

SACRAMENTO COUNTY ADULT AND AGING COMMISSION
MINUTES MARCH 28, 2007

Adult & Aging Commission Attendance List:

Commissioners Present:

Cyrus Moazam
Pamela Flohr
Joe Samora
Geraldine Esposito
Gloria Sylvester
Jewell Senegal

Janet Heath
Lynn Avery
Joseph Montoya
Beth Mann
Chris Hart
Councilwoman Barbara Payne, Ex-Officio,
City of Galt

Kay Thiem

Commissioners Absent:

Peggy Forseth-Andrews
J. Randall Williams

Karen Oosterman, Ex-Officio Folsom
Jim Lynch, Ex-Officio Citrus Heights
Lynn Davis, Ex-Officio, Sacramento
County

Guests Present:

Alan Lange, CSPC
Sara Wolf, CSPC
Melanie Rochin, CA Emergency Foodlink
Chris Hicks, CCL
Pat McVicar, A4AA
Jose Chacon, SVCS Volunteer

Rosemary Millich, APS
Jenson Pfeiffer, APS
Dick Ryder, SAIF
Roman Romaso
Bert Bettis, DHHS
Trish Stanionis, HSCC

Staff Present:

Kevin O'Keefe, Program Coordinator (½ time)

CALL TO ORDER

Geraldine Esposito, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order. Ms. Esposito welcomed the public and reminded everyone that the Commission was happy to answer questions any time from the audience.

CONSENT CALENDAR

An amended Agenda was introduced. The Liaison report for A4AA Advisory Board was tabled until April.



It was moved/seconded (Montoya/Senegal) to approve the amended Agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

The Minutes of February 28, 2007 considered.

It was moved/seconded (Montoya/Samora) to approve the Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

CHAIR'S DISCRETION

No report was given.

REPORTS

Committee Chairs

Oversight – Lynn Avery (Vice Chair)

- Oversight continued its discussion on Unlicensed Room & Boards. Attempts to research how other metropolitan areas are addressing this issue have turned up good information, but no solutions. The Committee has decided to arrange a meeting with two experts in the field to work on possible ordinance language.
- A discussion was held regarding the fact that the Senior Guide is no longer being printed.

Program Review, Outreach, and Development (PROD) - Joe Samora (Chair)

- The PROD has invited ex-commissioner Barney Donnelly to assist with the completion of the Disaster Preparedness Report. Mr. Donnelly played an integral part in researching the subject and in helping to put together the first draft of the Disaster Preparedness Report. PROD members felt Mr. Donnelly's presence would guarantee continuity.
- Plans for Older Americans Month (OAM) are progressing well, including arrangements being made for the Chair and Vice Chair to make presentations honoring Older Americans Month at all the City Councils and the Board of Supervisors; OAM displays will be distributed to 27 County Libraries and seven Focal Points. Mr. O'Keefe invited commission members to help build the displays on Thursday, April 12, beginning at 9 a.m.

An outreach sign-up sheet for the Pacific Rim Street Festival, which is scheduled for Sunday, May 20 was made available.

Nominating Committee – Joe Montoya (Chair)

The Committee has interviewed several applicants and recommended that the Commission nominate Cordia Wade to the Board of Supervisors for appointment to the Commission.

It was moved/seconded (Flohr/Avery) to nominate Cordia Wade to the Board of Supervisors for appointment to the Commission. Motion passed unanimously.



COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Gloria Sylvester – Reported that she is affiliated with R.S.V.P and the Senior Gleaners.

Cyrus Moazam – Reported that the Persian New Year was March 20. Over 200 people attended an event held to mark this occasion.

Beth Mann – Reported that she is on the Board of California Coalition for Cultural Changes in Nursing Homes. The Coalition represents a wide range of organizations, including SEIU, CAHF, Aging Services of California, the LTC Ombudsman Program, administrators of nursing homes, etc., whose goal is to assist nursing homes in moving toward more resident-focused care. For more information, visit www.pioneernetwork.org.

Lynn Avery – Reported that she recently became affiliated with the Community Action Board with SETA. The first meeting that she was to attend, however, was cancelled.

Pam Flohr – Reported that nursing homes are fast becoming more like hospital sub-acute care than long-term care facilities. She surmised that this change is primarily due to the fact that all insurance carriers attempt to keep hospital stays for patient's as short as possible.

Jewell Senegal – Reported that she recently attended the Fall Prevention Seminar, which was hosted by the A4AA. She noted that 60 people participated in this seminar.

Joe Samora – Reported that he met with Cordova Senior Center director Josie Bryant on May 7. The Center is in process of putting together its Coordinating Council. Currently patrons are having to park across Routier Road when the parking lot is full. There is no crosswalk for their safe passage. Mr. Samora suggested that the Commission consider helping the Cordova Senior Center address this crosswalk issue.

Geri Esposito – Reported that she is the liaison for the Older Adult Committee of the Mental Health Board, which is currently working on its Strategic Plan.

Chris Hart – Reported about the video, "Almost Home," which is about living environments at Skilled Nursing Homes. Additionally, she writes a column for the "Senior Magazine" and requested information about upcoming events for seniors to put in her column.

Janet Heath – Reported that State Assembly member Dave Jones has authored AB 853, which addresses the issue of regulating home care. Additionally, in her professional capacity she is writing a Letter of Support for the County Welfare Association's proposed budget increase.

Councilwoman Barbara Payne – Reported that she attended the March on Meals last week. Additionally, she reported that Governor Schwarzenegger kicked off his Disaster Preparedness campaign in Galt recently. She also requested information from commission members regarding bereavement services for seniors. She received three replies: Joe Samora shared that Sutter Health has a Bereavement Program; Cyrus Moazam said that he had recently attended a Depression for Seniors presentation; and, Geri Esposito concurred that this is an important issue for seniors who have lost their spouses, which is directly related to senior suicides.



LIAISON UPDATES

Tabled until the April meeting.

ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Ratify Outreach Statement of Purpose of Program Review, Outreach & Development Committee (PROD).

It was moved/seconded (Montoya/Samora) to ratify the Outreach Statement of Purpose of PROD. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Ratify recommendations of Focal Point designees proposed to A4AA by Focal Point Designation Task Force.

This item was tabled until April.

c. Ratify new liaison appointments.

It was moved/seconded (Montoya/Heath) to ratify the new liaison appointments. However, the revised agenda was made available to the Vice Chair, and it was discerned that this item was to be removed from the Agenda at this time. The motion and the second were subsequently withdrawn.

d. From the floor nominate and vote for a new member of the Nominating Committee.

It was moved/seconded (Samora/Montoya) that Chris Hart become a member of the Nominating Committee.

e. Approval of the Budget proposed by PROD for materials used for Older Americans Month displays.

It was moved/seconded (Samora/Montoya) to approve the proposed budget for materials used for Older Americans Month displays.

f. Approval of the Budget proposed by PROD for printing The Recruitment Brochure.

This item was tabled until April.

PRESENTATIONS

SacFAST – Rosemary Milich and Jenson Pfeiffer of APS

Ms. Milich and Ms. Pfeiffer gave an overview of SacFAST, which investigates financial abuse of seniors. This 40-member committee is made up of social workers, bankers, attorneys, and employees of the IRS, FBI, District Attorney's offices and local Police Department. The expertise of this committee has been helpful to APS in the cases of financial abuse that they investigate. Ms. Milich shared that this resource has been instrumental in helping to solve dozens of senior financial abuse cases.



Questions and Answers:

Q: Does SacFAST accept referrals solely from APS? A: *All cases of senior financial abuse are addressed by APS. If the case is complex, the APS often turns to SacFAST for expertise.*

Comments:

Lynn Avery shared that Commissioner J. Randall Williams (who was not in attendance at this meeting) is a retired banker and that APS should consider speaking with him to see if this is an issue that he would like to get involved with.

Human Services Coordinating Council – Trish Stanionis

Ms. Stanionis provided an overview of the County budget process and shared that the Board of Supervisors will be reviewing the County's budget priorities on Tuesday, April 17, at 11 a.m. This is an important meeting because the priorities may influence the decisions made during the FY 2007-2008 county budget process. The current funding priorities (in ranking order) are as follows: law enforcement; the safety net for disadvantaged citizens; quality of life for our citizens; general government functions; and prevention/intervention programs. HSCC is engaged in an effort to organize all of the advisory bodies into a unified front to influence the funding priorities and to collectively work for the vision of services for which each board independently strives. Additionally, it was noted that the Adult & Aging Commission does not currently have a representative on the Human Services Coordinating Council due to the retirement from the Commission of Mr. Barney Donnelly.

AGENCY REPORTS –

DHHS, Senior and Adult Services Division – Bert Bettis

- March is National Social Workers Month and Ms. Bettis noted that her office recognized its staff earlier in the day.
- The County is currently in a hiring freeze, however, Ms. Bettis reported that DHHS has received extensions for some openings that they are trying to fill and exceptions for four recent hires.
- The Centenarian Celebration will be held on Saturday, June 23, at 3 p.m. at the Lions Gate Garden Pavilion in McClellan Park.
- Ms. Bettis shared a handout that broke out the neglect/abuse cases that Adult Protective Services (APS) has worked in 2005/06. The number of cases has risen 24.2% since 2000/01. Ms. Bettis said that budget constraints have impacted the number of cases in which there was no face-to-face investigation. She expressed concern that the less APS is able to respond face-to-face in the future, there may be an impact on the number of calls received. CWDA is advocating at the state legislature for more funding for APS; this system has not received a funding increase in over five years. Ms. Bettis presented a letter from the director of CWDA requesting support for funding for APS. The Board of Supervisors did send a letter of support for the increase.



Area 4 Agency on Aging – Pat McVicar

Ms. McVicar said that A4AA recently gave out One-Time-Only Grants from the State Department of Aging. The funds for this offering were from unspecified funds not spent the previous year. Grant recipients included Rebuilding Together, Catholic Charities, Senior Companion, InfoLine, Senior Legal Hotline, Ombudsman, South County Services, Sac Lao Family Community, Senior Center of Elk Grove, Stanford Settlement, Senior Nutrition Services (SNS), Easter Seals, LSNC, Del Oro, UCD Care Management, and HICAP

Department of Human Assistance (DHA) – Loreene Anderson (RSVP) and Janine Brown (SNS)

No report was made.

PUBLIC COMMENTS –

Commissioner Janet Heath reiterated that the Centenarian Celebration would be held on Saturday, June 23, at 3 p.m. at the Lions Gate Garden Pavilion in McClellan Park. Anyone who would like to volunteer to help with registration at the dinner is requested to contact Ms. Heath at 451-0930.

Adjournment - next meeting will be Wednesday, April 25 same time, same place.

