

SACRAMENTO COUNTY ADULT AND AGING COMMISSION
MINUTES May 24, 2006

Adult & Aging Commission Attendance List:

Commissioners Present:

Al Blum
Lynn Avery
Bettie Howell
Frank Zolin
Jim Sanford
Janet Heath

Tessa Janian
Jewell Senegal
Peggy Forseth-Andrews
Geri Esposito
Sheri Hufford
Joseph Montoya

Commissioners Absent:

Cyrus Moazam
Barney Donnelly
Inderjit Kallirai
Joe Samora
Rosemary Jones

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

Guests Present:

Chris Hicks, CCL
Bert Bettis, SAS
Doris Sanford, Paratransit
Sara Wolf, CSPC

Katharine DeYoung, DHA
Melanie Rochin, CA Emerg. Foodlink
Amy Noakes, A4AA

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.

CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no changes to the Revised Agenda.

By consensus it was decided to approve the revised Agenda.

There were no changes to the Minutes of March 22 or April 26, 2006



It was moved/seconded (Esposito/Blum) to approve the Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

CHAIR'S DISCRETION

Chair introduced Amy Noakes, former Senior Program Manager of the Commission. Ms. Forseth-Andrews commented on the stellar job Amy did for the Commission and her contributions towards it more cohesive organization and work effort. Ms. Noakes also expressed her appreciation to the Commission for all that she gained from the relationship. Ms. Forseth-Andrews presented Ms. Noakes with an engraved clock as an appreciation gift. Other Commissioners commented on Amy's commendable work for the Commission.

REPORTS

Committee Chairs

PROD Committee – The efforts for Older American's Month were measured as successful. The County Board of Supervisors and the seven cities in the county presented Resolutions proclaiming Older Americans Month, most presenting to either the Chair or the Vice Chair. Displays were put up in a few libraries and most of the Focal Point senior or community centers.

Efforts toward designing a strategic plan of outreach and gathering/synthesizing information about disaster preparedness in the county are moving forward.

Oversight Committee – Strategic Plan of Protection – Outreach: Three community forums are being planned. The first is June 26th, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Eskaton Village – Carmichael, and covers the subject of Hoarding.

During the brief report about unlicensed room and boards (R&Bs), a question arose. *Question – how many R&Bs are there?* So far no means of counting has been found since they are unlicensed and do not receive oversight from any agency at any governmental level. Some cities require a business license. Some only require approval by their planning department. The county requires nothing. There is no tracking system of complaints that are received from family of clients or clients themselves. A guest in the audience, Chris Hicks Licensing Program Manager, Community Care Licensing (CCL), of the California Department of Social Services, spoke to help clarify some of the information being discussed. It is true that there is not much of a reporting apparatus in place for R&Bs, but CCL does receive complaints about them. They follow up on those complaints with an investigation. Since CCL has no jurisdiction over R&Bs, most complaints are referred to the police/sheriff and/or APS. Eventually civil penalties and fines can be applied. An arrangement is to be made for Ms. Hicks to attend the next Oversight Committee meeting in July.



Executive Committee – Final arrangements for senior driving centers at Ethel McLeod Hart Multipurpose Senior Center and Senior Center of Elk Grove are in place. The DMV representatives will go to each site once a month for half a day. The time will be spent giving workshops part of the time and keeping pre-arranged appointments the rest of it.

The Committee agreed to support AB265, and it is on the Agenda for the full Commission to consider in Action/Discussion Items.

Ex-Officios – The Mayor of Rancho Cordova, Robert McGarvey, has called and wants to meet after his vacation. Ms. Forseth-Andrews talked to someone involved with senior issues in the City of Sacramento, and this person would like to represent the city. Appropriate protocols will now be followed to make this happen.

Commissioners

Jim Sanford – The Public Authority Advisory Board has new officers: President, Connie Arnold, is a consumer and Vice President, Marilee Courtright, is a provider. The City of Sacramento has appointed Mr. Sanford as an individual to be a member of the Disabilities Advisory Commission under the Americans with Disabilities Act. The Commission advises the City Council about accessibility issues.

Joe Montoya – Mr. Montoya recently came across a new real estate fraud prevention program in the county. He also brought attention to an article written by Congresswoman Doris Matsui regarding Medicare Part D in the May 16 *Spectrum*. In the article she not only points out its flaws, but offers solutions which Mr. Montoya found very sensible. At the Chair's urging, Mr. Montoya shared about his trip to Washington DC last month to receive a volunteer award. Mr. Montoya received a Silver Award for Seniors Helping Seniors through his many years of service with Senior Legal Hotline. The award was presented at the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging 2006 MetLife Foundation Older Volunteers Enrich America Awards.

Geri Esposito – The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) community services plan for Sacramento County was submitted to the Department of Mental Health (DMH) for review. The DMH took exception to parts of the plan as stated in a letter. On June 28, 2006, a Public Hearing is going to be held at the Chambers of the Board of Supervisors (Rm. 14350, 6:30-9:00 p.m.) so that these items can be addressed.

Jewell Senegal – The Senior Summit held at the Convention Center on May 12, 2006, was excellent, and Ms. Senegal looks forward to the next. At the conference she learned about the International Network that is established to help with elder abuse worldwide. June 15, 2006, will be Elder Abuse Awareness Day. Ms. Senegal also shared about a free video that is available about financial abuse of seniors. She read about it in the April 29 *Sacramento Bee*. Her one complaint is that the video is only available on-line or by fax, two technologies not available to many seniors.



Bettie Howell – Ms. Howell announced that the Older Women’s League (OWL) has secured a grant enabling them to disburse questionnaires about Medicare Part D throughout Sacramento County. Returns have started coming in. She will report on developments as OWL monitors the responses.

Peggy Forseth-Andrews – Please remember the Centenarian Dinner June 24, 2006. There is a potential for 32 centenarians to be present. Ms. Forseth-Andrews mentioned her appreciation for the very fine in-service provided to the Commissioners by Sacramento Mental Health – Older Adult Services led by Bernice Zaborski and Mona Moxley of the Geriatric Network.

Tessa Janian – She was able to attend two city council meetings this month to receive resolutions proclaiming Older Americans Month. They were Folsom and Citrus Heights.

Al Blum – Mr. Blum agreed with Ms. Senegal about the quality of the Senior Summit. He thanks Sheri Hufford and Jim Sanford for helping at the Elk Grove Senior Center outreach event over the past weekend.

Janet Heath – Ms. Heath’s program has been able to use Medicare money for clients eligible for assisted living. These are people who otherwise have to chose between the two extremes of independent living while needing assistance or having to move into a long term care facility. Her program’s request for funds has made it through the whole state budget process and is now waiting to see if the Governor will accept or reject it. Ms. Heath also put out a call for volunteers for the Centenarian Dinner.

Staff – 1) An email will be sent out about another in-service, this one with Senior Volunteer Services through DHA; 2) The Commissioners all received this day revised pages to put into the *Commissioners Handbook*.

Action / Discussion Items

a) Proposed Slate of Officers for 06/07 -The Chair of the Nominating Committee, Bettie Howell, presented the slate of officers and at-large members for the new Executive Committee. During the June meeting, Commissioners will be able to make nominations from the floor followed by voting. Afterward, members for a new Nominating Committee will be suggested from the floor followed by a vote.

The Slate offered this year: Peggy Forseth-Andrews, Chair
Geri Esposito, Vice Chair
Joseph Montoya, Member-at-Large
Joe Samora, Member-at-Large

b) Ratify selection of Geri Esposito as Chair of the Oversight Committee -
It was moved/seconded (Montoya/Zolin) to approve the selection of Geri Esposito as Chair of the Oversight Committee. Motion passed unanimously.



c) Review for letter of support for AB2657 – All the procedures required to present a request of support to the Commission have been met. The Executive Committee has elected to support AB 2657 by writing a letter to the Board of Supervisors recommending they support the bill. A question about who might be opposing the bill was asked, and Ms. Bettis replied that to her knowledge there was no opposition. Another asked if there was any difficulty coming to the definition of mandated reporters and if there was opposition. Ms. Bettis replied that she was not aware of any opposition at any level.

It was moved/seconded (Esposito/Blum) to approve the recommendation of the Executive Committee and have a letter sent to the Board of Supervisors. Motion passed unanimously.

AGENCY REPORTS –

DHHS, Senior and Adult Services Division – Bert Bettis

- As reported in April, there is a list of complications revolving around the eligibility and recertification of recipients receiving IHSS through Medical. The next complication is about the Share of Costs (co-pay) policy being instituted June 1st. Ms. Bettis explained the program's details and shared copies of two letters recently sent out by the State Department of Social Services. One letter is addressed to IHSS Providers and the other to IHSS Recipients. The program is complicated and, in some ways, inequitable. Many current statewide recipients will not be able to afford the newly levied co-pay and will not receive services they need. There are approximately 400 such clients in Sacramento County. Commissioners put forward many questions about the program, most of which are not answerable at this time. Ms. Bettis will bring data and more information to the next meeting of the Commission. Ms. Bettis told the Commission that the bottom line for her at this juncture is the need for increased staff for tracking and administration for which she will request Commission support.

Area 4 Agency on Aging – Amy Noakes

- The Governing Board has yet to approve Phase 2 of the funding cycle but the following Sacramento County proposals have been recommended: Kinship Care – Legal Services of Northern CA/Senior Legal Hotline; Respite – With Placer County, Personalized Home Care and Del Oro Caregiver Resource Center; Care Management – UC Davis Care Management; Linkages – UC Davis Care Management with Placer and Yolo counties; Alzheimer's Day Care Resource Centers – City of Sacramento Triple R Program; HICAP Services of Northern California with all counties; Elder Abuse Prevention – Legal Services of Northern California with all counties; Health Promotion – Easter Seals
- Other programs being promoted by A4AA include Veggie Van a new program getting low cost produce to low-income recipients; Falls Prevention workshops; and Driving Wellness, which is progressing to be a training the trainer program.

Questions/Answers: *Members of the Community Review Teams for phase 1 and phase 2 of the funding cycle offered comments regarding concerns about the application process. A4AA*



realizes the process needs to be revised and is in the process of doing it. It was mentioned that the Commission would like to participate in this revision process.

Department of Human Assistance (DHA) – Katharine DeYoung

- Two new Deputy Directors have been named: Toni Moore and Paul Lake.
- Ora Rakestraw, a participant in the Foster Grandparent Program, was a Gold Award recipient in the Mentor category at the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging 2006 MetLife Foundation Older Volunteers Enrich America Awards.
- The waiting list for Meals on Wheels reported at the April meeting is gradually decreasing.
- Carla Crawford of the Foster Grandparent Program has been invited to attend the Governor's dinner for President of Mexico, Vicente Fox.

The Public had no comments.

Adjournment

