

**AAA ADVISORY COUNCIL
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Wednesday May 18, 2016 - 10:00 a.m.
3725 Westwind Blvd, Suite 101, Santa Rosa - Carnelian Room

Members: Christa Chelemedos (Senior Advocacy Services), Roseanne Ibarra (Congressman Jared Huffman), Sumedha Mona Khanna MD, Kerrie Lindecker (Senator McGuire), Joy Lovinger, Bob Picker, Logan Pitts (Assemblymember Bill Dodd), Jim Redding, Ruth Robeson, Rabon Saip, Ed Sheffield (Assemblyman Jim Wood), Havard Staggs

Absent: Don Streeper

Staff: Rhiannon Coxon, Victoria Gonzalez-Allen

1. **Welcome/Introductions** (Picker) – meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. introductions were made.
2. **Approval of March Minutes** (Picker) – Saip/Redding MSC approved as submitted.
3. **Chair Report** (Picker)
 - Picker reminded all members that he is currently serving an interim position as Legislative Committee Chair.
4. **Nominate and Vote on Committee Chair** (Picker)
 - Picker requested nominations for Legislative Committee Chair. This position will serve the next full term.
 - Motion by Redding to nominate Bob Picker as Chair to the Legislative Committee; Robeson seconded the motion. Staggs moved to approve the nomination; Khanna seconded the motion; MSC. Picker will serve the next full term.
5. **Senior Rally Day Overview** (Robeson)
 - Gary Passmore organized the Senior Rally Day.
 - Passmore organized Senior Advocate Speakers
 - Cheryl Brown, Chair of Aging and Long Term Care Services Committee; organized Assemblymembers and Senators to attend rally day and speak
 - Robeson met with Jim Wood and Bill Dodd's legislative aides.
 - Robeson advised that the rally is a good time to promote the AC Committee and programs. Committee should arrange meetings in advance with the legislative aides.
6. **Legislative Action Updates** (Coxon)
 - n4a Policy Briefing (Coxon)
 - Distributed the n4a Policy Priorities
 - Kaljian attended n4a Board meeting, in Washington, D.C. and met with Huffman and Thompson they discussed focus areas
 - Coxon advised that the committee will make one final push for Nutrition Augmentation support by sending out letters of support for the \$5.4 million augmentation request by C4A
 - C4A supporting the bill for APS training (\$5 million)
 - Coxon is in the process of scheduling district visits

7. **Legislative Alerts** (Picker, Committee Members) Caregiver Legislation, Social Security Legislation

- Chelemedos – is supporting SB 1126 which is in appropriations; section 51 tax code to be amended, for seniors with fixed income, property taxes will be frozen. This will cause a minor impact to CA state budget.
- Picker commented that the committee welcomes this type of alert
- Redding addressed the legislative aides if there is any movement at state level to increase the residential care bed number (which is currently six) without imposing use permit. The group discussed this issue and confirmed there is nothing at the state level
- Robeson stated that the California Senior Legislators committee is currently not functioning and there is no funding. The two CSL representatives from the Advisory Council have resigned. Robeson questioned if the Congress of California Seniors is a good substitute for CSL.

8. **Other Topics of Interest** – nothing to report.

9. **Legislative Field Representative Updates Individual Legislation and Initiatives** (Legislative Aides)

- Pitts (Assemblymember Dodd)
 - Advised that revenue projections are lower than Governor Brown expected. After the April 15 tax deadline passed the state was short \$2 billion from expected revenue.
 - Reported that AB1655 – Medical Needs Allowance, \$11.8 million bill is in appropriations committee, the deadline is August 14,
 - Bill to increase background checks is in appropriations; this bill is low cost to the State and was requested by Napa
 - The Identity theft legislation bill passed unanimously
- Sheffield (Assemblymember Wood)
 - Tobacco legislation was signed by governor, California will be the second state to increase the tobacco purchase age to 21
 - If the Opioid Task Force bill AB1977 is passed it will go into effect next year.
 - The bill clarifying that the smoking of medical marijuana in rental units is the same as tobacco smoke – the bill pass unanimously without opposition.
- Chelemedos
 - Testified in hearing regarding bill to give judge authority to send to prison vs. jail; bill didn't pass
 - Testified regarding Dodd's Bill 1655
- Lindecker (Senator McGuire)
 - Appointed to appropriations committee
 - Senator is working through next month on transportation funding, dealing with pot holes and failing infrastructure.
 - The No Place Like Home Initiative is \$2 million bond addressing homelessness
 - Is able to help facilitate meeting here in Santa Rosa Senator McGuire
- Ibarra (Congressman Huffman)
 - Reauthorization of Older Americans Act was signed by president
 - Specific funding will come over on separate bill
 - Huffman is working on support from Legislation for Opioid crisis
 - Ibarra advised to reach out to her for programs that Advisory Council Legislative committee needs support for

- HR1518 Elder Abuse Protection act is being co-sponsoring by Huffman
- Saip addressed the Legislative aides if they are aware of any bills on the table regarding prescription drug cost; Sheffield (Assemblymember Wood) advised there are some but they are going up against the pharmaceutical lobbyists.

10. Legislative Info:

- www.leginfo.ca.gov
- <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>
- <http://www.loc.gov/crsinfo/about/> or
- www.aroundthecapital.com

11. Other

- World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) is June 15, 2016 – the senior centers will be putting out purple flags to indicate the number of abuse complaints filed in Sonoma County
- Robeson distributed tweeting procedures from C4A media packet for WEAAD which includes the handles for the California Legislators.
- June 14, 2016 Petaluma Partners in Protection (P3) presentation from 4 – 7 pm at Petaluma Community Center, 320 N McDowell Blvd. Petaluma

12. Adjourn (Picker): adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

Attachment: Minutes March 9, 2016 Meeting
n4a Policy Priorities

Next Meeting:
Wednesday June 8, 2016 – 10:00 a.m.

Materials related to an item on this Agenda are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Adult and Aging Office, 3725 Westwind Blvd, #101, Santa Rosa

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