

# ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

## Minutes for September 16, 2020

### ACOA MEMBERSHIP

Active Members = 31  
Vacancies = 8  
Pending = 1

Call to Order: Susan Frederick, council President, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Present:

Martin Aufhauser	Gail Garrett	Sam Sakai-Miller
Jagjit Bhambra	Arthur Kee	Summer Selleck
Mary Bruns	Jill Kleiner	Sara Shafiabady
Deborah Card	Shirley Krohn	Frances Smith
Megan Casey	Nancy Leasure	Kathie Thompson
Jim Donnelly	Steve Lipson	Terri Tobey
Kevin Donovan	Nuru Neemuchwalla	Ron Tervelt
Jennifer Doran	Brian O'Toole	Lorna VanAckeren
Rudy Fernandez	Erin Partridge	Dennis Yee
Susan Frederick	Gerry Richards	

Absent: Joanna Kim Selby, Richard Nahm, Frank Napoli

Guests: Penny Reed, Rossmoor Counseling Services  
Greg Wanket, prospective member from Martinez  
Debbie Toth, Choice in Aging  
Caitlin Sly, Meals on Wheels Diablo Region  
Dr. Michelle Hernandez, prospective council member  
Micki Nozaki, Senior MediCare Patrol

Staff Present: Tracy Murray, Director of Aging and Adult Services, Glenda Pacha and Anthony Macias

Roll Call: Anthony Macias called roll; quorum established as 28 members present.

Announcements:

- None.

Approval of Today's Agenda:

- Approval of meeting agenda with the change of moving the AAA Report to after Public Comment motioned by Marty Aufhauser, Shirley Krohn motioned second, agenda approved with change.

Approval of August 2020 Minutes: No changes, minutes approved as submitted.

Public Comment: None

Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Program Manager's Report – Tracy Murray, Director Aging and Adult Services (AAS) Bureau

- AAA Program Manager – interviews scheduled in the next month for an interim replacement; recruitment for permanent position will start soon.
- CARES Act allocation – state outlined intended CARE Act dollars and depositing funds based on ability to spend other COVID funds first (e.g. Families First Coronavirus Response Act).
- Equal shares allocated to III B and III E contractors.
- Thank you to Nhang for assisting with AAA data submissions to State.

**Committee and Work Group Reports:**

Nominating Committee – Jennifer Doran

- Nominating Committee met and developed a slate of nominations for officers by conducting outreach to members. Membership committee will review slate at their meeting today. At October meeting slate of nominees to be presented to council, with a vote on the slate at December meeting.
- CAO analyst is reviewing the latest revision to the ACOA Bylaws. The revision combines the Secretary and Treasurer positions and eliminates the second Vice President. Until approval of the revision, we cannot eliminate these positions. Therefore the slate will include the following positions:
  - President, first VP, second VP, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Membership Committee – Jennifer Doran

- Local/City seats for Oakley and San Ramon no longer vacant. Megan Casey will be representing city of Oakley and Sam Sakai-Miller will be representing San Ramon on the council.
- The committee is to begin interviews this month to fill two vacant Member-at-Large seats.
- There are currently six local/city seat vacancies.
- Greg Wanket waiting appointment from Martinez.

Planning Committee – Kevin Donovan

- Focus of committee is the needs of older adults. As well as how contractors are meeting those needs.
- Contractor program reviews will start at the December meeting (Ombudsman Services & Senior Nutrition).
- Community Connect – social workers with health care providers to focus on those IHSS recipients and Health Care Services clients with high needs.
- Let us know if you want to join the committee.
- Tracy – re Community Connect: staffed by a Division Manager, 12 Social Workers, 2 Eligibility Workers. They are “co-located” with health department personnel serving these clients. Tracy can connect us with the Division Manager, Leila Ahranjai, if the Planning Committee would like to invite her to a meeting.
- Jennifer –evaluation method for contractors? Contractors fill out a questionnaire about their services and make presentations to the committee.

- Discussion of geographic distribution – service delivery increasing in East county

#### Health Workgroup– Susan Frederick

- Bills that we have been following have died in committee; several bills on Governor’s desk not yet signed that pertain to senior health.
- New Bills being followed: AB 890: Nurse practitioners; SB85 mental health conditions that are medically necessary; AB685 requires employers notify employees COVID19 in workplace and alert health depts.; SB852 State would contract with drug companies to reduce Rx costs.

#### Legislative Advocacy Workgroup – Shirley Krohn

- Write up for workgroup is ready for Executive Committee to review
- Resubmission of AB 480 (Salas) in the California Assembly this year.
- AB 480 - Mental Health Services for Older Adults - would establish a statewide leader within the Department of Healthcare Services to oversee mental health services for older adults, integrate care, increase needs assessment and prioritize geriatric training for behavioral health providers.

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

- They are watching Prop 22 – App-Based Drivers as Contractors and Labor Policies Initiative.
- Working annual newsletter – articles by Friday 9/18 to Mary.
- Recess in Nov and Dec.
- Transportation infographic in progress.

#### Nutrition Council – Gail Garrett

- No report

#### Housing Workgroup – Gerald Richards

- Governor signed AB3088 that pushes the date for eviction to Feb 1, 2021 – directed at renters and those with mortgages. Between September 1, 2020 and January 31, 2021, tenants must pay at least 25% of rent due to avoid eviction.

#### Elder Abuse Prevention Workgroup –

- Due to the resignation of the Workgroup chair, Jim will work with present members to choose chair/co-chair and determine next steps. Jim sent an email to past and current members to ask them to assist.
- Contact Jim if you are interested in joining.
- Lorna – is there a PowerPoint that to be used on zoom? Yes – two exist. Jim will share with Lorna.

#### Technology Workgroup – Steve Lipson

- Welcome Sam and Sara to the Workgroup.
- Last meeting several contractors in attendance.
- May possibly add tech resources to county/AAA website for public to use.
- Want to add links to and for nonprofit groups to the county/AAA website.

- Want to add links to senior centers in the county to the county/AAA website.
- Working to understand how digit divide effects our community.
- Susan - Different programs provide computers, laptops, Wi-Fi.
- Frances – Steve helped Richmond senior commission with their technology.
- Team Viewer – an app that allows people to communicate to share screen.
- Caitlin – has some funding for low income seniors to have tablets thru October case-by-case basis.
- Jill – some agencies have provided laptops with service to seniors.
- Nuru – can AARP help the committee? Yes – Steve will follow up with Nuru.

#### LGBTQ community representative - Summer Selleck

- Reached out to Rainbow Community Center (Christopher Holden) playing tag, ACOA on Rainbow website as a resource.

#### ACOA President's Report – Susan Frederick

- CBD Oil is it safe and healthy: current evidence suggests that CBD shows promise for helping to treating some illnesses. Much is unknown, including negative long-term effects. In addition, there is no government regulation. Many believe CBD shows early promise in the TX of cognitive symptoms associated with HIV and Alzheimer's (pain from damage to nervous system caused by diabetes chemo or HIV).
- Scientists are looking at wide range of uses for CBD, unknown effects of long-term use.
- CBD oil appears to be safe but could have adverse interactions when taken with other meds and long-term effects.
- Should you take CBD? Talk it over with your primary care doctor and be informed.

#### **Presentation: Senior MediCare Patrol Healthcare Fraud Kills: What You Need to Know** - Micki Nozaki

- \$75 billion in fraud and abuse each year.
- Some Types of Fraud:
  - Offer free services but charge Medicare.
  - Claim higher price than service warrants.
  - Claim reimbursement, but provide no services.
  - Falsify medical records.
  - Do dangerous, unneeded procedures.
  - Divert prescription drugs.
- Human Costs of Fraud:
  - Providers that perpetrate fraud and abuse deliver measurably worse care that harms patients.
  - Patients treated by bad providers were up to 17% more likely to die.
  - Fraud and abuse contributed to 6,700 premature deaths.
  - Victims often older, Medi-Care/Medi-Cal recipients, with limited English.
- Senior Medicare Patrol – an Invitation

- Healthcare Fraud is Rampant.
- Grants from Department of Health and Human Services.
- Free Resources.
- Fraud Prevention Workshops.
- Regular fraud alerts.
- Monthly educational webinars.
- Toll free hotline 855-613-7080.
- Fraudulent billing review.
- Self-defense tips for fraud prevention

Announcements and Correspondence- Susan Frederick

- Please consider joining other workgroups/committees.
- Kevin: please send list of workgroups/committees, members, and chair contact info
- Will be sending out a roster of members.

Regional Coalition Update: - Debbie Toth, Choice in Aging

- The date for “Advocacy Day” is still being determined.
- In December Master Plan for Aging (MPA) to be released.
- At the final meeting of stakeholder committee, the committee presented summary document of recommendations (700+) to cabinet level positions (departments within the state involved with MPA execution).
- Engage California portal for comments still open (<https://www.engageca.org/>)
- Next steps: figure out how to make sure voices heard by cabinet level departments.
- Go to CHHS California health and human services website section on MPA to review your area of interest and provide feedback (<https://www.chhs.ca.gov/home/master-plan-for-aging/>).
- We need to be sure we advocate to both the Administration (Governor and his administration) and the Legislature.

New Business for next meeting:

- Presentation next meeting is Master Plan for Aging.
- Presentation of Slate of Officers.

Public Comment

- None

Next ACOA Meeting October 21, 2020

Susan adjourned meeting at 11:05 am.