

SACRAMENTO COUNTY ADULT AND AGING COMMISSION
MINUTES April 26, 2006

Adult & Aging Commission Attendance List:

Commissioners Present:

Al Blum
Barney Donnelly
Bettie Howell
Frank Zolin
Jim Sanford
Inderjit Kallirai

Joe Samora
Jewell Senegal
Peggy Forseth-Andrews
Geri Esposito
Sheri Hufford

Commissioners Absent:

Cyrus Moazam
Janet Heath
Lynn Avery
Reginald Williams
Rosemary Jones
Tessa Janian

Joseph Montoya
Lynn Davis, Ex-Officio County
Jim Lynch, Ex-Officio Citrus Heights
Aggie Hanchey, Ex-Officio Galt
June Gilmore, Ex-Officio Galt

Guests Present:

Kelly Lum, CRP
Bert Bettis, SAS
Doris Sanford, Paratransit
Karen Olson, DHHA
Pat McVicar, A4AA
Ila Hall, Visions Unlimited
Bernadette Lynch, Public Authority
Doug Huston, Neighborhood Services
Janine Brown, Senior Nutrition Services

Katharine DeYoung, DHA
Linda Hoschler, Hart Sr. Ctr.
Melanie Rochin, CA Emerg. Foodlink
Jose Chacon, DHHS, Vol. Svcs.
Cordia Wade, ex-Commissioner
Eva N.
Pattie Lutz, DHHS
Bertha Bradley

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'S DISCRETION

- Chair introduced the third new Commissioner, Ms. Sheri Hufford, who shared briefly about her professional experience with the senior community
- Chair announced the resignation of Maxine Quitquit from the Commission acknowledging her service and contributions.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Agenda had to be amended by Ms. Forseth-Andrews. Ms. Amy Noakes was not able to attend the meeting due to a personal emergency.

Because a quorum of the Commission was not present at the time, the Minutes for March 22 could not be approved.

AGENCY REPORTS – part 1

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

- Two IHSS programs, The Waiver Program, and Personal Care, now fall under MediCal rules due to funding from that agency. The MediCal eligibility process is very lengthy – usually 45 days – and is causing delays and much extra work for IHSS in-take staff. There is also an impact on recipients. Many clients were at 15% but go to 35% under MediCal's rules. Three Retired Annuitants have been hired to help part-time, but more is needed. Ms. Bettis will be asking for a new position and more Retired Annuitants.
- Ms. Bettis handed out the "Adults Legislation – CWDA Report (run 4-14-06)" and drew the Commission's attention to page 8, AB 2657 (Bogh). "This bill would require law enforcement agencies, by January 1, 2008, to develop a system for recording all elder abuse or dependent adult abuse calls for assistance made to the agency and for recording all elder abuse or dependent adult abuse reports received from public agencies." Ms. Bettis requested the Commission review the bill carefully at a later date and consider writing a letter of support for it. This bill is in line with the legislative policy of the Board of Supervisors.

Questions & Answers: *AB2014 is another bill concerned with the Department of Aging. Ms. Bettis was asked to share her insight into the bill. She said it does concern her because it is not clear at this time how coordination between IHSS, Social Services, and MediCal will be worked out. Question: Will there be a decrease in services and a cut in staff because of AB2014? Ms. Bettis cannot see it at this time. Question: Was the outcome of having the two programs funded by MediCal something that was foreseen or is it a surprise to adjust to? For the most part, it has been a surprise.*



REPORTS

Chairs

PROD Committee – The All Disasters umbrella plan and the subordinate plans of DHHS and DHA are under review by members of the committee. It is becoming clear that government agencies are working extensively to make sure they each know their part in any of several disaster scenarios. However, it is not clear how the citizenry is being advised about these contingencies and their part in alleviating disastrous consequences. The committee has received reliable figures about the number of long term care facilities and the number of resident communities for elders in the county. The committee is still looking into the proper way of obtaining a few random samples of plans from these types of facilities.

Resolutions are being presented by most of the cities and the Board of Supervisors honoring Older American Months, and some displays will be placed strategically around the County to remind people of this important population.

The outreach strategy is moving forward slowly.

Oversight Committee – The Committee received an orientation to In-Home Supportive Services (IHHS) by Susan Schwendimin, Program Manager, and Janette Johnson, Program Associate. In addition to providing a detailed overview of the program, they shared copies of the program's brochure and information flyers. Several cases were reviewed.

Senior Profile Phase 2 Ad-Hoc Committee – The committee met with three representatives of the building industry, one representing policy, one the not-for-profit sector, and one the for-profit sector. Jointly they agreed that cost of land is the single biggest obstacle to building affordable housing. Other issues include zoning and the diminishing availability of funding.

The mapping project and the search for up-to-date, accurate, and meaningful statistics are both progressing.

Executive Committee – The second phase of the DMV project will find DMV on site as described previously at the two designated focal point senior centers by June first: Ethel McLeod Hart Multipurpose Senior Center and Senior Center of Elk Grove.

Geraldine Esposito has consented to be Chair of the Oversight Committee.

Regarding city involvement with the Commission via their Ex-Officio members, the Commission has sent letters to each Mayor in the County requesting an appointment to find ways to work out a liaison relationship. The Committee is talking about several creative options to meet this goal.



Commissioners

Jim Sanford – The IHSS Advisory Board held a summit that was very worthwhile.

Joe Samora – Attended another meeting of Quality First where the subject focused on technology in aging services. He will give a full report at the PROD meeting

Al Blum – Two items regarding A4AA: 1) At its April 20 meeting there will be recommendations for four-year appointments to the Senior Legislature. 2) It is considering opening up the spectrum of focal points so more senior centers will qualify.

Peggy Forseth-Andrews – 1) Thanked those Commissioners and others who helped serve on the Community Review Teams for A4AA's funding cycle. 2) Announced Joseph Montoya was absent because he was in Washington DC receiving recognition for his volunteerism. He is a Silver Award recipient. 3) The Nominating Committee will be meeting May 10th to come up with a slate of officers and two at-large members of the Commission who will serve on the Executive Committee July 1, 2006. If there are names members of the Commission would like to have considered at the May 10th meeting, contact the Committee Chair, Bettie Howell. 4) A reminder about the Centenarian Dinner June 24th.

Barney Donnelly – Commented that he is feeling very positive about the new Mobility Advisory Council and how it is coming together under the leadership of Mrs. Jan Zolin.

Inderjit Kalliraj – He attended the Fair Housing luncheon before the Commission meeting and commented that at that gathering it was said, "*cost of land is the single biggest obstacle to building affordable housing.*"

Jewell Senegal – Announced the upcoming Senior Summit on May 12th that is being put on by the California Department of Consumer Affairs.

Staff – 1) A folder to sign up for two outreach events was going around the table. 2) The Orientation for New Commissioners and any others who would like some reorientation is scheduled for May 9. Announcements have been sent in the mail with the details.

LIAISON UPDATES

Older Adult Community Committee, Mental Health Board – Geri Esposito

Ms. Esposito is no longer Chair of this committee but is Chair for the Advocacy Committee. Currently doing a study comparing the reality of county services with the ideal of the Mental Health Services Act. So far Sacramento County is doing well in the comparison. The Mental Health Board will be holding its annual conference in October. This year's title is "Ethics in an Aging Society." There are many Board positions being changed right now holding up some activities.

Human Services Coordinating Council – Barney Donnelly

Many of the Boards are currently undergoing changes in personnel leaving many seats on the Council vacant. Mr. Donnelly expressed his wish that two other Commissioners would volunteer to take the two remaining seats the Commission has allotted to itself. The Council is still working on the human services piece of the general plan and hopes it will be adopted next year.



**PRESENTATION: Sacramento City General Plan and South Area Development –
Susanne Cook**

Ms. Cook gave a packet of information to the Commissioners regarding the public meetings being held in the south area to get community input for the General Plan. Only about 5% of those who attend have been seniors. The City will be holding 15 town meetings. Pages 3 and 4 of the packet list the dates and relevant information about the meetings.

Questions & Answers: *Among the 15 meetings, why is only one scheduled during the daytime? The others are scheduled for 6:00 – 8:30 p.m., which is a difficult time for many seniors to be out. They were trying to schedule the meetings with more of the general, working population in mind. Question: Are there any other efforts to attract seniors to these meetings? Meetings will be held at the Ethel McLeod Hart Senior Center and the Asian Community Center. Comment: Those two centers are excellent venues for meetings with seniors, but if the City is serious about getting senior input they have to consider more places and more convenient times for seniors. Question: There is concern about safety in some of the new projects going up in the south area where the practice of in-fill may have gone too far. This subject is not within the purview of Ms. Cook's job.*

One Commissioner summarized the concerns of the Commission to Ms. Cook: Schedule town hall meetings at more convenient locations and times if the voice of the seniors is going to be heard. Look at faith based locations by approaching the Interfaith Service Bureau.

AGENCY REPORTS – part 2

Area 4 Agency on Aging – Pat McVicar

- The Governing Board has completed Phase 1 of the funding cycle and awarded 14 grants to Sacramento County: Transportation – Stanford Settlement, Sacramento Co. DHA, Asian Community Center, Sacramento Lao Family, and Galt Concilio; Rebuilding Together for Home Modification; Sacramento Co. DHA, Asian Pacific Community Counsel, and Catholic Charities for Mental Health Services; Sacramento County shared funding with Placer County for the same recipient, Personalized; Sacramento shared with Yolo for the same recipient of Legal Services, Legal Services of Northern CA (Senior Legal Hotline); Information & Assistance funds were awarded to CSPC for InfoLine; Congregate Nutrition went to Sacramento Co. DHA as did funding for Home Delivered Meals.
- Ms. McVicar talked about Phase 2 and the categories being considered.

Questions and Answers: *Since Rebuilding Together received the funding to cover all of Sacramento County will it be made clear to them that the south area including Galt and Elk Grove are part of the county and should be serviced? Yes, that situation is being addressed. Question: Is Personalized a private business? Yes it is. But A4AA can award the private sector, especially, as in this case, when there were no competitors.*



Department of Human Assistance (DHA) – Janine Brown of Senior Nutrition Services (SNS)

- The Board of Supervisors has agreed to allow SNS to relocate to a large vacant Raley's bakery located just over the border in West Sacramento, Yolo County. The Board has augmented the budget to make up for the additional \$5,000 rent per year. This is a more cost effective move than to the large warehouse previously considered. The warehouse would have required most of the basic infrastructure for a working kitchen to be built whereas all the utilities required are already present in the new location. The move will take place in August.
- SNS has a waiting list right now of about 500. There are conflicting messages coming from various sources of authority. The result is that they have to reassess all their clients. The SNS staff is overloaded having to make all these contacts, arrangements, and reassessments. The bottom line is that there should be no one on the waiting list with a greater need than someone on the list.

Question and Answer: *Is all this reassessment creating a burden for staff?* Yes, but volunteers from APS are helping out.

Adjournment - At 3:00 p.m. the Commission was told to quit the room because of a scheduling conflict.

