



SONOMA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING

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AAA ADVISORY COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Wednesday June 8, 2016 - 10:00 a.m.
3725 Westwind Blvd, Suite 101, Santa Rosa - Carnelian Room

MINUTES

Members: Bob Picker, Hav Staggs, Don Streeper

Guests: Jason Klumb (Senator McGuire)

Quorum not present meeting proceeded (unofficially)

Absent: Crista Chelemedos (Senior Advocacy Services), Roseanne Ibarra (Congressman Jared Huffman), Sumedha Mona Khanna, MD, Logan Pitts (Assemblymember Bill Dodd), Jim Redding, Ruth Robeson, Ed Sheffield (Assemblyman Jim Wood)

Staff: Rhiannon Coxon, Victoria Gonzalez-Allen

1. **Welcome/Introductions** (Picker) - meeting was called to order at 10:07am.
2. **Approval of May Minutes** (Picker) — ~~Quorum not present and therefore the minutes will be approved at the September 14 meeting.~~
3. **Chair Report** (Picker) nothing to report
4. **Meetings with Representatives** (Coxon)
 - Friday, June 10 Legislative committee members Picker, Khanna, and Streeper will be meeting with Senator McGuire.
 - Coxon to provide talking points and will email to those who will be in attendance.
5. **Legislative Action Updates** (Coxon)
 - Coxon participated in the Coffee with Congressman Huffman, a mini town hall meeting in Cloverdale on June 14. Provided World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) purple flags to all present at the meeting of about 30 people. Advisory Council Member Colleen Hale (Cloverdale Senior Center) was present. Relevant topics of discussion included the reauthorization of the OAA, the Congressman's support of Elder Protection Act, and Medicare/MediCal coverage of Long Term Care options.
 - OAA Funding/Senior Nutrition (Coxon)
 - California state level budget augmentation request for \$5.4 million for congregate and home delivered meals—is at the budget subcommittee for support.
 - President Obama has proposed to increase senior nutrition funding by \$14 million. Additionally his budget proposal to increase OAA funding is going before senate budget committee. President Obama's budget also included OAA increase in IIIB funding and \$2 million in Adult Aging and Disability Resource Center.
 - A letter of support from Diane Kaljian was sent to request that Senator Feinstein support President Obamas \$14 million increase in senior nutrition funding.
 - APS training funding of \$5 million is at the federal/state level.
6. **Legislative Alerts** (Committee Members)

- Streeper quoted a statement from *Age Wave* book (Ken Dychtwald); *currently 2/3 of the adults in the history of the world who have ever lived over the age of 65 are alive today.*
- Picker stated there is an overwhelming social cost of aging, society is not prepared to pay for this; Picker will bring this up in the meeting with Senator McGuire on Friday.
- Klumb (Senator McGuire) advised that issues/bills the committee is interested in having support on should be discussed by now and passed along to the legislative aides so they can have ready by November to bring to next year's legislative session, the committee should be strategizing now.
- Klumb advised some programs that suffered cuts are now up to pre-recession funding levels. The tax revenue fell short by \$2 million. The MCO (Managed Care Organization) tax was passed. Legislation is pushing for increase funding in many areas such as SSI/SSP, No Place Like Home initiative. Another thing to be aware of is a number of representatives who have been in legislature a long time are leaving, and the state will have an influx of newer senators with new term limits of up to 12 years. There is new chair of the Long Term Care Committee. Senator McGuire always looking for new ideas and things to bring forward, talk with him on what he can do to help. Senator McGuire is now on the appropriations committee. New Assembly person for our area next year. Klumb suggests signs are showing we will have another good year next year.

7. **Legislative Field Representative Updates** (Legislative Aides)

- Individual legislation and initiatives
 - Klumb (Senator McGuire) suggested an issue that hasn't been talked about enough is women who have lost their spouse and lose benefits.
 - SB124 – Creation of a Pension System where employee contributes through employer and money goes into CALPERS
 - Staggs expressed three bills he is interested in getting legislative committee support:
 - AB1577 – Tax deduction for food bank donations'
 - AB1584 – COLA increase
 - AB1754 – Victims Act reimbursement for elder abuse victims
 - Coxon can provide a list of active bills for the legislative committee to review for support.
 - CA Commission on Aging Website is a good source to access agendas and minutes, and view all the bills they are supporting. CCA addresses the bills with life, vote to support some, are put on watch, and some they will support only with language change.
 - A suggestion was made for the fall season to search bills with senior issues and distribute to committee members for review and make recommendations of support to the AC Legislative committee.
 - Once bills are identified the Legislative Committee would make a recommendation of support to the Advisory Council and ultimately request the support of the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors.

8. **Adjourned** (Picker) 11:31 p.m.

Next Meeting:
Wednesday September 14, 2016 – 10:00 a.m.