

# SACRAMENTO COUNTY ADULT AND AGING COMMISSION

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## Adult & Aging Commission Attendance List:

### Commissioners Present

Peggy Forseth-Andrews, Chair  
Tessa Janian, Vice Chair  
Devara Berger  
Al Blum  
Barney Donnelly  
Geri Esposito  
Norman Fong  
Bettie Howell

Janet Heath  
Jewell Senegal  
Nejla Shifa  
Lynn Davis, Sacramento County Ex-  
Officio  
Jayna Karpinski- Costa, City of Citrus  
Heights Ex-Officio

### Commissioners Absent

Linda Deavens  
Rosemary Jones  
Reggie Williams  
Kelly Patterson

Jim Sanford  
Aggie Hanchey, Galt Ex-Officio  
Vincene Roger-Jones, Sacramento Ex-  
Officio

### Guests Present

Bert Bettis, Senior Adult Services  
Bernadette Lynch, IHSS Public Authority  
Marie Nitz, Geriatric Network  
Cordia Wade, Senior Advocate  
Joan Hurlock  
Jeanette Johnson, IHSS

Edward McMahon, SMUD  
Jose Chacon, DHHS Volunteer Services  
Janine Brown, Senior Nutrition Services  
Chris Hicks, Community Care Licensing  
Stanley Greenberg

### Staff

Amy Noakes, Senior Program Manager

### CALL TO ORDER

Peggy Forseth-Andrews, Chair called the meeting to order. A quorum was in attendance. Mrs. Forseth-Andrews reminded everyone that the Commission was happy to answer questions any time from the audience.

### CONSENT CALENDAR

**It was moved/seconded (Janian/Shifa) to approve the consent calendar. Motion passed unanimously.**

### REPORTS

#### A. Chair's Discretion

DHHS Volunteer services held a Volunteer Recognition Luncheon where the Commission was received a plaque for their advocacy efforts.

The Senior Profile ad-hoc committee met on April 19. The decision was made to hold the first stakeholders meeting requesting further feedback on the profile in July. The forum will focus on housing.

The Cathedral Neighborhood Center Coalition is moving forward. A sustainability plan was submitted to the City of Sacramento. The Center will be holding an open house in celebration of their 30-year anniversary and Older Americans Month in May.

The Strategic Plan of Protection will be presented to the Board of Supervisors on May 10<sup>th</sup>. This has been a five-year project originally spearheaded by the Commission that has had crosscutting involvement within the community.

## **B. Committee Chairs' Updates**

### **Executive Committee—Peggy Forseth-Andrews**

DMV has requested several changes to the brochure on transportation options.

Executive will be meeting to discuss the proposed changes.

Executive approved the Older Americans Month event at the Board of Supervisors and directed Staff to finalize the planning.

The Rules and Procedures regarding Conflict of Interest were discussed and will continue during their May meeting.

### **Program Review and Development Committee- Tessa Janian**

The Committee reviewed the annual A4AA evaluation for Stanford Settlement and agreed that the program appears in good shape.

Inclusion/Exclusion criteria for the brochure, "Are You Ready to Let Someone Else Do the Driving?" was discussed and will be further examined at the May meeting.

The Committee will be looking at the proposed changes to RT regarding fare increases and route reduction at the May meeting.

Additionally, the A4AA Governing Board has agreed to retain funding for Info Line in light of their exceptional performance the past few months. No monies will be cut or held back. As a result of this issue, communication has increased across the board.

### **Outreach Committee – Al Blum**

The Committee and Chair supported attending the Senior Center of Elk Grove and Stanford Settlement events. Volunteers are being sought for these 2 events and the Pacific Rim Festival.

Staff created a Spanish version of the AAC brochure. Two professional translators reviewed the draft and 2000 copies were printed.

### **Oversight Committee – Al Blum**

Oversight met in April for case reviews. Oversight reviewed Adult Protective Services Cases, specifically those dealing with self-neglect. As with most reviews, the group was able to identify some areas for improvement in the handling of the cases. Marie Cerillo, Quality Assurance staff, was present at the meeting to take note of the suggestions



made by Oversight members and SAS staff. A full report on the case reviews will be made available at the May Oversight meeting.

### **C. Commissioner's Comments**

- Tessa Janian announced that the City of Folsom has agreed to acknowledge May as Older Americans Month. The City Council will be presenting a proclamation to Peggy Forseth-Andrews on May 10.
- Bettie Howell disseminated a flyer for an event OWL is hosting on Social Security. She also announced that the California State DHHS has cut funding for breast cancer awareness. This program conducted vast amounts of outreach, and was dramatically reduced as of January 2005.
- Barney Donnelly attended a Sacramento Mobility Coalition rally at Regional Transit last week. The rally was in response to RT's proposed fare increases and service reductions. The rally's primary message concerned RT's fare increase proposal. The Coalition disagrees with the appropriateness of the proposals because RT stated that Measure A would enable them to sustain service at the status quo. The Coalition feels that RT should be looking at other areas of reduction such as overspending on overhead and staff time off. Mr. Donnelly asked that an action item be put on May's agenda to discuss formal membership in the Mobility Coalition.
- Janet Heath attended a pharmacist's meeting and learned of a new program where pharmacists conduct an evaluation of the medications being prescribed and communicates any harmful mixtures to the patient's doctor. In addition, this group is also offering to locate cheaper medications. A brochure was disseminated.
- Norman Fong announced the Asian Health Professionals Association 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Health Fair on Saturday April 30.
- Geri Esposito, member of the SRO Task Force, stated that the Task Force is waiting for the draft recommendations to the City of Sacramento on an SRO Housing component. She will bring more information to the Commission in May.
- Jewell Senegal announced an upcoming forum on dementia May 16 at Stanford University.
- Jayna Karpinski-Costa, ex-officio for Citrus Heights, has been working with Senior Nutrition Services to provide pet food to homebound seniors who are feeding their animals the food provided by SNS. An ongoing annual donation of 40,000 pounds of pet food by Banfield will be provided to the new program, Pets Eat Too.
- Lynn Davis, ex-officio for the County of Sacramento, announced Volunteers of America has included the Senior Safe House in their fundraising breakfast.
- Devara Berger reminded the Commission that Sacramento was selected to participate in a Consumer Reports Best Buy Pilot Drug Project. Each month one drug is tested as a "best buy" for quality and cost. It was suggested and agreed that the Commission should look into having a presenter on the topic.



## **OLD BUSINESS**

Opposition to the President's proposal to consolidate and cut the funding for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and merging it with more than a dozen other programs under a *Strengthening America's Communities Initiative* beginning in 2006. The Board of Supervisors has already taken an opposing position on this issue. The Commission sent the Board a thank-you letter.

## **AGENCY REPORTS**

### **A. DHHS Senior and Adult Services Division - Bert Bettis**

A County Budget hearing is scheduled May 12 - the good news is that the budget should remain status quo this year.

The proposed federal/state Medicaid reductions are being closely watched. If reductions are made, numerous APS positions will be cut.

Mrs. Bettis recommended that everyone attend the Mental Health Services Act Stakeholders training on Friday April 30. She stated that it provided an excellent overview of the mental health system and enables stakeholders to better participate in the process.

The Strategic Plan of Protection will be presented to the Board of Supervisors on May 10 at 11:15 am. This has been a community-wide effort for five years. The elements of the Plan include law enforcement, case management, health systems, housing, personal care, and community involvement. The Plan looks at the impact of aging within all of these systems and addresses what's available now, what's needed and how to reach the goal. The Commission will hear more about the Plan at their May meeting.

### **B. DHA - Katharine De Young**

Bruce Wagstaff is the new DHA Director. Jane Rasmussen, the interim director is retiring. Bill Young was recognized in Washington, DC for his volunteer work in the Foster Grandparent Program. The Commission Chair sent him a letter of congratulations.

### **C. Senior Nutrition Services - Janine Brown**

A new route has begun serving Citrus Heights and Fair Oaks.

Currently there are 37 people on the waiting list for home delivered meals.

The Friends of Meals on Wheels is holding a fundraiser in order to provide 2 more meals a week for homebound seniors.

The SNS building has been given a 2-year notice to move. Ms. Brown stated the Board of Supervisors would hear a proposal for funds. However, due to the high costs, she feels it will put a strain on the County, as it will cost a great deal to move, install, and design a new hub. Ms. Brown asked that the Commission provide support once a date has been set for the Board to hear the request.



## **LIAISON UPDATES**

### **A. Older Adult Resource Center (OARC) - Katie Cline**

The program began in 2000 at the impetus of the Commission. Ms. Cline primarily provides information and referrals to persons looking for information on residential care. Several materials were disseminated highlighting the number of calls, how callers learned of the service, and the types of information being sought. Ms. Cline also provided an example of a typical phone call and explained how she uses a database to obtain information for consumers. As an information center, the OARC does not endorse any agency nor refer to any specific agency. More information can be obtained at the website: [www.localcommunities.org/lc/oarc](http://www.localcommunities.org/lc/oarc)

### **B. Mental Health Board, Older Adult Committee - Geri Esposito**

In the interest of time, Ms. Esposito agreed to postpone the report until the Commission's May meeting. However, she did announce several Mental Health Services Act stakeholders' group trainings scheduled and urged Commissioners to attend because there is a lack of senior representation at these meetings.

## **PRESENTATIONS / DISCUSSIONS**

### **Human Services Element - Jim Harrison and Sara Wolf**

The ultimate goal of the element is to ensure that human services are considered when policy decisions are made related to land use planning and development. The revision effort was undertaken to strengthen the element's link to land-use planning practices and has become part of the County General Plan Update process. In preparation for its Board of Supervisors Workshop later in 2005, HSCC is asking the Adult and Aging Commission to review the draft document and provide comments.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **A. Letter of Support for SB 308 (Simitian) Recording fees for Elder and Dependent Adult Financial Abuse Prevention Trust Fund**

This bill would authorize imposition of a similar fee for purposes of funding programs to deter, investigate, and civilly prosecute elder or dependent adult financial abuse in the context of real estate transactions. The additional fee authorized by the bill would be required to be placed in a county Elder and Dependent Adult Financial Abuse Prevention Trust Fund, to be expended for these purposes.

The Executive Committee raised questions regarding where the money would be spent, who would use it and would it go to teams like SAC FAST or FATE?

- The fee would be placed in County financial abuse trust fund for elder and dependent abuse



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- A Committee comprised of County Chief Admin Officer, Chief Officer of Consumer Protection, APS, Public Guardian, DA, and County Counsel would determine the money disseminated to eligible agencies
- Funds are only to be used to deter, investigate, and civilly prosecute financial abuse in REAL ESTATE transactions

**A motion was made/seconded, (Heath/Donnelly) to write a letter of support for this legislation. Motion passed unanimously.**

### **B. Older Americans Month 2005 at the Board of Supervisors**

The Outreach Committee and Executive Committee recommend that the Commission move forward in sponsoring the recognition of Senior Leaders at the Board of Supervisors on May 10 in honor of Older Americans Month. The event will proceed as follows: Resolution adopted by the Board of Supervisors, Certificates awarded to the senior leaders, and a small reception held in the foyer afterwards.

**A motion was made/seconded, (Senegal/Blum), to move forward as sponsor of this event. Motion passed unanimously.**

### **OTHER /ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

