

Contra Costa County
Advisory Council on Aging
Minutes for May 17, 2023 Meeting

Call to Order: Jill Kleiner, President, called the meeting to order at 10:03. She led the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present (in-person)	Marty Aufhauser, Mike Awadalla, Michelle Berman, Jagjit Bhambra, Cate Burkhart, Debbie Card, Jim Donnelly, Kevin Donovan, Jennifer Doran, Eric Freitag, Carol Kehoe, Jill Kleiner, Steve Lipson, Brian O’Toole, Erin Partridge, Michael Rigsby, Sam Sakai-Miller, Sara Shafiabady, Lorna Van Ackeren
Virtual (Just Cause)	Swamini Bajpai
Virtual (Emergency)	Jody Iorns
Virtual	Jennifer Doran, Candace Evans, Rudy Fernandez, Thomas Lang, George Lee, Nuru Neemuchwalla , Dennis Yee
Absent	Mary Bruns, Kacey Carterelliott, Ramapriya Raju, Michael Wener
Leave of Absence	Shirley Krohn, Terri Tobey
Guests	Tracy Murray – Director of Aging and Adult Services Rosa Noya – Contra Costa Transportation Authority Mary Serrano – Community Health Fund Caitlin Sly – Meals on Wheels Diablo Region Debbie Toth & Grace Cunningham - Choice in Aging Marilyn Fowler – Concord Commission on Aging Gerald Richards – former ACOA member Caroline Miller – Contra Costa Health Services (H3)
AAA Staff	Ana Bagtas, Glenda Pacha

Roll Call: Candace Evans conducted the roll call and noted 18 members present. A quorum was **not** reached – therefore no actions can be taken at this meeting.

Approval of Today’s Agenda:

- We did not have a quorum so we could not approve today’s agenda.

Approval of April 2023 Minutes:

- We did not have a quorum so we could not approve the April 2023 minutes.

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

- Tracy, Ana, Jill, and Glenda attended the California Association of Area Agencies on Aging (C4A) conference last week.
- “All the Lonely People” – Film on social isolation was shown at the conference and we may be able to show locally.
- RFPs
 - Need ACOA members to help on Bureau Review Panel, 25 applications.
 - Waiting on Contracts Unit for list of applications.
 - Title III D and the two Measure X RFPs are in the middle of contracting.
- Senior Nutrition

- 3 AAA staff positions are expected to be approved by the Board of Supervisors to replace the 3 Contra Costa Health Services positions currently supporting the program.
- RFI – to be issued for trainer to train seniors on use of technology. If only one applicant, we can go forward with them. If more than one, we must do a full RFP process.
- Computer labs in 4 senior centers funded by Access to Technology funds - Oakley, San Pablo, Pittsburg, North Richmond.
- County Counsel training re in-person meetings – training will re clarify hybrid meeting rules.

Presentation: Aging & Adult Services Report, Tracy Murray, Director, Aging & Adult Services

- AAS is the smallest bureau, 186 staff, large variety of programs. AAS is comprised of:
 - Adult Protective Services – cases have decreased but are more severe.
 - In-Home Supportive Services – Medi-Cal program that allows for in-home care, average 107 hours per month, caregivers paid \$16.50 per hour, caseload increased by 40% over 5 years.
 - General Assistance – offered to those most at risk, stipend of \$375/month.
 - Area Agency on Aging.

Committee and Work Group Reports:

Membership Committee – Jagjit Bhambra

- Next Board of Supervisors Meeting - Marilyn Fowler.
- Resignation – Eric Freitag.
- Carol Kehoe found a Pinole rep (Lori) waiting to connect with City Clerk.
- Will be renewing members with terms ending 9/2023.

Planning Committee – Michelle Berman

- RFP review process in the next few weeks.
- Planning is underway for the Needs Assessment to inform the 2024-2028 Area Plan.

Health Workgroup – Jennifer Doran

- No report – Jennifer absent

Housing Workgroup- Kevin Donovan

- East Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy is promoting legislation in the city of Concord to reduce the cap on annual rent increases from its current 10% to a proposed 3%.
- Clayton Valley Village: Organization provides volunteer services to seniors in Clayton and parts of Concord. The services cover computer support, transportation, social activities as well as electrical and plumbing support. Currently this "virtual village" has 62 members who pay \$650 annually.
- Home Match Contra Costa: Started in 2017 Home Match matches Concord and other Contra Costa County homeowners with people who would want to rent a room. Home Match provides background checks, in-person interviews, home interviews and ongoing counseling to the potential tenant and property owner. Focus is on Concord and central Contra Costa.
- A draft info graphic was discussed with the Work Group with expected final comments to come during our June meeting.

Legislative Workgroup – Shirley Krohn

- No report – Shirley absent

Technology Workgroup – Steve Lipson

- Revisited Art Intelligence issues.
- Digital resources for seniors.
- Brown Act written in a different time; how can we amend it to be more current?
- AB 817 shot down by ACLU, media.
- Steve wrote a letter to ACLU saying current situation discriminates against seniors, disabled. ACLU has not responded.
- Isolation is an indicator of serious health issues.
- Digital divide adds to isolation.

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

- Updating the Countywide Accessible Transportation Survey
- Will begin discussion of “What did we learn from the pandemic?”

Presentation: Choice in Aging – Debbie Toth

- Programs in Pleasant Hill & Antioch.
- 5% of agency budget is Contra Costa AAA funding.
- \$7 million budget.
- Russian-speaking program, Farsi women’s program, mid-late stage Alzheimer’s Program.
- Aging in Place campus – in process \$32 million supportive services, housing paid by housing provider.

ACOA President’s Report – Jill Kleiner

- Passed out sheets for ACOA members to indicate current workgroup & committee assignments.
- Defer TACC report till next time.
- Dr. Margot Kushel – housing panel at C4A conference– no medicine as powerful as housing.
- Thank you to Gerald. Wait for a quorum to appoint to emeritus status.

Regional Coalition Update – Debbie Toth

- Senior Rally Day - information about Master Plan for Aging.
- Senior Advocacy Day – met with State Legislators and their staff.

Public Comment

- Go eat at congregate meal location to help understand program.

New Business for Next Meeting:

- Wednesday, June 21, 2023, 500 Ellinwood Way, Boardroom

Jill adjourned the meeting at 12:01 pm.