

**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING
Minutes for April 20, 2022 Meeting**

ACOA MEMBERSHIP

Active Members = 36
Vacancies = 4
Pending= 1

Call to Order: Jim Donnelly, council President, called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

Present:

Martin Aufhauser	Candace Evans	Steve Lipson
Mike Awadalla	Rudy Fernandez	Nuru Neemuchwalla
Jagjit Bhabra	Eric Freitag	Brian O’Toole
Mary Bruns	Gail Garrett	Erin Partridge
Rhoda Butler	Dale Harrington	Penny Reed
Deborah Card	Jody Iorns	Gerald Richards
Kacey Carterelliott	Jill Kleiner	Sam Sakai-Miller
Jim Donnelly	Shirley Krohn	Sara Shafiabady
Kevin Donovan	Nancy Leasure	Michael Wener
Jennifer Doran	George Lee	Dennis Yee

Absent: Michelle Berman, Arthur Kee, Sutter Selleck, Francés Smith, Terri Tobey, Lorna Van Ackeren

Guests: Jen Quallick (Supervisor Andersen’s Office), Tara Cantu (Choice in Aging), Debbie Toth (Choice in Aging), Bill Pelter (Ability Now Bay Area), Rikki Juster (Lamorinda Spirit Transit), Caitlin Sly (Meals-on-Wheels Diablo Region), Robert “Woody” Englund (Concord), Swamini Bajpai (San Ramon)

Staff Present: Ana Bagtas, Division Manager, Area Agency on Aging, Jenny Lam, Anthony Macias, Glenda Pacha

Roll Call: Anthony Macias conducted the roll call and noted 30 members present establishing a quorum.

Approval of Today’s Agenda:

- Marty Aufhauser made a motion to approve the agenda. Shirley Krohn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of March 2022 Minutes:

- Candace Evans made a motion to approve the March 2022 minutes. Jagjit Bhabra seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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

- The AAA received six proposals for the Title IIIB Request for Proposal (RFP). There were no submissions for Case Management or Homemaker portions of the RFP. Some members of the Planning Committee served on the proposal review panel.
- Homemaker services may be released as RFQ (Request for Qualifications) to create a pool of profit agencies to provide the service. The AAA must obtain a waiver from the State to do business with for-profit agencies.
- Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) funding – The AAA received an allocation of 1.1 million in Senior Nutrition Infrastructure funding, which is part of HCBS package. The AAA will solicit requests for infrastructure funding from current senior nutrition providers and partners. Requests are due to the State for review and approval by June 30. The AAA is expecting other HCBS funding for other services.
- The AAA is gearing up to monitor its contractors, starting with a desk review followed by an onsite visit between May and June. Planning Committee members will accompany staff at the onsite monitoring visits.
- The State is monitoring the AAA for all programs on June 13-17 and a separate monitoring of the management of the CalFresh Healthy Living program on June 28.
- The State completed the fiscal audit of the AAA, and everything went smoothly.
- The IMPACT Steering Committee of the Contra Costa Master Plan for Aging is canvassing the county to determine the various groups, formal and informal, that meet and collaborate around the issues of priority for the local effort. Assigned champions/thought partners tasked with bringing back information on the issue areas of housing, transportation, health, equity and inclusion, workforce/caregiving to the Steering Committee.

ACOA Committee and Work Group Reports:

Membership Committee – Jill Kleiner

- Welcomed new Members at Large Dale Harrington & Sam Sakai-Miller as well as 2 alternates - Mike Awadalla & George Lee
- New Member “Buddy’s” will be Mary Bruns for Dale, Marty Aufhauser for Mike, and Jagjit Bhambra for George.
- San Ramon has appointed a new ACOA representative, and Anthony is working through the next steps for approval from the Board of Supervisors.
- Current vacancies include the Cities of Concord, El Cerrito, Pinole and San Pablo. The Senior Nutrition Program representative is currently open.
- The Membership committee will interview a candidate for one of our alternate positions at its meeting later today.

Planning Committee – Kevin Donovan

- Jill Kleiner, Michelle Berman and Dennis Yee are in the process of completing a comprehensive review of the Title IIIB proposals.
- With a limited period to complete their reviews, all of these three committee members have stepped up and are quickly responding to this request for proposal reviews.
- During the April 5 meeting, Ana provided training and guidance for on-site contractor monitoring visits. These visits will occur in May and June.
- ACOA members are welcome to attend the Planning Committee meeting on May 3, 2022.

Legislative Advocacy Workgroup – Shirley Krohn

- The Legislative workgroup has expanded its ability to respond to pending legislation by reaching out to other workgroups who may have an interest in legislation concerning older adults in California.

Health Workgroup – Jennifer Doran

- The workgroup reviewed the final draft of the Four Tips for Selecting a Nursing Home brochure.
- Some workgroup members are drafting letters of support for pending legislation that affects the health and well-being of older adults in California.
- The April presentation was Mom's Meals, a home-delivered meal service often used post hospitalization.
- Next month's presentation is on Adult Protective Services

Senior Mobility Action Council (SMAC) Transportation Workgroup- Mary Bruns

- At the March 28 Meeting, Debbie Toth, Executive Director of Choice in Aging, and John Cunningham, Planner with the County's Department of Conservation and Development, provided background for creating a Transportation Advocacy Plan.
- Some workgroup members attended the Disability and Aging Community Living Advisory Committee (DACLAC) Transportation Sub Committee Meeting. At the meeting, Caltrans shared the agency's goals and indicated they would prioritize Accessible Transportation going forward.
- The discussion on advocating for accessible transportation and funding for implementing the Accessible Transportation Strategic Plan will continue at the April 25 meeting.

Housing Workgroup – Gerald Richards

- The workgroup elected Dale Harrington as its new co-chair.
- Jan Warren, Chair of the Multi-Faith Action Coalition's Housing and Shelter Task Force presented at the last meeting.

Technology Workgroup – Steve Lipson

- Workgroup members attend the Bay Area Digital Inclusion Coalition. They provided updates on the regional issues about the digital divide.
- Steve is developing an outreach plan for workgroup members to update content and resources for the ACOA website.
- The workgroup discussed the Connection, Health, Aging and Technology program and gathered ideas to implement the project in the county.

ACOA President's Report – Jim Donnelly

- Consent Item- Appointment of Dale Harrington to the Paratransit Coordinating Council (PCC).
- Mary made a motion to approve the appointment of Dale Harrington to the PCC. Shirley Krohn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentation: CalAIM Initiatives Carrissa Avalos, Anthem Inc. Regional Program Manager for CalAIM

- See PDF of PowerPoint presentation attached to these minutes.

Presentation: Older Adults and the Digital Divide – Steve Lipson

- See PDF of PowerPoint presentation attached to these minutes.

Election of California Senior Legislature (CSL) members

- Jim Donnelly recommended reappointment of Shirley Krohn and Lorna Van Ackeren as CSL Assembly Members. Gerald made a motion to approve the reappointment of Shirley Krohn and Lorna Van Ackeren as CSL Assembly Members. Nancy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Candidates for CSL Senior Senator, Jagjit Bhambra and Steve Lipson, introduced themselves and gave a short speech.
- Used Zoom poll to vote for candidates. Steve received the most votes. He will serve as CSL Senior Senator for the ACOA.

Regional Coalition Update – Debbie Toth

- CSL and California Collaborative for Long Term Support will host California Senior Rally Day on May 3, 2022.
- Advocacy Day for Long Term Services support will be on May 4, 2022. If members are interested in virtual visit with local legislatures, please contact Debbie to schedule visit.

Public Comment

- Mary stated that Lamorinda Spirit Van has received funding for its program and is seeking a driver with a class B driver's license.

Next ACOA Meeting is on Wednesday, May 18, 2022.

Jim adjourned the meeting at 11:30 am