

Contra Costa County
Advisory Council on Aging
Minutes for April 19, 2023 Meeting

Call to Order: Jill Kleiner, President, called the meeting to order at 10:04.

Present (in-person)	Marty Aufhauser, Mike Awadalla, Swamini Bajpai, Michelle Berman, Jagjit Bhambra, Cate Burkhart, Debbie Card, Jim Donnelly, Kevin Donovan, Jennifer Doran, Candace Evans, Eric Freitag, Carol Kehoe, Jill Kleiner, George Lee, Steve Lipson, Erin Partridge, Michael Rigsby, Sam Sakai-Miller, Sara Shafiabady, Michael Wener
Virtual (Just Cause)	
Virtual (Emergency)	Jody Iorns
Virtual	Thomas Lang, Nuru Neemuchwalla, Dennis Yee
Absent	Mary Bruns, Kacey Carterelliott, Rudy Fernandez, Brian O’Toole, Ramapriya Raju, Lorna Van Ackeren
Leave of Absence	Shirley Krohn (attended virtually), Terri Tobey
Guests	Tara Cantu - Choice in Aging, Marilyn Fowler – Concord Commission on Aging, Michelle Hayes – Richmond Commission on Aging, Jen Quallick – Supervisor Andersen’s Office, Gerald Richards – ACOA Director, Mary Serrano – Community Health Fund, Caitlin Sly – Meals on Wheels Diablo Region, Debbie Toth – Choice in Aging
AAA Staff	Ana Bagtas, Glenda Pacha

Roll Call:

- Candace Evans conducted the roll call and noted 21 members present establishing a quorum.

Approval of Today’s Agenda:

- Jim made a motion to approve the agenda. Mike W. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of March 2023 Minutes:

- Several corrections to the March minutes.
- Jennifer made a motion to approve the March 2023 minutes as corrected. Jagjit seconded the motion. The corrected minutes were approved unanimously.

Council Member Self Introductions:

- Council Members who hadn’t previously introduced themselves at the February 2023 meeting, provided one-minute self-introductions to the group.

Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Program Manager’s Report – Ana Bagtas, AAA Program Manager

- Thank you for attending the new ACOA orientation. Thanks to Jill/Jagjit for assisting with the meeting. ACOA orientation will be offered quarterly.
- California Association of Area Agencies on Aging (C4A) will hold its annual meeting May 9-11 in Glendale. Jill/Jim attending with Staff.
- Master Plan for Aging is going well. Collaborative Consulting is conducting interviews with Implementing Master Plan for Aging in Contra Costa Together (IMPACCT) committee. They are identifying the roles of IMPACCT vs sub committees. At the next meeting of the IMPACCT committee, Collaborative Consulting will present results of interviews.
- Five Request for Proposals (RFPs) have been issued.
 - Thanks to review panel members.
 - Measure X - Transportation, Outreach, Case Management. Contracts Unit to send letter to tell them Ana will be in contact to negotiate contracts.
 - Measure X – Organizational Capacity Building – 4 applicants, start negotiation this week.
 - Title III D in process.
 - Title III E due May 1st – will need lots of review panel members.
- Introduced members of the Senior Nutrition team from Public Health to the ACOA. Jenn Gomes a wonderful addition to the team. David Chen helped with technical today. Jeannie Polk is a dietician and is out in the field today.
- As of yesterday, Personnel Department said the Temporary Upgrade (TU) moving forward. Ana hopes to identify someone in the next few weeks.
- Recruitment for Senior Nutrition staff in the AAA needs to be opened, but not sure when they will be done.
- Contracts deadline was met.

Presentation: Contra Costa Senior Legal Services, Emily Milstein

- See attached powerpoint slides.

Committee and Work Group Reports:

Membership Committee – Jagjit Bhambra

- April 10 ACOA Orientation – thanks to all who assisted and to those who attended
- Vacancies:
 - Brentwood
 - San Pablo
 - Pinole
 - Nutrition – tbd
 - 1 MAL
 - 3 Alternates
- 6 pending appointments (with BOS).

Planning Committee – Michelle Berman

- RFPs:
 - Measure X - Transportation, Outreach, Case Management – reviews completed.
 - Measure X – Organizational Capacity Building – reviews completed.

- The Committee will be working on the Needs Assessment that will inform the 2024-2028 Area Plan. At the May meeting the Committee will identify needs, develop a timeline, discuss best practices, and a methodology to reach hard to reach populations.

Health Workgroup – Jennifer Doran

- Planning San Pablo Elder Abuse Prevention presentation.
- Ambrose (Bay Point) presentation is Monday, April 24.
- The May meeting (Thursday, May 11) will be exclusively on zoom. The presenter will be the Order of the Malta.
- At San Pablo event, please announce need for ACOA members from West County.

Housing Workgroup- Kevin Donovan

- Presentation “Unrepresented” discussed eviction court (legally uninformed tenants, without legal representation and the challenges they face).
- Will no longer focus on the development of the Concord Naval Weapons station in relation to housing since it is on hold.
- Will continue to develop the white paper on housing.
- Infographic “No Place Like Home”.
- The Workgroup will develop talking points for ACOA members to use when they speak to their cities/towns.
- Gerald encouraged support of the Housing WG.

Legislative Workgroup – Shirley Krohn

- Reconfigured workgroup so California Senior Legislature (CSL) representatives (Shirley, Steve and Lorna) are now the members of the committee.
- Will start working at the next legislative season.
- Super critical legislation Accessible Transportation bill (AB 540). Stay tuned for more.

Technology Workgroup – Steve Lipson

- NPR/BBC left Twitter due to Elon Musk.
- Brown Act Attendance Policy letter format attached to the meeting materials.
- Moving away from County website.
- Unaffiliated site with guide to volunteer opportunities in the County.
- New Artificial Intelligence tools are becoming popular.

Senior Mobility Action Council (SMAC) Transportation Workgroup- Jim Donnelly

- AB 540 (Wicks) proposes better coordination of efforts throughout the State. Supporters are looking to develop big coalitions, get sponsors, find a way to finance it.
- The Town of Danville conducted a survey of all transportation in the county to find out what everybody’s doing. Should be finished in May.
- Please attend workgroups. We need ACOA members to attend so we can get quorum.
- Should we send all agendas to ACOA members?

ACOA President's Report: Jill Kleiner

- ACOA Brochure Refresh
 - Seeking volunteers to help redesign/update the brochure. Let Jill know if you are interested.

- Senior Rally Day: May 2nd
 - Virtual event 9 am -4 pm on Tuesday, May 2nd.

- Brown Act Attendance Rules -
 - There is a SB 411 hearing today, the bill is at 25% (of completion).
 - Steve's advocacy letter proposes:
 - Reset to covid rules.
 - Remove the requirement to publish address where meeting is held.
 - Public needs to have open access to meetings.
 - Shouldn't need to have a quorum physically present, should be able to vote remotely, if you attend remotely you should not be counted as absent.
 - AB 544 and AB 817 are also moving through the legislature. Possible a hotline to call in to support.
 - Letter must be submitted the date before the meeting at 5 pm. Send to sponsors of the bill.
 - Urgency statue is only on SB 411.
 - If they do not receive urgency statue they cannot be in effect until January 2024. AB 817 is closest to what we want.

Regional Coalition Update – Debbie Toth

- Senior Rally Day is May 2.
- Senior Advocacy May 3 – sponsored by California Collaborative.

Public Comment

- Any workgroups hearing about MediCal reform? Some of those changes (that took effect in July) could increase those eligible. Recommend Executive Committee find a speaker to present to ACOA.

New Business for Next Meeting:

- Wednesday, May 17, 2023, 500 Ellinwood Way, Boardroom

Jill adjourned the meeting at 12:01 pm.