

**Contra Costa County  
Advisory Council on Aging  
Minutes for August 16, 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)	Swamini Bajpai, Michelle Berman, Cate Burkhart, Debbie Card, Jim Donnelly, Kevin Donovan, Jennifer Doran, Candace Evans, Marilyn Fowler, Michelle Hayes, Jody Iorns, Carol Kehoe, Jill Kleiner, Shirley Krohn, George Lee, Steve Lipson, Brian O’Toole, Michael Rigsby, Sam Sakai-Miller, Sara Shafiabady, Lorna Van Ackeren, Dennis Yee
Virtual (Just Cause)	
Virtual (Emergency)	
Virtual	Thomas Lang
Absent	Marty Aufhauser, Mike Awadalla, Mary Bruns, Rudy Fernandez, Michael Wener
Leave of Absence	
Guests	Theresa Anderson, Assemblymember Grayson’s Office Abraham Aviles-Scott, Senior Peer Counseling Charmaine Brent, Empowered Aging Lori Magistrado, Prospective Member Gerald Richards, ACOA Member Emeritus Caitlin Sly, Meals on Wheels Diablo Region Cindy Starsiak, J&M Homecare
AAA Staff	Ana Bagtas, Glenda Pacha

Roll Call:

- Glenda Pacha conducted the roll call and noted 22 members present which established a quorum.

Approval of Agendas:

- Lorna made a motion to approve the agenda. Swamini seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

- Cate made a motion to approve the June 2023 minutes. Candace seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

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

- Collaborative Counseling gathering information about service providers/organizations (aging as well as non-aging) in Contra Costa. They are determining how to best engage with them.
- The AAA was just informed that we passed our last California Department on Aging (CDA) monitoring. We are in full compliance.
- In addition, CDA approved our Annual Plan Update for 23-24. APU 23-24. It is on our website ([AREA PLAN UPDATE \(ehsd.org\)](http://ehsd.org))

- We are gearing up for the next four-year plan 2024-2028 due May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.
- CDA hired a vendor named POLCO to survey California seniors. They will provide local data to us in October and we will use that data in our four year plan.
- An RFI for Title III D for Health Promotion (specifically the “On the Move” program) will be issued soon.
- The RFI for Technology Training – to support various tech programs (e.g. Digital Connections, Connections, Health, Aging & Technology, and Access to Technology) is completed. The Community Tech Network (CTN) will be contracted to distribute, intake, determine training needs and provide the training.
- Originally, 4 Senior Centers were selected to host tech labs at which to train seniors. One has dropped out so the funding will be re-distributed among the other 3.

Presentation: Senior Peer Counseling, Abraham Aviles-Scott

- See attached slides

Caucus for Nominating & Membership Committee Membership:

- As we do each year, during our August general meeting we caucus for the Nominating Committee to ensure we have 1 representative from each supervisorial district. The nominating committee is responsible for determining our slate of officers and meets from August-October with the membership committee. We will also caucus for the Membership Committee since we have some openings. For anyone on zoom, one of the in-person members from your district will call you.

District	Membership	Nominating
1	Carol Kehoe	Carol Kehoe
2	Candace Evans	Swamini Bajpai
3	Rudy Fernandez	Michael Rigsby
4	Michelle Berman	Brian O’Toole
5	George Lee	Debbie Card

Committee and Work Group Reports:

Membership Committee – Jill Kleiner

- Jill thanked everyone for caucusing for membership & nominating committee. The next membership/nominating committee meeting is today right after this meeting.
- Jagjit recently resigned for personal reasons. Terri Tobey will be taking over as membership chair when she returns from leave in October. Jill will be the interim chair. Also, Erin recently resigned since she moved out of Contra Costa County.
- Jill reminded ACOA members that they are allowed 3 absences in a calendar year without jeopardizing membership. If you are not present at the meeting, you will be counted as absent (even if you attend virtually) unless you have an approved leave of absence or permission for “emergency” or “just cause” remote attendance. Once a member has missed 4 general meetings in a year, the member shall be deemed to have voluntarily resigned. We currently have 2 members that fall in this situation: Kacey Carterelliot (Pittsburg) and Ramapriya Raju (MAL). Both were notified after missing 3 meetings and then after missing the 4th. This is

something tracked by the membership committee on an ongoing basis. I hope we do not have any more of these.

- We have 3 MAL and 6 city rep openings (Brentwood, Lafayette, Pinole, Pittsburg, San Pablo, Walnut Creek). We believe Pinole is close to appointing their rep. I'm aware of someone applying for the Lafayette position. Also, we received an MAL application and are expecting another one soon. Please email me anyone who may be interested in joining the ACOA.
- New member orientation will be held 9/1/23 from 10-12 via zoom. Please let Jill and Ana know if you'd like to attend.

#### Planning Committee – Michelle Berman

- Thanks to all that helped review the Title III E Family Caregiver Support Program RFP. It was a huge effort.
- The Committee is now turning to the development of the Needs Assessment for Area Plan 2024-2028. In September/October, the Committee will conduct 11 Focus Groups to reach older adults with greatest needs. The Focus Groups will be held in:
  - Six Cities: Richmond, Antioch, Oakley, Concord, San Pablo, and Bay Point
  - Five Supervisorial Districts

#### Health Workgroup – Jennifer Doran

- At the last meeting, Lynnette Watts, Program Manager made a presentation about the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP)
- Next month: Cancer Support Community
- Aging in Place brochure still in process
- MediCal asset limit scheduled to disappear as of January 1, 2024.

#### Housing Workgroup – Kevin Donovan

- Contra Costa County just released data from the annual Point-in-Time (PIT) count of people experiencing homelessness. From the report, 2,372 people were experiencing homelessness (70% were unsheltered). This is a 4% increase from the 2020 PIT count.
- See report on Contra Costa Health website [Data Reports :: Health, Housing & Homeless :: Contra Costa Health \(cchealth.org\)](#)
- In 2019, the Governor approved the formation of the Bay Area Housing Finance Authority (BAHFA) to advocate for a bond across the 9 Bay Area Counties to get seed money to develop affordable housing in the 9 counties. AB 1319 (Wicks) is the first step to support this process.

#### Legislative Workgroup – Shirley Krohn

- No report

#### Technology Workgroup – Steve Lipson

- More Artificial Intelligence (AI) updates. AI successfully read mammograms faster than 2 radiologists.
- Brown Act issues still creating a problem with meetings due to attendance requirements.
- Proposed California State Legislature (CSL) legislation is working thru the system.
- The Workgroup talked about tech funding (ATT, chat, DC, etc.)
- Cocoelders411.net – is a website created by Sam to provide resources to the community. The website is not affiliated with County.

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

- Update from Drennan Shelton on the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Transformation Action Plan related to paratransit
- The Workgroup is collecting information on lessons learned by transportation agencies from COVID.

#### Senior Nutrition Task Force – Jim Donnelly

- Draft roles/responsibilities being reviewed and will be presented to the full ACOA at the next meeting.

#### ACOA President’s Report – Jill Kleiner

- Brown Act Training Update  
On 6/28/23, the County held a training on the updated Brown Act and many of our members attended. It was a review of the Brown Act basics as well as updates regarding remote appearances. One item that was confirmed was that if we have a quorum in person, then remote attendees, who meet an AB2449 exception, may vote. Glenda put together a helpful chart showing who counts towards quorum and who can vote in our meetings.
- New Implicit Bias Training  
There is a new implicit bias training that all of our members will need to complete by 10/11/23. This is in addition to the ongoing Brown Act and Ethics training requirements. The new training takes approximately 60 minutes and members can do it either 1) online or 2) by completing the certification form after reading the 108 page handout. The AAA will be sending you more information on how to complete the training.

#### Consent Items:

- Letter of Support for AB 1319 - Jim made a motion to approve the letter. Jody seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Regional Coalition Update – Debbie Toth

- The regional coalitions are working on advocacy re local Master Plan for Aging and working with other regional coalitions to address Statewide issues.

#### Public Comment

- Debbie: Measure X Community Advisory Board meeting tonight. Please join us!
- Bedford Block Party is Oct 7 – seeking sponsors and attendees.
- Michelle Hayes – travelled to Washington DC with the Poor Peoples Campaign ([Poor People's Campaign – A National Call for Moral Revival \(poorpeoplescampaign.org\)](https://poorpeoplescampaign.org)) 24 delegates went to DC to advocate for the poor.

#### New Business for Next Meeting:

- Next meeting – Wednesday, September 20, 2023

Jill adjourned the meeting at 12:06 pm.