

**SACRAMENTO COUNTY ADULT AND AGING COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES March 22, 2006**

**Adult & Aging Commission Attendance List:**

**Commissioners Present:**

Al Blum  
Barney Donnelly  
Bettie Howell  
Frank Zolin  
Geri Esposito  
Lynn Avery  
Reggie Williams  
Maxine Quitiquit  
Inderjit Kallirai

Joe Samora  
Jewell Senegal  
Peggy Forseth-Andrews  
Janet Heath  
Cyrus Moazam  
Rosemary Jones  
Tessa Janian  
Joseph Montoya  
Lynn Davis, Ex-Officio County

**Commissioners Absent:**

Jim Sanford  
Kelly Patterson  
Sheri Hufford

Aggie Hanchey, Ex-Officio Galt  
June Gilmore, Ex-Officio Galt  
Jim Lynch, Ex-Officio Citrus Heights

**Guests Present:**

Kelly Lum, CRP  
Bert Bettis, SAS  
David Mandel, Senior Legal Hotline  
Denise Walker

Katharine DeYoung, DHA  
Laurel Mildred, CMHDA  
Michelle Nevins, Del Oro CRC  
Jose Chacon, DHHS, Vol. Svcs.

**Staff Present:**

Nancy Yavrom, Program Coordinator

**CALL TO ORDER**

Peggy Forseth-Andrews, Chair, called the meeting to order. Ms. Forseth-Andrews welcomed the public and reminded everyone that the Commission was happy to answer questions any time from the audience.

Chair introduced two of the three new Commissioners Mr. Joseph Montoya and Mr. Inderjit Kallirai. Ms. Sheri Hufford was unable to attend this meeting. Both men shared briefly about themselves and their community involvements.



## CONSENT CALENDAR

### Agenda was approved by consensus.

There were minor changes to the Minutes of February 22, 2006. The Attendance record was changed to reflect that Commissioner Rosemary Jones was in attendance. On page 3, under Presentation, the name of Laurie Simon was misspelled as Simons three times and was corrected.

**It was moved/seconded (Donnelly/Zolin) to approve the Minutes with corrections. Motion passed unanimously.**

## REPORTS

### Chairs

PROD Committee – The Deputy Public Health Director, Karen Tait, is working on disaster preparedness for vulnerable adults. A connection is being fostered

Senior Profile Phase 2 Ad-Hoc Committee – The Committee is still gathering data and synthesizing it in order to learn about housing capacity vs. affordability for seniors. The Committee's goal is to have a supplemental report focused on this issue as well as some telling asset maps elucidating the types and locations of senior housing as well as their proximity to services.

Oversight Committee – Senior Adult Services made an enlightening presentation of their semi-annual report. The Committee is still grappling with the oversight issue of Room & Board facilities because they are required to have no licensing at all in Sacramento County.

### Executive Committee –

- The relationship between the Commission and the DMV is progressing. Phase 2, having 2 community service sites for seniors at designated Focal Points, is in the implementation state. A DMV representative will be on-site once a month during the six-month pilot period. Phase 3 is at the discussion level. It is clear that sensitivity training is necessary for DMV personnel so they can have a better understanding of senior needs and how seniors perceive the DMV. Another aspect of this step is to provide more consistency among offices for the appeals process.

Question/Answer - *Will the Commission have input about the sensitivity training?*

The talks are not there yet. *Please define sensitivity training.* Help DMV employees understand how seniors view the system: it needs humanizing.

- The Committee is looking into ways to increase the attendance of Ex-Officios.
- Support for legislation concerning Area 4 Agency on Aging is on the Agenda.



## **Commissioners**

Lynn Avery – A colleague offered her a suggestion regarding the efforts to get Room & Board facilities under some control. Approach the problem proactively by offering them a tax break or some other incentive to be licensed with oversight.

Geri Esposito – Two issues: 1) the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (SHRA) reported to the Sacramento City Council, and as a result the Council directed staff to study the issuance of a no-net loss policy regarding building replacement housing for the Single Room Occupancy (SROs) buildings. 2) The Mental Health Board Advisory Committee is going to look at the system of care in Sacramento County comparing it to the master plan for the older adult system of care.

Barney Donnelly – Regarding housing, the Information Services Division of the Community Services Planning Council (CSPC) found a report from SHRA with important analysis and additional data related to housing.

Al Blum – A recent article in the *Sacramento Bee* reported that 200 new SROs will be developed and existing ones renovated in response to the first issue of Ms. Esposito.

Bettie Howell – Shared her concerns about flood preparedness since she is a resident in the Pocket Area.

Jewell Senegal – She attended the CERT disaster preparedness training recently. Along with disasters and floods, the group is now concerned about preparing for a Bird Flu epidemic.

Janet Health – Shared some of the new concerns arising out of Medicare Part D. Seniors are choosing policies that suit their current needs without looking forward to accommodate future needs. For those on MediCal, they get put into a program automatically without any consideration as to whether the plan suits the client or not. One of the larger pharmaceutical suppliers for seniors that would package individual orders in daily plastic packets has closed down. DHS is investigating this and other closures affecting safe and timely meds delivery to seniors.

Frank Zolin – Attended the CERT training with Jewell and found it worthwhile. He also attended an in-service for new Commissioners with Bert Bettis. It was very educational and helpful to understand Senior Adult Services.

Cyrus Moazam – Announced that there is a speaking activity for middle eastern adults at the Carmichael Library April 16. He wants to take some of the Commission's outreach materials. Chair responded that he could contact her or staff to get the materials desired.

Joe Samora – April 26<sup>th</sup> another meeting sponsored by the California Association of Health Facilities regarding disaster preparedness is being held at Eskaton Village. The meeting focuses on the preparedness of long term care facilities, etc.

Lynn Davis – The March for Meals went very well today. The Meals on Wheels program is in need of volunteer drivers. Their kitchen is being relocated, but service will not miss a beat.



**Staff** – A folder is going around the table soliciting two volunteers for an outreach event for the Stanford Settlement. If both slots are not filled at this meeting, it will be circulated again at the April meeting.

## **LIAISON UPDATES**

### First 5 Advisory Committee – Al Blum

First 5 supports the healthy development of children aged zero to five, which includes empowerment of families and the strengthening of communities. The Committee is composed of representatives of twelve organizations including the Adult and Aging Commission. Currently a major project is the Community Building Initiative which conducts workshops and issues proposals for fifty micro grants and forty mini grants to fund neighborhood social interactions to enable and strengthen the formation of supportive relationships among neighbors.

## **ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Approve revisions in Rules and Procedures** – With the reorganization of CSPC, the title of Senior Program Manager (SPM) has to be replaced with Program Coordinator (PC). One of the duties of the SPM was to work with the budget; this, however, is not in the job description of the PC making it necessary to delete any reference to the budget in connection with the PC. The document was reviewed with some mention of the SPM remaining. The PC was directed to review the document again to insure that all references to SPM have been replaced by PC before the document is sent to the Board of Supervisors as a receive and file.

**It was moved/seconded (Heath/Montoya) to adopt the Rules and Procedures as modified, changing Senior Program Manager to Program Coordinator and deleting all reference to the budget in connection with the Program Coordinator. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Requesting support of Board of Supervisors for legislation benefiting A4AA** - At the February meeting Ms. Pat McVicar of Area 4 Agency on Aging presented drafts of letters of support for State Assembly bills, AB1928 and AB1929. Each addresses the way in which A4AA monies are handled. The Commission does not directly support legislation but is able to request the Board of Supervisors to support it.

Question/Answer: *Regarding AB 1928 there was question about who controls the money while it is being held from disbursement until the California Budget is passed.* The State Budget Office holds it. Primarily it is a political issue that cannot be addressed by the Commission. AB1928 removes a barrier from A4AA's ability to take care of business.



**It was moved/seconded (Zolin/Blum) to send a letter to the Board of Supervisors urging support of both AB 1928 and AB 1929. Motion passed unanimously.**

**PRESENTATION: Senior Legal Hotline – David Mandel**

Reverse Mortgage (RM) – An RM is the use of home equity but without monthly payments and without risk of foreclosure. The amount the homeowner borrows (must be 62+) grows with interest until the homeowner dies or leaves the home. The older a homeowner is, the more can be borrowed. The major qualifying factors to get an RM are age and value of the house. One's credit record is incidental. If there will be heirs to the house, an RM is a poor alternative to make life affordable. They are also expensive because fees can be up to 2% of the eligible loan amount. This makes them a very profitable pursuit for loan brokers, and that is why they are advertising them so much. Mr. Mandel shared some examples demonstrating how RMs can create many problems. If one does want to look into an RM it is best to go through FHA or Fannie Mae because they are regulated and insured. These loans require counseling for the prospective senior borrower. Senior Legal Hotline is applying to be able to do this counseling officially.

Questions/Answer: *How will it benefit Senior Legal Hotline to be a HUD councillor?* The office would be getting paid for what it is already doing. *Is there a brochure about RMs available?* AARP does have something about them. *Would an RM be considered income and therefore a problem for SSI recipients?* No, it is not considered income. However, if it collected as a lump sum and put in the bank acquiring interest, which will be considered income and that could cause a problem. *Are taxes levied on an RM?* No because it is treated like any other loan in that respect. Again, if it is invested, the income it earns might be taxed. *What happens if the home has lost value and is worth less than the debt when the homeowner dies?* A homeowner can never owe more than the house is worth. *If the recipient decides to receive the money as a lump sum then changes their mind and wants monthly payments, can it be changed?* Only if there is a legal issue as to the competency of the person signing the papers.

Mr. Mandel concluded by mentioning AB1609 which will crack down on some of the financial abuses being perpetrated against seniors.

**AGENCY REPORTS**

**DHHS, Senior and Adult Services Division (SAS) – Bert Bettis**

Ms Bettis had a few announcements to make:

- March is National Social Work Month, and its theme is "Aging"
- The IHSS Help Desk started March 21, 2006. It is part of the IHSS Redesign and is combined with Auto-attendant. It improves the information readily accessible to



callers making it easier to know which office they have called and easier access to other offices.

- The Board of Supervisors agreed to support the request for funding by MSSP. If it so desires, the Commission could send a letter to the Board supporting MSSP.
- Ms. Bettis expressed support for the efforts of the Mental Health Board reported earlier by Ms. Esposito.

#### **Area 4 Agency on Aging – Pat McVicar**

There was no report as Ms. McVicar was unable to attend the meeting.

#### **Department of Human Assistance (DHA) – Katharine DeYoung**

Ms. DeYoung gave folders for Commissioners and guests displaying various materials for senior programs sponsored by DHA. These programs include Meals on Wheels, Senior Companion Program, and Building Bridges to Better Futures. About Meals on Wheels she was very pleased to announce that very recently the program received \$30,000 in donations and a “flood” of volunteers to drive. Retired Senior Volunteer Programs (RSVP) is applying for a grant from Homeland Security to connect with NET which is a program that focuses on seniors. The final handout from Ms. DeYoung came from the Foster Grandparent program highlighting its achievements.

Questions/Answers: There was a suggestion that it might be beneficial for RSVP to make a connection with Roseanne Bernardy and Caring Neighborhoods to work collaboratively on NET.

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

