

**Contra Costa County Advisory Council on Aging
Health Work Group Minutes
Thursday, July 9, 2020**

Call to Order: Susan Frederick called the meeting to order at 930 am.

Present: Jennifer Doran, Susan Frederick, Brian O'Toole, Dennis Yee, Nancy Leasure, Kathie Thompson, Joanna Kim-Selby, Terri Tobey

Absent: Lenore MacDonald, Fred Adams, Nuru Neemuchwalla

Staff: Anthony Macias

Approval of Agenda/Minutes

- Approve Today's Agenda – Dennis moved to approve agenda, Nancy motioned second, unanimously approved.
- No revisions to March 2020 minutes; Adopted as written.

Announcements and Correspondence: Susan Frederick, Chair

- How are the WG members are being affected by pandemic and SIP?
- Members shared how they are doing since we had not last met since March.
- Susan: Exec Committee as a whole worked on good neighbor flyer on how to get information out during the pandemic. The Health WG created the original good neighbor flyer.
- ACOA Letter to BOS opposing placement of COVID19 patients into nursing homes.
- Ombudsman and Choice in Aging distributed PPE items in the county.

Public Comment

- Joanna- received a postcard stating ""Property Notification" "Urgent Do not Discard This Notice"; My home address was listed and "its Potential transfer of ownership" then tell me to call 510-722-9960; wrote to the Contra Costa County Tax Assessor's Office and was told this was a scam.

AARP Updates – Nuru Neemuchwalla

- No report, Nuru absent.

Legislative Report - Nancy Leasure

- AB 683 Medi-Cal eligibility expansion: Passed Assembly 6/23/20; referred to the Senate Health Committee.
- AB 387 Task force: adverse drug effects/prescriptions; requires pharmacists to state on the label the condition for which the drug prescribed; Passed Assembly; in Senate APPR suspense file.

- AB 387, the pharmacy bill: Its purpose is to create a task force to "develop information, make recommendations, and report findings to the California State Board of Pharmacy, the Medical Board of California, and the Legislature on matters relating to the inclusion of the condition or purpose for which a drug is prescribed on prescription labels and adverse drug events." Their report submitted by September 1, 2020.
- AB 1853 Health Care/Medical goods- reuse and redistribution; in committee on Aging, LTC and Health; 3/17/20 hearing postponed.
- AB 1855 Residential Care facilities for the elderly: emergency and disaster plan; in Committee on Human Services; 3/16/20, hearing postponed.
- SB 29 Medi-cal Eligibility: Extends eligibility for full medical benefits to individuals under 25 years of age and who would otherwise be eligible but for their immigration status; passed Senate 5/29/19; Ordered to third reading in House 9/4/19.
- AB 2739 Medi-cal monthly maintenance amount: personal and incidental needs; Introduced 2/20/20; Increases monthly maintenance amount from \$35 to \$80 per month; in Health Committee; Hearing postponed 3/17/20.
- AB 2047 Emergency services: Alzheimer's disease, dementia; adds Alzheimer's or dementia patients to "access and functional needs population" in counties' emergency plans; introduced 2/3/20; passed Assembly; in Senate referred to Senate Committee on Government Organization.

Dementia/Alzheimer's: Jennifer Doran

- Pandemic has increased isolation of the dementia patients and caregivers. ALZ has launched a check in campaign and coordinated with helplines; strengthened connection to 211 to make sure that communication is good. Utilized friendship line to stay connected.
- In SF 30% of persons with dementia, live alone.
- **RE: research and testing:**
 - Biogen has applied to FDA for approval of medication *Advucanumab*, the first treatment to delay progression. Experts however, recommend larger trials; it has been 15 years since Alzheimer's drug review; in FDA, 50 days to decide.
 - There is Razadyne to delay memory loss by which inhibits breakdown of chemical messengers responsible for learning and memory.
 - Namenda- blocks destruction of neuro transmitters in brain associated with learning/memory.
 - Clinical trials on going with aimed at preventing disease before diagnosis.
 - A4 – Anti- amyloid; conducted in asymptomatic ALZ drug- *Solenezumab*.
 - DIAN study- dominantly inherit ALZ; strong family history; 1% of ALZ.
 - API trials ALZ Prevention Initiative. APOE4 started this year. Using body's immune system to protect against harmful proteins. Individual who carry a gene for the disease. *Crenezumab*.
 - Tomorrow study – recruiting 65 to 83 year olds with good physical health. To evaluate effectiveness of newly dev test to determine gen risk of getting mild cognitive behavior. Also examine in pioglitazone will delay early diagnosis of mild cognitive impairment.

Nursing Homes: Fred Adams

- No report; Fred absent.

Caregiver Resources: Terri Tobey

- New grant with DV- financial abuse; volunteers
- Increase in financial elder abuse; has been very busy.
- How reports received by DV-FA: Directly from APS, to work on sorting the financial problems of these referrals. Many new volunteers.
- looking at a lot of great webinars- Family Caregiver Alliance (FGA); a wealth of information for caregivers; register for the webinars; www.caregiver.org hosted by FGA.
- Manor Care in WC has 75 cases of COVID19 and 120 pending results; Believes under estimation of actual COVID19 cases.
- Governor requiring people to wear masks. Many people are still not wearing masks.
- Home Instead Inc. do a ton of caregiver resources, support and opportunity for respite; talk about diff between Health Care and Home Care; www.homeinsteadinc.com; education and outreach for caregivers.

Discussion:

- Dennis- how do we handle caregiver respite? DVFA has a waiver form for going into homes; both volunteer and participant will be wearing protective gear, everyone is trained.
- Nancy- reinstated funds for the ADHC and Choice-In-Aging type programs.
- Discussion: presenters for next meetings; can join by zoom; Jennifer would like PHN to present again.
- Jim- over 30K cases in Bay Area; cases have doubled in many areas.
- Anthony: <https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/get-tested> and phone number

Action Items for Executive Committee?

- None

Future Meetings:

- Next meeting: Thursday, August 13, 2020

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.