executive Committee discussed this question during their April meeting. They decided to send the issue to the Board for a determination with a recommendation that the Board make a special exception in this case and allow Betty's term to officially start in January when she attended her first meeting.

**Motion 2** Vyrn moved to make and exception concerning the term start date for Betty Nomura and to list her official starting date for the term January 23 – the date that Betty attended her first Executive Committee meeting. Second by C.C. The motion passed. Betty Nomura abstained from the vote.

**Nominating Committee Update**

Margie, Don and Kristin reported that they have contacted all Board members and have clear choices from everyone but Kim Bennett. Kim emailed that she was willing to run for Chair, Vice Chair and/or Secretary. Margie tried to contact Kim and get clarification – Did Kim truly want to run for all three or did she simply want to be placed in an open position? However, Kim was seriously ill and the conversation was interrupted. So the announced nominations are:

<b>Chair</b>	Don Lincoln	Kim Bennett
<b>Vice Chair</b>	Betty Nomura	Kim Bennett
<b>Secretary</b>	Margie Staulcup	Kim Bennett
<b>Treasurer</b>	Kristin Gauthier	

Margie was asked to contact Kim and get clarification on Kim's intent. It was also noted that as Chair of the Communications Committee Kim would be on the Executive Committee either way. Margie agreed and will get back to Dianne with instructions for the creation of a ballot. Board members were reminded that the ballots will not be secret and that they need to be prepared to sign them.

**FPC Summer Conference**

Dianne wanted to make sure that every Board member had an opportunity to signup for the Summer Conference in Rosario Resort. As of the April Board meeting Margie, Betty, Dianne and Denese were signup up but there were 2-3 spots open for additional Board members. Trisha volunteered to attend. Kerry and Don will check to see if they can get the time off of work.

**Children's Domestic Violence Conference Financial Support**

Dianne and Margie reported that the group organizing the Children's Domestic Violence Conference (Conference) is in trouble. Deborah Greenleaf (Public Health – Seattle & King County) will no longer be allowed to give the huge amounts of time it takes to organize the event and Sharon Doyle (Policy Center-UofW) will no longer be able to handle the financial needs through the UofW. Sara Sena from Eastside Domestic Violence Services has agreed to partner with Deborah on overall event organization. That leaves the need for someone to take over financial management. If someone cannot be found to fill this role one of two things will happen:

- The event will not be held in future
- The event will go back to being a ½ day event at the Police Training Center with a key note speaker and no breakout sessions – a major step backwards

The organization that takes over financial management of the event will need to act as fiscal agent, handle all signups including registration fees, handle speakers contracts, pay all bills, etc. In past it has take the equivalent of one FTE for three to four months to handle all of the financial needs of this event. Marge & Dianne suspect that part of the reason it takes so much staff time at the UofW is because of the system. The organizing collaborative has made that job easier because they have decided that attendees at future events MUST pay at time of registration by credit card or purchase order unless they are eligible for a scholarship. In past years the Conference has earned enough money to allow them to reimburse the UofW \$7,000 to \$10,000 for their services but there is no guarantee and this depends on profit.

This Conference is a major educational event for everyone who works with victims of domestic violence including advocates, police, prosecutors, educators, etc. It started as a half-day event with one major speaker and has grown to a full day with up to 10 breakouts. The first year there were approximately 100 attendees and in 2006 there were 500. It would be a shame to see it go backwards and most agree it would be great to see it grow to a two or even three day event in the future. This will require support to happen.

Dianne & Margie asked if the SKCCN Board would be willing to take on the financial oversight needs for the Conference. The Board discussed the conference at length and agreed that this is exactly the type of

event the SKCCN should be supporting. Since the Board now has a 501(c)(3) it is possible for the Board to take on this challenge which would also fulfill our mission from the state. Most agreed that the UofW was not the best venue for the event given the parking and logistics problems but all agreed that with a new location (possibly Green River Community College or another Community College) it would be possible to expand the Conference in the next few years.

**Motion 3** Margie moved to allow Dianne to work with the Conference Committee, the Finance Committee and the Executive Committee to reach an agreement for handling the needed financial support for the Children's Domestic Violence Conference. Second by Don. The motion passed.

### Domestic Violence 101

Denese recreated a presentation made by Paula Shirley in January of 2004. We are including the notes from that session in these minutes to assure that everyone will start our work in 2007-09 with the same understandings.

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### *Reprinted from SKCCN Board minutes January 14, 2004*

As part of it's effort to learn as much as possible about domestic violence the Board invited Paula to join them and start with the basics. Our theme for the training was "Breaking the Cycle of Domestic Violence". Topics included: definition, victimization, accountability, safety planning, effects on children and community response.

Paula offered the definition of domestic violence as:

The use of physical, sexual, and psychological coercion or force to establish and maintain control over a partner. *It is a pattern of abusive behavior used over time.* The following are some of the main points in the presentation.

*The abuser can be:*

- a spouse
- a former spouse
- persons who have a child in common regardless of whether they have been married or lived together at any time
- adult persons related by blood or marriage
- adult persons presently residing together or who have resided together in the past
- persons sixteen years of age or older who are presently residing together or who have resided together and who have or have had a dating relationship
- persons sixteen years of age or older with whom a person sixteen years of age or older has or has had a dating relationship
- persons who have a biological or legal parent-child relationship, including stepparents and step children and grandparents and grandchildren

*The purpose of abuse is to gain control and power over the victim. All abuse is violent but the violence is not always physical. Types of abuse include:*

- Coercion and Threats – Making and/or carrying out threats to hurt her. Threatening to leave her, to commit suicide, to report her to welfare. Making her drop charges or do illegal things.
- Intimidation – Making her afraid by using looks, actions, gestures. Smashing things. Destroying her property. Displaying weapons. Abusing pets.
- Emotional Abuse – Putting her down. Making her feel bad about herself. Calling her names. Making her think she's crazy. Humiliating her. Making her feel guilty.
- Isolation – Controlling what she does, who she sees and talk to, what she reads, where she goes. Limiting her outside involvement. Using jealousy to justify actions.
- Minimizing, Denying, Blaming – Making light of the abuse and not taking concerns about it seriously. Saying the abuse doesn't happen. Shifting responsibility for abusive behavior. Saying she caused it.
- Children – Making her feel guilty about the children. Using the children to relay messages. Using visitation to harass her. Threatening to take the children away.

- Male Privilege – Treating her like a servant. Making all the big decisions. Acting like the "master of the castle". Being the one to define men's and women's roles.

Those at risk include:

- Young women
- Separated and divorced women

Some of the facts about domestic violence include:

- Women who leave their batterers are at a 75% greater risk of being killed by their batterer
- Up to 50% of all homeless women and children in this county are fleeing domestic violence
- Abusive husbands and lovers harass 74% of employed battered women at

Do battered women go from one bad relationship to another?

- 60% don't enter new relationships
- 20% enter new, non-violent relationships
- 10% enter new, violent relationships
- 10% enter new, violent relationships, recognize it, and leave within the first year

Are men who batter their wives still "good" fathers?

- More than 53% of male abusers beat their children
- As violence against women becomes more severe and more frequent in the home, children experience a 300% increase in physical violence by the male batterer

Victims of domestic violence have an increased risk of being victims of homicide

- 80% of domestic homicides were preceded by at least one complaint to police
- 50% of domestic homicides were preceded by five or more calls to police

- Economic Abuse – Preventing her from getting or keeping a job. Making her ask for money. Giving her an allowance. Taking her money. Not letting her know about or have access to family income.

- Women who were maltreated as children
- Pregnant women

work, either in person or over the telephone

- Violent fathers use school records or the presence of children at school to track down the mothers

- 10% recycle through violent relationships, reliving issues of violent families of origin, e.g. substance abuse, mental illness, childhood sexual abuse, etc.

Paula explained the domestic violence is not caused by genetics, anger, stress, alcohol/other drugs, behavior of the victim, unemployment or mental illness. Domestic violence is caused by how the abuser responds to these problems and can also be caused by environment and background. The most important lesson is that the victim is never to blame – no one ever deserves to be abused.

Some important items to remember include:

- Behaviors are targeted and repeated
- Violence increases in frequency and intensity
- Violence won't just "get better" over time
- Death is always a potential outcome, either intentionally or accidental

The following chart helped to define the continuums of domestic violence:

Physical	Sexual	Psychological	Societal
▼ pinch, squeeze, slap, shove, shake, deny basic needs, hit, kick, choke, targeted abuse bruises, throwing victim ▼ household items used as weapons, restrain and hit abuse during pregnancy	▼ minimizing sexual needs, criticism of sexuality, unwanted touch, withholding or demanding sex, frequent sex ▼ sexual insults, name calling, humiliation, incest, promiscuity, forceful sex,	▼ jokes and insults, ignoring feelings, yelling, name calling, repeated & targeted insults, humiliation, threats of retaliation, degrades as person/parent/lover, demands constant attention, jealous of children ▼ threats against children,	▼ Capitalized on myths & stereotypes about women, uses societal privilege based on income, gender, race, sexual orientation, immigration status, ability to speak English, age, etc. ▼ degrades culture, nationality, profession,

laceration, broken bones, \internal injuries ▼ guns, knives, permanent injury ▼ <b>HOMICIDE</b>	uncomfortable sex, sex with and after beatings, sex with weapons, sex resulting in permanent injury ▼ <b>RAPE WITH HOMICIDE</b>	threats to divorce, sends mixed signals ▼ questions mental health, mental illness, complete isolation ▼ <b>SUICIDE</b>	religion, creates financial dependence "macho" posturing, "uses" legal system/religion/friends/me ntal health system to support violence ▼ <b>SUICIDE</b>
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Since time was running short the Board requested that Paula return in February to finalize the training and discussion. Paula was able to fit that into her schedule and the SKCCN Board will hear part two of Domestic Violence 101 at the February 11 Board meeting.

When asked for her list of system reform measure for consideration. Paula responded:

- A coordinated response system with training for everyone (not just first responders)
- A system where onlookers would not be silent and would report domestic violence
- Enough money, resources and people to handle the needs of victims. This includes more services for children who witness violence, more shelter beds and affordable housing.

**SKCCN Board Retreat Logistics & Planning**

Dianne asked each Board member who would be and who would not be attending the May 19 Board Retreat. Those attending included: Lora, Karin, C.C., Jean, Betty, Margie, Trisha, DeDe, Vyrn, Kristin  
Those not attending included: Kerry (perhaps ½ day), Marsha (perhaps ½ day), Don

Dianne reported that the Retreat would be from 9-4 on May 19 at the Fire Station just west of Hwy 18 on Kent-Kangley Road. Breakfast of pasteries/bagels and a build your own sandwich lunch will be provided BUT if anyone wanted coffee they should stop at Starbucks.

**Committee and Staff Reports**

All reports were provided in writing.

Meeting adjourned – 7:00

Minutes Approved:

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_