

Commission on the Status of Men
Minutes of Meeting
January 28, 2004
Plymouth State University
Lamson Library – Room 002

Commissioners attending were Gerard Boyle, Joe Mastromarino, Ron Blankenstein, Mike Geanoulis, Steve Gorin, and Tony Raymond. Representative David Bickford was also in attendance. Absent was Larry Colby.

Chairman Boyle called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Each Commissioner introduced himself to the attendees.

Update on Commission Website: Scott Garman should have the website up and running within a few weeks. The mission statement has been drafted. Comments and suggestions should be forwarded to Mike Geanoulis within the next few days so that the final text can be posted on the website.

Men's Health Issues - Future Speakers: Chuck Rhodes, Researcher for the report "Asking for Directions, A study of men and their health" is interested in speaking to the Commission at a future meeting. Angela Matthews, serving on the advisory council for the same report, is also interested in speaking to the Commission. Steve Gorin will ask them to attend a future meeting in Concord.

Suicide Issues: Joe Mastromarino stated that Tom Andrews of the Medical Examiner's Office is willing to meet with us every other month to review record on suicide data to analyze over a one to 2 year period. This data would include reporting of male and female suicide in NH and as many data elements would be correlated as are available and not protected under rights and privacy laws. Joe is looking for commission members and others willing to join him once every other months at the Medical Examiners Office.

Assistance to Male Victims of Domestic Violence:

Lee Nemman, VIP/SAFE, spoke on this issue and then introduced two speakers that came to make specific presentation to the Commission. The film "Also at Risk – Domestic Violence Against Men" was shown.

Laurie Couture, Child Advocate, spoke on the issue of the bias against males.

Kerry Laferriere, graduate student, gave a presentation entitled "Save our sons from the Feminist Movement". A copy of this paper was given to the Commission.

Family Law Task Force Update: Mike Geanoulis reported the following:

- Marital Task Force proposal has been circulated for review by the Task Force
- The Task Force will view the video "Also at Risk" at its next meeting
- VIP/Safe (Lee Newman) has been invited to the next meeting.
- Also invited to this next meeting is Maury Straus of UNH, a marital master, and a district court representative.
- The next meeting is on February 20 at 1 p.m. in room 208 of the LOB.

Next Meeting of the Commission on the Status of Men: February 25, Keene State College, 12 noon to 3 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Ron Blankenstein, Secretary