

# TEXAS WOMEN'S POLITICAL CAUCUS

Newsletter

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## POLICY COUNCIL TO MEET APRIL 6

The next Policy Council meeting will be in Corpus Christi at Cliff House at 10 a.m. Saturday April 6. At this meeting the TWPC will act on endorsement of candidates for the May primaries. The annual convention of the TWPC also will be discussed. A new format will be tried at that meeting. All Vice-Chair reports will be prepared in advance and read to the Policy Council. It is hoped that this procedure will save time. If motions are introduced there will, of course, be open discussion on them. Formal reports will, however, be limited to five minutes per speaker.

Local caucuses and Special Interest caucuses (including ethnic and party caucuses) will be offered an opportunity to give formal reports to the Policy Council as well. Any caucuses wishing to give a report must give a copy of the written report to *Ruth Milburn* by meeting time in order to be included on the agenda. Time limitations have prevented the individual caucuses from being recognized before at Policy Council meetings. The restriction to reading a prepared report is intended to provide time for these groups to tell us what they are doing and to ask us for specific support.

All delegates to the Policy Council are asked to study any advance material sent to them and be ready for discussion and voting.

## CHECK CANDIDATES OUT

Be sure to check the eligibility requirements before you support candidates. Some things that might make a candidate ineligible are: state employees are forbidden from campaigning for any elective office. Residence requirements must be met (you have to live in the district you're running in). The State Board of Education excludes from membership anyone engaged in "organized educational activity."

## SPECIAL INTEREST CAUCUS NEWS

TWPC members, especially those in the Prime Time Caucus (women over 40), should send a letter of commendation to Texas Senator *Lloyd M. Bentsen*, who is reported to be working for extension of the 1967 Age Discrimination Act to cover federal, state and local governments. Employees of such public agencies are not now covered by this important legislation. Since our government offices are the nation's largest employers of women, this Act is vital to many women. **WRITE TODAY!**

## FARAH DISPUTE SETTLED

The Farah strikers have won an agreement from *Willie Farah* to recognize their union. This lengthy strike has been of particular concern to the Caucus because 85% of the workers involved are women and more than 90% are Mexican-American. The paternalistic and patriarchal attitudes of Farah management were very much involved in the dispute. The methods of the union and of the National Labor Relations Board in negotiations with Farah are being attacked by one of our United States Senators as a violation of management's rights. It might not be inappropriate to mention in your next letter to Senator *Tower* that there were other issues involved in the Farah dispute.

## FREE TRIP TO HUNTSVILLE

A recent Attorney General's opinion on the campaign finance law states that an organization giving money to candidates or campaigns must have both a general campaign manager and a different manager for each candidate to whom they contribute. Both managers must file with the county clerk before any money is given to the candidate. If you have already given money, the authorities will probably be lenient if you get your campaign managers on file right away. This is very serious, however, since failure to comply with the new campaign law can result in jail sentences.

## STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY APPOINTS 50% WOMEN

The newly-selected Affirmative Action Commission of the Texas Democratic Party is made up of eight women and eight men. Blacks comprise 25%, Spanish-surnamed 50%, and there is a healthy diversity of ages and political philosophies. The panel seems a bit weighted toward urban representation, with more than half of the members from the Houston area. *Jane Hickie*, chairperson of the TWPC, was one of five members elected by regional caucuses of the State Democratic Executive Committee. The remaining nine members were appointed by the State Party Chairman, *Calvin Guest*. The Commission will be responsible for insuring minority representation at the state convention in September and the Kansas City "miniconvention" in December.

## CALENDAR

Mar. 22-24	Coalition of Labor Union Women (Must be a member or retiree of a union to participate)	Pick-Congres Hotel--Chicago
April 6	Policy Council Meeting	Corpus Christi