

**SONOMA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING**  
**3725 WESTWIND BOULEVARD, P.O. BOX 4059, SANTA ROSA, CA 95402**  
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**AAA ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, September 16, 2015

3725 Westwind Boulevard - Carnelian Room

1:00 p.m.

**Attendees:** Linda Adrian, Lea Black, Dean Brittingham, Colleen Campbell, Robert Cortez, Judith Eisen, Jane Eckels, Cynthia Ermshar, Brian Gillespie, Emily Heinzelman, Sumedha Mona Khanna, Bonnie Lasky, Margaret Loftus, Joy Lovinger, Marrianna McBride, Sheila Miller, Diane Murray, Ken Palinkas, Gail Pardini-Plass, Bob Picker, Jim Redding, Ruth Robeson, Rabon Saip, Cindy Scarborough, Diane Spain, Anita Tannenber, Seskia Van Donk

**Staff:** Ilene Moran, Tracy Repp, Rhiannon Coxon, Gigi McDonald

**Absent:** Diane Kaljian, Wanda Tapia, Supervisor Efren Carrillo, Terry Kelley, Margaret Loftus, Alain Serkissian, Don Streeper

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS (Robeson)
2. APPROVAL OF JUNE ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES (Robeson): Lasky/Redding, minutes accepted as submitted.  
(Note: Diane Spain listed twice under Attendees)
3. CHAIR REPORT (Robeson)
  - Membership Update
    - o AC re-election of Mona Sumedha Khanna & Robert Cortez: Spain moved to re-elect both of them; Saip seconded the motion.
    - o Jim Redding – past chair member of Executive Committee: Robeson recognized Jim as past Chair.

4. CORRESPONDENCE (Khanna): Shared two thank you letters received.
5. SERVICE PROVIDER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT: Robeson and staff talked about highlighting one particular provider at a time to provide a better opportunity to get to know one and another.

Today's Presentation: Micheline White - Coastal Seniors:

- Handed out Program pamphlets.
- Incorporated since 1983. This is the first year they've contracted with Adult & Aging.
- Provide services of all types to seniors along the coast from Mendocino County down to Stuarts Point in Sonoma County and in to the Annapolis area.
- Provide congregate meals, 3 days/week at 3 sites. Also provide meals on wheels.
- Working on expanding services, including the 'Friendly Visitor' program which pairs trained volunteers with the seniors.
- Started a new Discussion Program at the centers – different topic each time.
- Just beginning 'Out and About' program: Funded by an anonymous donor, it provides a few vans to take seniors out on fieldtrips and outings.
- Talked about all the other services they provide – see pamphlet.
- Have 9 paid staff – rest are volunteers.
- Talked about other funding they receive.
- Working on connecting with Spanish-speaking populations more.

Repp: Used a Doodle program to schedule out future presentations and have presentations booked for the next 7 months.

6. PRESENTATION – AAA FY 2015-16 Kick-Off (Robeson): Brainstorming on where the Council should be in the next 2 years. Reviewed the committee rosters and the Adult & Aging priorities: Elder Abuse Prevention, Inter-generational conversations, Housing, Transportation.

7. INFORMATION SHARING:

- Eisen: Got a scam call purporting to be from IRS – discussed.

- Be cautious, also, around donating towards the fire victims as there are fraudulent requests for donations.
- Eisen: On November 19th, there will be a reception at the Finley Center show-casing an exhibit of her artwork. Will send out invites.
- Rabon: Several people going out to the public representing AAA. He would like to suggest creating a "Coordinating Committee" to promote each other's activities to the public at all the meetings we each attend.
- Khanna: One priority should be communication and advocacy with outreach. Suggested that a regular meeting could be set-up as a conference call. Some feel that in-person is a better way to connect – make it quarterly, bi-annual, or even annual.
- Lovinger: Watched the webinar "Aging Among Us" (shared with Tracy) – fabulous to watch. Tracy will send the link to everyone.
- Lasky: My Care, My Plan did several presentations last week and they were well attended and presented.
- Did a quick remembrance to disabled woman who died in the Lake County fire.
- Lasky: Facilitated her first Area Plan Focus Group with LGBT group – picked up 2 people who want to participate.
- Suggestion made to create a standard, 1-minute 'intro' each group could use at public presentations.

#### 8. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Mary Kaufman has resigned from the Advisory Council for personal reasons.
- Osmond: Just got back from Catholic Charities USA Conference in Nebraska. Was with the 'Section on Aging' and talked about our Nutrition Program. Participated in a training on "Accepting Change" – will be doing a training here on that.
- Tannenber: Their waiting list is freed up for the Adult Day program. MWF, 10 – 2 in Petaluma.
- Lovinger: Encouraged Providers to use these meetings to announce job openings/recruitments as committee members often know of people looking for work.

#### 9. AUGUST TRAINING DAY BRIEFING (Eisen): Attached to Agenda Packet. Summary of Survey everyone completed – very good representation of what people thought of the training. Nomination for Rabon to be our liaison to Aging Together – Rabon accepted.

#### 10. FALLS PREVENTION WEEK (Campbell): Coming up – tips sheets are being printed out. Went to Board of Supervisors on Sept 5. All providers received tip sheets and materials to promote this. Suggestion made to have our meeting on this before summer break as it always happens right as we start meeting again in Sept.

#### 11. PROJECT UPDATES (Repp/Coxon):

- Area Plan: Doing focus groups – shared experiences from different meetings done. Surveys and focus group responses will be analyzed – survey closed this Friday.
- Volunteer Ctr/2-1-1: Will manage all data for senior resource guide to make sure all info is updated.
- Senior Art Show: Reception is tomorrow 1:00 pm at Finley Ctr.

#### 12. SUB-COMMITTEE AND COMMUNITY MEETING REPORTS (REFER TO ATTACHED MINUTES WHERE APPLICABLE):

##### - **Advisory Council**

- o Executive Committee (Robeson): Gave an overview of this group. Per Darrell Ketch, CEO for C4A, the Recreational Marijuana issue will be on ballot in Nov. There are 4 plans out there, but Darrell is talking to people organizing ballots to propose that 25% of tax received be designated to senior services throughout State. Will not have constraints like there is on the current money received from Older American's Act funds. Since Washington & Oregon have gotten over \$800million, he figures California will get much more. We have to come up with great supports to these propositions.
- o Legislative Committee (Campbell): Meet every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed of each month. Goal is to share info with legislative aides that attend the meeting and get info from them from the State. Colleen was re-elected as Chair Pro-Tem by the Exec Committee.

Had an active meeting:

- Discussed the marijuana legislation (around taxation and regulations). The Senate has passed it and now waiting on the Governor to pass or veto. Next issue will be “recreational marijuana” taxation.
- Senator McGuire is proposing a bill for individual counties to add a cigarette tax and the tax would stay in county.
- Senator Wood will attend the Legislation meeting in November or December – encouraging other council members to attend.
- o Planning and Funding Committee (Spain): Reminded everyone of the survey online for everyone to do. Working on an RFP with Tracy. Will also be monitoring the services provided – need volunteers to do this. Meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Wed of each month at 1:00.
- o Transportation and Mobility Committee (Kelley): Received grant funding and we now need to do a lot of planning around how to use it. If you have ideas, please join the committee – meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues of each month, 1:30 – 3:00, at the Adult & Aging office. Next meeting is Oct 13<sup>th</sup>. Also support a consortium of outside people. Goal is to coordinate transportation, identify what’s available and facilitate getting seniors from one place to another.
- **Workgroups**
  - o Housing (Lovinger): Talked about SHARE program (Shared Housing and Resource Exchange). Have gotten a lot of grants. Next project: assembling list of affordable housing for seniors. Meeting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues of each month -- next one in November. At a recent meeting in Sacramento, there was a push to connect with County Board of Supervisors to look at unused properties/locations – discussed issues with this idea.
  - o Newsletter (Campbell): Have our first one (shared). Going to be quarterly. Brought a supply of them for distribution – please let Colleen know how many you each can use. Next edition will come out in December. Will always have a Community Connection section – any event you want to post is due to Colleen by Oct 21 for the Dec/Jan/Feb edition. Will need a lead article and photo and a smaller secondary article – something related to the time-period the newsletters come out in (i.e.: Next edition – winter). Recipe of the season – Bonnie will give one.
  - o Aging Among Us (Rabon): Talked about this program. Has put together a survey of 16 values to be rated. He’ll collate the responses to see where the group stands and compare the results to the intergenerational information. Executive Committee will review and approve.
  - o Inter-generational: From training day, idea that we would have liaison person from this council to participate on existing group.
  - o Transportation (Rabon): ‘Driving Safely as we Age’ program. Creating better presentations to be more impactful. Would love to have more people volunteer to help. Will start presentations at locations at beginning of year. This program is to help transition seniors who shouldn’t be driving any more to stop driving. Need a music stand – solid type.
- **Community**
  - o My Care, My Plan (Lasky): Doing a lot of presentations.
  - o California Senior Legislature (CSL) (Campbell): Exec Committee figuring out what to do with this as it’s currently unfunded.
  - o Collaborative on Positive Aging (COPA) (Khanna/Saip): Hoping to get some books printed of year-long presentations in a single workbook and get program spread around the county.
  - o Elder Protection Workgroup (Robeson): Targeting groups of senior centers to present to. Ruth spoke about this group’s work. FAST Team, headed up by Gary Fontenot. Meet the 1st Thursday of every month at 11:00.
  - o Family Violence Prevention Council (Robeson): Organizing with set of by-laws. Have lots of committee members – need volunteer to participate on this.
  - o Hunger Index (TBD): No report.
  - o Section on Aging/Santa Rosa (Redding): Network of professional service providers – meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 8:00 at Masonic Center. Discussed revitalizing Palm Drive Hospital.
  - o Senior Care Connection/Petaluma (Lovinger): Meeting tomorrow.
  - o Triple A Council of California (TACC) (Eisen): No report.
  - o Transit-Paratransit Coordinating Committee (TPCC) (TBD): Met yesterday, need more participants – let Tracy know.

13. ADJOURNED at 3:15pm

14. NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, October 21, 2015