

Sonoma County Area Agency on Aging
3725 WESTWIND BOULEVARD, SUITE 101, SANTA ROSA, CA 95403
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**AAA ADVISORY COUNCIL
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

Wednesday September 9, 2015 - 10:00 a.m.
3725 Westwind Blvd, Suite 101, Santa Rosa - Topaz Room

Attendees: Colleen Campbell, Crista Chelemados from Senior Advocacy Services, Sumedha Mona Khana, M.D., Bob Picker, Joy Lovinger, Jim Redding, Chris Rogers (Sen. Mike McGuire), Ed Sheffield (Assemblymember Wood)

Staff: Rhiannon Coxon, Tracy Repp, Susan Sudduth

Absent: Bonnie Lasky, Ruth Robeson, Don Streeper

1. Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions (Campbell): The meeting was opened with a welcome to all and introductions were made.
2. Approval of Minutes from June, 2015 (Campbell): Redding/Lovinger MSC to accept minutes.
3. Chair Report (Campbell):
 - Reschedule November Meeting: Regularly scheduled meeting would fall on Nov. 11th, Veterans Day. It was agreed to reschedule the meeting for Nov. 10th @ 10:00.
4. Discuss Goals for the Committee
 - Topics of Interest: the list was distributed to the committee members who were asked to sign up for a topic. Time will be taken at each meeting to report out on each topic.
5. Legislation Updates
 - Rhiannon reported that the next step for reauthorization of the Older Americans Act passed the Senate and is now in the House.
 - Colleen reported that California Senior Legislature (CSL) did not make the required minimum contribution level, so there will not be a face-to-face meeting in Sacramento in October. Contributions were \$57,000. She suggested that electronic tax filing makes it more difficult to choose CSL. They will be using some of their funds to do more public outreach. The mission of CSL is to write and promote legislation that benefits older adults. Colleen has the forms for donations or you can go to their website.
 - Rhiannon reported that the end of life legislation is going back to the Assembly for a vote.
 - Colleen will attend and speak at the Section on Aging regarding CSL.
 - Tracy reported that she attended the National Area Agency on Aging Conference in Philadelphia, and has the White House Conference on Aging policy briefs for priority setting.
 - Ed advised that Assemblyman Wood would like to attend a meeting of this committee during the Legislature's recess either November or December.
6. Legislative Field Representative Updates (Legislative Aides)
 - Individual legislation and initiatives:
 - Legislative
Info: www.leginfo.ca.gov; <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>; <http://www.loc.gov/crsinfo/about/> or www.aroundthecapital.com
 - Chris Rogers reported that the deadline to pass pending legislation for this year is at midnight Friday, Sept. 11th. After Friday the governor has a month to sign or veto the bills. There will be a special session to address infrastructure and roads and social services. Senator McGuire is focusing on mobile home issues and marijuana legislation.

- AB2X-9 concerns the cigarette tax at the county level. It would allow additional taxes to be used to fund county programs.
- There was discussion about how potential taxes from legalized marijuana might be allocated for senior services. Chris recommended lobbying the governor's office for support.
- Ed Sheffield reported that this Friday's deadline will be the first round of marijuana tax legislation. Marijuana use has the potential to generate substantial tax revenue. The goal would be to emulate the success of the First 5 taxes on cigarettes. The pending medical marijuana rules and regulations are about taxation. Legislation regarding recreational marijuana will be tackling new ground next year. Chris and Ed advised that marijuana production has an impact on the environment and public safety.
- Colleen suggested that the committee explore securing the potential of a portion of legalized recreational marijuana taxes for senior services. Ed suggested that the committee may want to partner with other interested groups.
- Ed discussed SB 350 which is intended to reduce petroleum use by using solar, energy efficiency in homes, auto fuel efficiency and natural gas extraction.
- Ed advised that Anthony Rendon will be stepping into the Assembly Speaker position.

7. Adjourn at 11:30am.

8. Next Meeting: October 14, 2015 – 10:00 a.m.