



**Mission statement: The 2010 Commission serves as a community voice to advise and influence public and private sectors on issues of community concern.  
County Conference Room, 1001 Santa Fe Ave, Pueblo, CO**

**Thursday, March 12, 2009, 7:00 a.m.  
MINUTES**

( **DRAFT** - Subject to Approval )

1. Call to Order: Chair Dorothy Buksar called the meeting to order at 7:08am. Members present included:

<b>Dale King</b>	At-large	<b>John Kenny</b>	Recreation/Leisure
<b>Charlie Davis</b>	At-large	<b>Doris Kester</b>	Past-Chair
<b>Dorothy Buksar</b>	Chair	<b>Anne Courtright</b>	Health & Human Services
<b>Hector Carrasco</b>	CSU-P	<b>Dave Barber</b>	Environment/EPAC
<b>Lana Carter</b>	PCC	<b>Doug Ohmans</b>	At-large
		<b>Shirley Ozzello</b>	Governance
<b>Jay Dammann</b>	Infrastructure	--	Pueblo County
<b>Pat Heine</b>	Safety & Security	<b>Chuck Pelto</b>	Neighborhoods
<b>Kitty Kennedy</b>	Pueblo City Schools	<b>Richard Pinneau</b>	Secty-Treasurer
		<b>Jane Rhodes</b>	District 70
<b>Stan Hren</b>	Pueblo West MD	--	Arts, Culture, Tourism
<b>Val Henderson</b>	Education/Learning	<b>Cathee Duncan</b>	Historical Preservation
--	Colorado City		At-large
<b>Barbara Vidmar</b>	City of Pueblo	<b>Susan DeHerrera</b>	At-large

Others present: Kristi Roque and Cathy Dehn, Health Department.

1. **Welcome & Introductions:** Breakfast provided by All Seasons Catering.
2. **Minutes** of February 2009 meeting were approved, with correction of chair, unanimous voice vote.
3. **Treasurer’s report:** Postponed till next month; account balance is only slightly changed.

**4. Report by Kristi Roque on Health Department’s Pregnancy Prevention Program**

Pueblo usually ranks 2nd, occasionally 3rd, among Colorado cities in teenage pregnancy rate. The Health Department aims to help community realize that it is incurring an annual cost of roughly \$8 million related to teen childrearing. It is critical to involve teens in the process. So for last two years we have teen-peer advisory groups in some of the high schools. They tell Christie what they feel teens need regarding education in sexuality and pregnancy. Then they attempt to do educational programs within the schools: providing medically accurate information about dating, STDs, etc. to the teens. They are mixed-gender, and this seems to work well, although boys participate less. The “Birds and Bees and Flowers and Trees” camp has been very helpful in teaching three top messages: How to take care of your body; Don’t do anything you’ll regret; and Abstinence is safest.” Also in summer is a “Girl Power” program at PCC to help early-adolescent girls find ways to develop values, positive relationships, and strong decision-making skills.

Upcoming Pregnancy Prevention Work:

National "Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program" will help with May 6 Summit in Pueblo, with a teen panel.

New state bill requires that any program must be "comprehensive," meaning that it tell about "abstinence-plus."

Jay + Doris: Pregnancy prevention program previously offered by Girl Scouts in southern Colorado has been discontinued.

#### Responses to questions:

Most pregnancies happen in "Y" neighborhoods, especially 81001, meaning East High School, where there is not currently a support group. This year the Department could not get the support within the school for the program. Christie see the staff of the school as pressed for time and energy to help start it. ("There must be a champion within the building to get anything accomplished within the schools." —Hector Carrasco) The programs occur at noon so that they do not conflict with other programs. Right now the School Board is facing a big decision regarding whether/how to follow new state regulations about sex education.

Often principals are uncomfortable with sex education because it involves discussing contraception and sexually transmitted disease prevention.

Cost of teen pregnancy to schools? Annual costs have not yet been broken out for school districts.

Pueblo West has 18 students active. They use a variety of avenues of spreading the message, including MySpace and FaceBook web sites.

There is concrete research evidence that abstinence-only program aggravate the problems.

Boulder County has a nurse practitioner program for teen moms, providing contraceptive injections, and this is being explored here. Something similar was funded years ago in Pueblo, but dropped when funding ended.

#### **5. Public Entity Annual Reports [ abbreviated because of long presentation ]**

- **No one for Pueblo West Metropolitan District.**
- **Lana Carter for PCC:** We are facing 10% cut in budget for coming year, along with this years 11% FTE increase and another expected 10% increase in the fall. Funding for finishing administration building refurbishing, however, seems on track. Vestas training work is on track, and we expect a large influx of such students. By June we expect combined efforts with San Juan area to be completed. Working closely with CSU-P to facilitate students moving from AA degree to CSU-P's B.A. programs.  
Beginning April 20: you may register for summer classes.
- **No one for Pueblo County:** .
- **No one for City of Pueblo:** .
- **Kitty Kennedy for Pueblo City Schools:** Last week all the high schools had musical productions, involving bands and orchestras. Budget cuts: we are looking at a possible \$75. million in cuts. We are doing community focus groups currently. For last two years we have been running on balanced budgets, and will struggle to continue this during the budget cutting.  
Superintendent Covington  
We had two students receiving Boettcher Scholarships.  
The strategic plan is alive and well. We see the plan as well aligned with Obama's federal plan for education.  
Corwin International Magnet School has first live satellite interactive process and has enabled

student collaborations with school in Japan: a first for southern Colorado.

- **Jane Rhodes** for **D-70 Schools**: We are having community meetings to help guide budget cuts that we will need to institute. We are now beginning CSAP season.
- **Hector Carrasco** for **CSU-Pueblo**: The First Friday report was handed out and is available online. We face same budget cuts as other state divisions. We are not counting on getting another 12% increase in new students for fall 2009. We are having to educate more student with fewer dollars.  
COF (?) Amount we get per enrolled student is remaining steady. Students on a limited budget will find tuition increases a challenge.  
International students at CSU-Pueblo is relatively small, but has a significant financial impact.  
Alumni reunion today for \$10 at CSU-Pueblo today; 4:30pm - 7:30pm at Union Depot.

#### **6. Commission Retreat — Review:** none.

Individual task force reports were deferred, given time constraints.

Materials handed out for Safety and Security TF program, “Adult Resources for Care and Help (ARCH)”.

Health Care for All Colorado is working with a new comprehensive health care bill, to be heard in State Senate on March 18.

EPAC (Dave Barber): EPAC annual report is available online:

We also have list of 2009 neighborhood cleanups and other events.

Pueblo is turning out to have one of highest radon levels of the state. EPAC makes free testing kits available. Jenny Kedward with Health Department is doing program soon.

Free kits at Health Department on Santa Fe Ave.

#### **9. Announcements:**

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 a.m.

—Richard Pinneau, Secretary-Treasurer