

SACRAMENTO COUNTY ADULT AND AGING COMMISSION
MINUTES APRIL 23, 2008

Adult and Aging Commission Attendance List:

Commissioners Present:

Gloria Sylvester
Joseph Montoya
Marta Erismann
Pamela Flohr
Cordia Wade
Helen Brewer
Heather Thompson
Cyrus Moazam

Beth Mann
Geri Esposito
Melanie Rochin
Joe Samora
Gary Myerscough
Lynn Davis, Ex-Officio, Sacramento
County
Councilwoman Barbara Payne, Ex-Officio,
City of Galt

Commissioners Absent:

Peggy Forseth-Andrews
Kay Thiem

Karen Oosterman, Ex-Officio, Folsom

Guests Present:

Donna Butler (SETA, Citrus Heights
Collaborative
July Cole (Metro Fire)
Michelle Nevins (Del Oro CRC)
Charity Bradley

Dick Ryder (SAIF)
Bert Bettis (DHHS – SAS)
Helene Bernstein
Jordan Bishop Bradley
Debra Morrow (DHA)

Staff Present:

Nancy Yavrom, Program Coordinator; Kevin O'Keefe ½ time Program Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER:

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

The Amended Agenda was reviewed. **It was moved/seconded (Samora/Flohr) to adopt the Agenda as amended. The vote was unanimous in favor.**

The Minutes of March 26, 2008 were approved with one revision: The document was still dated February 27, 2008. Staff noted the change. **It was moved/seconded**



(Montoya/Mann) to approve the minutes as revised. The vote was unanimous in favor.

PRESENTATION:

Area 4 Agency on Aging 2008 Needs Assessment process – Will Tift

Mr. Tift passed out the 2004 Senior Survey for Sacramento County, which included housing results. The 2008 process will begin in Sacramento in September. He gave an overview of the 2004 report mentioning plans for 2008 – changes, modifications, etc.

There are 5 key demographic variables they try to maintain in order to have a good sampling. There were a few short falls in 2004 that they plan to remedy in 2008. The 5 variables are 1) male/female; 2) race/ethnicity; 3) region; 4) income – married or single; and 5) age group.

The survey is a requirement of the Department of Aging. However, it also serves as the basis for setting funding priorities.

Mr. Tift passed around a sign-up sheet for Commissioners or audience members who would like to be part of the work group that gets the surveys out.

The question was asked about the number of languages used for the survey. Spanish is the only other language used because they are able to translate answers given in Spanish. They have no facility to be able to translate responses from the many other languages in the county. They do, however, work with local centers to have bi-lingual volunteers help fill out the forms.

Community Update – 2 presentations to the Board of Supervisors

Ms. Esposito reported on two recent presentations made by Commission Chair, Peggy Forseth-Andrews, to the Board of Supervisors. Both were made on April 1, 2008. The first was the Disaster Preparedness Report written by the Program Review, Outreach, and Development Committee. It was received positively. More, the Board instructed Director Rick Martinez of the Office of Emergency Services to develop some of the recommendations over the next 90 days.

The second presentation was the 2007 Annual Report. It too was well received. Expressions of appreciation for the work of the Commission were offered by Board members.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- a. Ratify appointments of new committee Community Members. The Chair has appointed Bill Swayne to the Program Review, Outreach, and Development (PROD) Committee. **It was moved/seconded (Flohr/Montoya) to ratify the appointment of Bill Swayne as a community member of the PROD**



Committee. The vote was unanimous in favor. The Chair has appointed Robert Ingols to the Oversight Committee with a special assignment to work with the Senior and Dependent Adult System of Protection Community Awareness sub-committee. **It was moved/seconded (Samora/Flohr) to ratify the appointment of Robert Ingols as a community member of the Oversight Committee. The vote was unanimous in favor.**

- b. Ratify nomination of Kelly Martin as a candidate for appointment by the Board of Supervisors to the Commission. Cordia Wade, Chair of the Nominating Committee presented the name of Ms. Martin to the Commission. **It was moved/seconded (Wade/Thompson) to ratify the name of Kelly Martin to go to the Board of Supervisors requesting appointment to the Commission. The vote was unanimous in favor.**

AGENCY REPORTS:

DHHS Senior and Adult Services (SAS) – Bert Bettis

- IHSS is moving into its new building at 9750 Business Park Drive. Ms. Bettis will arrange for a tour by the Commission. A new Division Manger for the site has been hired: Diane McFarland.
- The budget is still unsettled; SAS is developing scenarios to be as prepared as possible when the May budget revise comes out from the State.
- There are cuts that were identified by the Governor in January and approved by the Legislature in February:
 - 10% cut to MediCal providers including to those who provide medical hardware and adult day health care.
 - COLAs are frozen
 - permanent spending reductions to regional centers, community based service providers to children and the elderly
- There are pending items that have not come out of committee yet but which have not been discussed any further either
 - 10% permanent reduction to APS
 - 18% permanent reduction to non-medical domestic care which translates into IHSS service hours
 - 10% permanent reduction funding services from Department of Aging including MSSP and Alzheimer's resource centers.
- The Department of Social Services is looking at cutting staff that work with hearings by 10%. This will bring more complaint cases to the hearing officers of SAS, who are already working at capacity.
- The County Welfare Directors Association is calling for letters of opposition regarding the cuts to state legislators.



- Ms. Bettis announced a breakfast meeting being hosted by the System of Protection to inform as to what has been accomplished, what is planned, and how more participants in the process would be beneficial.

Area 4 Agency on Aging (A4AA) – Will Tift

- They too are feeling the 10% budget cuts. Programs they fund that will be hurt include Triple R, Linkages, and Senior Companions. By shifting funds this year, A4AA will not have to cut their share of funds to these programs.
- Adult Day Health Care, however, is at risk anyway because of the 10% cut from MediCal funds. Assemblyperson Patty Berg has called upon Area Agencies on Aging to get information about the impact financially on the State when these programs are lost and clients have to move into long-term care facilities.
- A study about Baby Boomers will be released soon.
- With new found money, A4AA is offering a special falls prevention program for free to Focal Points, community centers, and others.

DHA Division of Senior Services – Debra Morrow

- Friday Senior Nutrition Services (SNS) will hold a volunteer recognition luncheon. SNS has 788 volunteers; they contributed 68,000 hours of services. They served more than 611,000 meals to more than 7200 seniors.
- SNS has a new congregate meals site at Swanston Park which is part of the Mission Oaks Recreation and Parks District.
- SNS is still working with public health and the environmental agency that inspects restaurants in Sacramento. They want to inspect all the congregate meal sites. There are a few issues that arise with this development which involve cost and responsibility for those costs. The congregate meal sites belong to other entities. If there is an infraction regarding building code, will the site owner or SNS be liable for the repair and expense? If SNS is found responsible this would adversely impact the SNS budget. But if the responsibility lies with the site owner, some may not be willing to subject themselves to the inspections and liability and choose to close their programs. This is not to mention the potential cost of more than \$10,000 per year for the site permits. Commissioner Rochin mentioned that the Cordova Food Locker has been inspected twice already. It is rigorous. She is pleased that their facility is graded green.
- County departments have been told to address climate change and the potential impacts on their clients. They are not to focus on preventative measures but rather how to deal with the changes as they develop: longer, hotter summers which will affect adversely the elderly. There could be an increase in diseases caused by insects as well as increased respiratory diseases. Ms. Morrow suggested that the Commission may want to address this issue as well.



DHSS Division of Mental Health Older Adult Programs – Bernice Zaborski – not present

AAC REPORTS:

Chair's Discretion – Ms. Esposito reminded newer Commissioners about the mandatory ethics training set for May 13, 2008. A flyer was included in the Commissioners' packet.

Committee Reports –

- PROD – Ms. Flohr mentioned the 10 outstanding senior nominees who will receive certificates of recognition for their service to the community by the Board of Supervisors and the Commission during Older Americans Month (OAM). Kudos to Kevin O'Keefe for his work to get displays for OAM all over the county. The Vulnerable Persons committee will be focusing on children and teens at its next meeting, and Ms. Flohr will make sure that grandparents raising their grandchildren are given consideration during the deliberations. The Annex planning group led by the state is completing its written work, releasing its policies and procedures during May.
- Oversight – Mr. Montoya referenced the Synopsis, which was available at the sign-in table.
- Executive – Ms. Esposito referenced the Synopsis as well.

Liaison Reports

- Mobility Advisory Council (MAC) – In the absence of a current liaison, Ms. Flohr who attends for the Mental Health Older Adult Committee, gave a report. She described many aspects of the 2008 program of work. Regional Transit (RT) is doing public outreach to help develop its plan. There are 65 events planned now, and more would be welcome. Anybody wanting to have their group talk to RT can go to www.sacrt.com/tmp or call Laura Ham at 556-0132. There are also budget cut concerns, and that is being approached not only from the perspective of cost reductions but also from that of revenue enhancement.
- Human Services Coordinating Council (HSCC) – Pamela Flohr
HSCC is a member advisory board (MAB) which means its members are appointed by the Board of Supervisors and serve a 3-year term. HSCC is concerned with human services policy and planning. They receive updates from relevant county departments and all HSCC committees. Other MABs also compose the membership of HSCC, including Ms. Flohr as liaison for the Commission. They have been working on, among other projects, a community listening campaign which took them out to various neighborhood groups to get information about their human services concerns. Nineteen meetings were held. Staff, Alan Lange, has synthesized the



information. It should become a valuable tool not only HSCC but for the other MABs too.

Commissioners' Comments –

Melanie Rochin – Ms. Rochin provided a handout describing adult day care; an important IRS document explaining how seniors who don't file tax returns can still qualify for their share of the Stimulus Payment; she described in brief the Housing Stakeholders meeting she and Commissioner Cordia Wade attended. The draft report will be going to Mayor Heather Fargo soon. In the meantime, Ms. Wade made sure that the needs of grandparents raising their grandchildren were part of the discussion. Another major topic in the report will be about visitability.

Heather Thompson – Ms. Thompson announced a meeting sponsored by Healing Journeys for cancer patients and their caregivers. It will be held at the Memorial Auditorium on September 13-14, 2008. Educational information will be available.

Cordia Wade – Next month she will be attending the California Legislative Black Caucus, which will be talking about health disparities. She will report on that during the May meeting.

Joe Samora – Mr. Samora attended a meeting of the Board of Supervisors during which there was recognition of outstanding volunteers in county government. The drivers for the Cordova Senior Activities Center nutrition program received an award. Bert Bettis mentioned that it was her office that nominated this group.

Gary Myerscough – Mr. Myerscough wanted to express his pleasure at being appointed as a Commissioner, and his positive impression of the Commission, the Commissioners, and the wide community involvement.

Councilwoman Barbara Payne – Councilwoman Payne attended the 211 Sacramento kick-off ceremonies. It will be possible 24/7, 365 days a year to be able to call for information and speak to an actual trained operator.

Staff:

Mr. O'Keefe requested that Commissioners call the locations to where they will be delivering OAM displays before actually going. He also reminded everybody about the Pacific Rim Festival May 18, 2008.

Other / Announcement / Public Comment:

Ms. Jordan Bradley from the audience shared her appreciation for the variety and scope of the Commission. She also addressed the issue of global warming encouraging everybody to start planning to go green and reduce their carbon imprint by conserving energy and waste.

Meeting adjourned.

