

SACRAMENTO COUNTY ADULT AND AGING COMMISSION
MINUTES JULY 26, 2006

Adult & Aging Commission Attendance List:

Commissioners Present:

Al Blum
Lynn Avery
Bettie Howell
Frank Zolin
Cyrus Moazam
Janet Heath
Rosemary Jones
Jewell Senegal

Tessa Janian
Barney Donnelly
Peggy Forseth-Andrews
Geri Esposito
Joe Samora
Joseph Montoya
Sheri Hufford
Jim Sanford

Commissioners Absent:

Inderjit Kallirai
Lynn Davis, Ex-Officio, Sac County

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

Guests Present:

Diane Uebelhart, Health Net
Guy Klopp, SAS
Pat McVicar, A4AA
Bernice Zaborski, DHHS

Katharine DeYoung, DHA
Melanie Rochin, CA Emerg. Foodlink
Erin Colwell, A4AA
Jose Chacon, DHHS Volunteer Services

Staff Present:

Nancy Yavrom, Program Coordinator
Kevin O'Keefe, Program Coordinator (HT)

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

The Agenda was amended. Under Action/Discussion Items, "c" there will be no ratification of Oversight Committee chair appointment at this time.

By consensus the amended Agenda was accepted.



The Minutes of June 28 were amended:

- ◆ Commissioners, p.3, Cyrus Moazam made a change in wording. “Dr. Moazam is part of an...” should be changed to “Dr. Moazam is helping an...”
- ◆ Commissioners, p. 3, comments by Frank Zolin were not mentioned and should read, “attended the Sacramento Regional Citizen Corps Committee (SRCCC) emergency response exercise, “Delta Breeze,” on 6-17-06 as an observer. Exercise participants included dozens of members of the County Sheriff and Fire Departments and City Police and Fire Departments. Over 200 trained citizen volunteers, mainly Community Emergency Response Teams and Sheriff’s Search and Rescue Teams were involved along with about 100 volunteers that played the part of injured victims.
- ◆ Public Comments, p. 5 required a revision in wording. Second sentence, “More people, even those that are not considered “low income,” have to use the service,” It should read, “More people, even those that are not considered “low income,” are finding it necessary to use the service”

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

CHAIR’S DISCRETION

A new half-time Program Coordinator, Kevin O’Keefe, was introduced. He will focus on Commission Outreach at this time.

Attention was drawn to a memo that had been placed at the Commissioner’s seats about AB1334, Dentistry: registered dental hygienists. This matter came to the attention of the Executive Committee at its June meeting, and will be discussed in July. Commissioners were requested to read the material because it will be on the Commission’s August agenda.

REPORTS

Committee Chairs

PROD Committee – Outreach development is on going. There is as yet no written plan.

The 2005-2006 Grand Jury report came to the attention of the committee at its last meeting because of the section dedicated to disaster preparedness. Members of the committee have received copies and have been asked to review it before the August meeting.

As to reviewing disaster plans for Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs) and Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFEs), new information has complicated the process making it a topic for further consultation. In the meantime there has been an update provided by Teresa Stahl, Assistant Emergency Operations Coordinator about developing trends in the planning. Increasingly more aspects are being centralized under Rick Martinez, Chief Emergency Operations Coordinator. Currently, emphasis of work is on identifying shelters and prospective shelters. The next step will be to work with issues concerning special needs populations.



The 2006 Program of Work was reviewed and all appears to be on line.

Question: *Are individual disaster plans available to the public at SNFs and RCFEs? They should be a matter of public record. Suggestion: Perhaps the Ombudsman program could be of assistance.*

Oversight – An informal status report about some of the issues confronting In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) had been presented. There is a backlog of those seeking MediCal eligibility for IHSS services and another backlog of service renewals. There is currently a request for increased personnel being placed with the Board of Supervisors.

The Strategic Plan of Protection outreach effort is going forward. The Community Forum about Hoarding was a very large success. The second forum being planned for September 28th will relate to working caregivers of seniors or dependent adults with chronic conditions. The subject for the third forum has not yet been chosen.

Work on the Unlicensed Facilities Report Recommendations is becoming difficult because useful information about the Room and Boards (R&Bs) is challenging to come by. It is hoped that two guests coming to the September meeting will be able to help the Committee move on with the task.

Question: *Are there handouts available from the Hoarding Forum?* That can be looked into. In the meantime, the forum was recorded and will be offered for showings in the near future. The Commission will be informed when the dates are known.

Executive Committee – DMV and AAC staff are in the process of getting a count of how many of the driving alternative brochures were disseminated during 2005-2006.

The 2006 Program of Work was reviewed with one amendment being made. The website by DMV has been completed. Everything else is progressing according to plan.

The Focal Point enhanced definition came up for mention by an audience member. It was understood by the Executive Committee that the definition written by the Commission had been accepted by A4AA for Sacramento County Focal Points. This, however, is still an item of discussion between the Commission and A4AA. The newly revised definition will be made available by staff at the August Commission meeting.

The Commission is a sponsor of the Senior and Dependent Adult System of Protection (SDASP) community outreach project. In order to be listed as such, it is necessary for Commission approval.

Eva Williams has been the community liaison for the Commission in the reserved seat of the Ethel McLeod Hart Trust Fund Advisory Committee for the past four years. She has termed out and has requested to be reappointed for the prescribed three-year term.

AB1334, as previously mentioned, will be on the August agenda of both the Executive Committee and the Commission.



Senior Profile Phase 2 Ad-Hoc Committee – The July meeting was very productive. CSPC staff presented an informative progress report. An outline of the report has been approved. There should be a draft supplemental report available for review at the September meeting. It should be very informative and useful.

Commissioners

Cyrus Moazam – *In the June 28 minutes, the PROD committee mentions contact with the Middle Eastern community. What contact would that be?* This contact refers to an informal conversation between Dr. Moazam and Peggy-Forsyth Andrews that was shared with the committee.

Janet Heath – In line with PROD's outreach efforts, Ms. Heath met with Melen Vang of the Hmong Women's Heritage Association. The community has concerns related to services and health care for their seniors. There are important cultural requirements they wish the service and medical community would take more seriously. They are aware of services, such as IHSS, but require translators.

Joe Samora – The in-service with Senior Volunteer Services held July 13th was excellent.

Geri Esposito – The current heat wave is making the affordable housing deficit painfully obvious. There have been several heat-related deaths, many of which have been residents of Single-Room Occupancy (SRO) facilities. Many seniors will choose to live in an un-air-conditioned SRO than face homelessness. On the other hand, seniors living with air conditioning will not use it because they cannot afford the additional expense. Cooling Centers are being opened, many offering transportation as needed. InfoLine is staying open until 11:00 p.m. to provide people with information needed to survive the heat wave.

Barney Donnelly – RT has had a research program in Rancho Cordova studying traveling patterns. An example of the findings shows that most children travel extensively in cars rather than walking, etc. The study is leading toward recommendations for behavior modification to help reduce local car usage. This should lead to reduced auto emissions and other benefits for the area.

Al Blum – Mr. Blum commented on the excellent in-service provided by Senior Volunteer Services. More, he commented on the high quality of the programs provided to the community.

Mr. Blum drew Commission attention to two articles from the *Sacramento Bee*: July 10, 2006 issue, Metro section, there is an article about increasing costs for Meals on Wheels due to the rising cost of gasoline. July 16, 2006 issue, Business section, Monthly Money, had an article about Reverse Mortgages.

Bettie Howell – Ms. Howell spoke of the SACOG transportation card correspondence in the Correspondence binder. She suggested that it be taken to the Transportation Mobility Committee.

Lynn Avery – Ms. Avery added some information to the discussion about disaster plans for SNFs and RCFEs. Not only do their disaster and evacuation plans have to be on file,



but they also have to be posted on a wall. She also commented that many parents have their children travel by car because of a feared lack of community safety.

Staff – An explanation of the many memos placed at the seats of the Commissioners was provided: A synopsis of the monthly committee meetings will be provided to the Commissioners from now on; The Commissioner Information Form has to be completed before August 31st so several important databases can be updated; Commission members have been asked to voluntarily participate in an HIV Prevention Program survey; information about AB1334 was provided for their review. The first announcement for the Commission's annual retreat was made available.

Liaison Updates (10 minutes each)

IHSS Public Authority – Jim Sanford

The educational committee has been developing courses for care providers. The workshops have been very well attended. Attendance is being tracked, and a special event is being planned for those who attend every workshop.

Mobility Advisory Council – Barney Donnelly

MAC was established to replace DCAT because it became ineffective due to paying too much attention to small issues rather than taking care of business for the greater community. MAC is getting off to a very promising start with committees that are dealing with the large issues and making progress. One example was offered regarding a long-standing misunderstanding between RT and senior advocate groups. The misunderstanding has been cleared up, and ~~RT personnel will be better informed about both federal and Sacramento requirements.~~ *Both parties now have a common understanding of the requirements.*

Action / Discussion Items

a. Senior and Dependent Adult System of Protection (SDASP) – Community Outreach (Community Forums). As stated in the Executive Committee report, the Commission is a key sponsor for the SDASP community outreach effort. Part of the effort is the presentation of three community forums, one of which has taken place as reported in the Oversight Committee report. In order to be listed as a sponsor, it is necessary to receive confirmation from the Commission.

It was moved and seconded (Montoya/Samora) to sponsor the SDASP Community Forums. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Ratification of Committee Appointments – Three new Commissioners have requested to serve on committees as follows: Joseph Montoya – Oversight; Sheri Hufford – PROD; Inderjit Kallirai – PROD.



It was moved and seconded (Howell/Blum) to ratify the Committee assignments as requested. Motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION – A4AA Senior Employment Program – Erin Colwell

Ms. Colwell is an employment specialist. The employment program is one of two in-house programs with A4AA. For many years in her previous employment she worked on the side of the employer; now she is working to help the job-seeker, and she feels her experience gives her an edge to provide enhanced services to the seniors that come looking for employment assistance. Their office provides 80% of their service to Sacramento County and 20% to Placer County to people 60 years and over. This year 63 seniors found employment through the program, and are earning an average wage of \$11+ in Sacramento County and \$15+ in Placer County. Clients are discouraged from taking minimum wage positions. The program is free and has no means test. Clients go to a workshop that helps them understand everything from filling out the application to taking an interview. They are personally helped with their cover letter and resume. Emotional support is also provided. There is an outreach effort going on to make various organizations aware of this service and clear up many misrepresentations of seniors who want to/have to enter the work force. Two major challenges facing seniors are lack of computer skills and the need for retraining. There are, however, many low-cost training programs available. A brochure about the program was made available.

Questions: *Do clients have to come to the office?* It is preferable but they will meet clients at a more central location or go to their homes. *Is the deep southern area of the Sacramento County served?* Yes, the program covers the entire county. *Are more brochures available?* Yes, a supply will be sent to staff for distribution.

AGENCY REPORTS –

DHHS, Senior and Adult Services Division – Guy Klopp

- ◆ Due to the heat wave, the Governor has directed IHSS and APS to call on their clients to assure their safety. A list of Cooling Centers was provided.
- ◆ They have received word that the IHSS budget allocation has been increased by \$1 million throughout the state.
- ◆ Quality Assurance for IHSS is now in the case review stage of the process. The goal is to review 10% of the cases annually. The intention is to identify training and policy issues as well as documentation.
- ◆ Questions: *How have the cooling centers been determined?* They have been self-designated. *By the list they seem to be centered in the City.* Hopefully that will rectify itself with sites self-designating in the outlying areas. For those who are not running their air conditioners for fear of the cost, there can be connections made with SMUD to make affordability arrangements. This crisis has instigated an effort by IHSS to pull a list down relative to disaster preparedness.



Area 4 Agency on Aging – Pat McVicar

- ◆ Ombudsmen have been directed to visit their designated SNFs to make sure air conditioning is working properly and clients are managing successfully in the heat.
- ◆ The Falls Prevention workshop that was piloted at Pioneer Towers has been very successful.
- ◆ By using funds that have been set aside for a disaster, A4AA has been able to purchase portable water coolers and make them available through DHHS SMUD for seniors in need of air conditioning.
- ◆ Three handouts were provided including the *Summer 2006 Information Bulletin* and announcements about two September Events: September 9, Second Time Around conference at American River College and September 19 “The Road to Driving Wellness” program at the Cordova Senior Activities Center.

Department of Human Assistance (DHA) – Katharine DeYoung

- ◆ Ms. DeYoung expressed her appreciation for the positive feedback received from the Commissioners who attended the July 13th in-service.
- ◆ Meals on Wheels drivers are being used as heat-wave contacts for the program’s clients. A list of questions has been provided to the drivers to ask each client with special attention given to the frail and isolated. A list of cooling centers in four community centers is being distributed. An education element is also being provided with hot weather tips including the need to stay hydrated and various foods that help do that.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - none

Adjournment

