

COMMISSION ON AGING
AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL
3500 Coffee Road, Suite 19, Modesto, CA 95355
MINUTES – January 08, 2024 – *In-Person Meeting*

- I. President Martha Martin called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m., led the Pledge of Allegiance, and performed roll call.
- II. **Presentation:** Salvation Army Senior Services presented various components of their agency that provide services to seniors in the community. Misty Jones, Deputy Director for the Berberian Center shared the number of beds available on both the Berberian and ACES (low barrier) side as well as the services they provide. Lacy, a case worker at the Salvation Army shared what case management provides for each senior, such as housing referrals, transportation, medical assessments, and assistance with gathering necessary documents to apply for benefits. Ms. Jones announced they now have a day program on the Berberian side from 9am -5pm but will soon be open from 7am-7pm. Attendees are provided support with case management, charging phones, laundry, lunches/coffee, protection during inclement weather, and showers. Anna, Coordinator for the Senior Program at the Red Shield, shared the different activities seniors can participate in such as crafts, field trips, and socialization events.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** – Minutes for December 11, 2023, were approved. Moved to approve by John Dinan, seconded by Marye Martinez. Motion carried.
- IV. **Consent Item**-None.
- V. **Public Comment** –None.
- VI. **Advisory Committee Reports:**
 - A. Technical/Area Plan Committee: Committee Chair Joyce Gandelman shared the committee met after last month’s meeting and will be meeting soon to go over this year’s technical report with Tiffany Fanfa.
 - B. Membership/Bylaws: Committee Chair Jeri Johnson – Ms. Johnson announced there are currently two At Large vacancies and a vacancy in District 3.
 - C. Advocacy/Legislative: Committee Chair John Dinan reported he visited his grandson at his apartment and was shocked to hear he was paying \$1,625 for a 500-600 square foot apartment. Mr. Dinan shared concern for those seniors on a fixed income trying to pay such a large amount of money for housing.
 - D. Public Relations: Committee Chair Lupe Aguilera shared the Senior Ball Committee continues to work on preparations for the Senior Ball in June.
- VII. **Area Agency on Aging Report:**

Margie Palomino, Aging & Veterans Director: Ms. Palomino reported Maria Profeta is the new manager for the Senior Meals Program and will be the staff liaison for the Advocacy/Legislative Committee. Ms. Palomino shared Tiffany Fanfa would not be present at this meeting due to a scheduling conflict but shared she is working on a draft to

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share with the Technical Committee at the end of this month and with the commission member at the next meeting.

Tiffany Fanfa, Planner, Aging and Veterans Services: Ms. Fanfa was not in attendance at this meeting.

Maria Profeta, Senior Meals/HICAP: Ms. Profeta had no report to share at this time.

Claudia Gomez, Executive Assistant: Ms. Gomez had nothing to report.

VIII. COA Activity Reports

District 1 – Susan Hall, John Dinan: Ms. Hall shared she touched bases with the mayor of Oakdale regarding senior housing. Mr. Dinan shared the Oakdale Silver Strummers Ukulele Band entertained the seniors at Belmare Senior Living facility.

District 2 – Lupe Aguilera, Eileen King: Ms. Aguilera reported she helped pack 47 gift boxes to deliver to seniors in the city of Oakdale who participate in the Senior Meals program. Ms. Aguilera shared there will be an ice cream social in memory of John Grouch. Ms. Aguilera shared the senior breakfasts have been extended for six more months in Oakdale. Ms. King reported she continues her visits through the Friendly Visitor program.

District 3 – Vacant, Richard Navarro: Mr. Navarro shared Stanislaus County is offering waiving fees when building an additional home on your property. Mr. Condit shared all the information can be found online at the Stanislaus County website. Mr. Navarro shared the commission may request for the Planning Department to present on this topic.

District 4 – Martha Martin, Billie Taylor: Ms. Martin – Ms. Martin reported she was part of a coral chorus group at Memorial Hospital in mid-December and celebrated the holidays. Ms. Taylor had no report.

District 5 – Roselee Hurst, Ken Hanigan: Mr. Hanigan had no report. Ms. Hurst was not in attendance at this meeting.

Members at Large:

Joyce Gandelman: Ms. Gandelman reported she will be meeting via Zoom with assemblymen and senators to push their bills through.

Rachell LeViege: Ms. LeViege was not present at this meeting.

Hayley Vieyra: Ms. Vieyra reported she continues to advocate for the older adult population in her current role with Stanislaus County. Ms. Vieyra was able to help with twelve presents for senior guardians and has found it very rewarding to watch skeptical guardians help their grandkids and the grandkids helping them.

Dianna Olsen: Ms. Olsen was not present at this meeting.

Teresa Jenna: Ms. Jenna was not present at this meeting.

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Jeri Johnson: Ms. Johnson reported she restocked the pinks at her church and helped to deliver 21 boxes of gifts to shut ins.

Marye Martinez: Ms. Martinez assisted with a celebration of life in December and will be assisting with one in January. Ms. Martinez shared the opportunity with her exercise group to help with gifts for the Senior Meal program.

Sebastian Jones: Mr. Jones was not present at this meeting.

Ben Reuben: Mr. Reuben had no report.

IX. Old Business:

- A. Bylaw reviews will be sent to Jeri Johnson by January 19th. Jeri will schedule a meeting for the Bylaw/Membership meeting to go over the proposed changes and will submit those changes to Claudia to update and submit to County Counsel for review and approval prior to being submitted to the BOS for final approval.

X. New Business:

- A. The next Senior Ball will be held on Friday, June 14, 2024, at the Veterans Hall with a cost of \$30 per person which will include hors d'oeuvres. Sponsors and gift basket donations are needed. Please contact Shannon Parker if you have any questions or know anyone interested in donating.

XI. Other Local Agency Reports:

Senior Law Project: Ms. Hannah Brady announced she has been named the Executive Director, for the Senior Advocacy Network as of January 1st of this year. Ms. Brady shared the original long term housing program funded by state bar is ending. The Senior Advocacy Network will be hosting housing workshops every other Friday to groups interested in learning about various housing topics. Ms. Brady reported that in 2023 their agency opened 1,500 cases and closed 1,200 cases of individuals seeking help for housing and legal services. Ms. Brady shared she will be seeking out new partnership to continue the rental assistance program because the current funds will be ending soon. Ms. Brady shared the need for the services their agency provides is growing.

MOVE: Kristen Bragg introduced their new CEO for MOVE, Anthony Hill. Ms. Bragg reported they continue to provide transportation services for the disabled and veteran community.

Healthy Aging Association: Ms. Olsen was not in attendance at this meeting.

Catholic Charities: Roseanna Velazquez, Coordinator for Homemaker Program, shared she is looking for part time homemakers. Homemaker funding helps clients get mops, brooms, and vacuums, and a program that may help with rent and utilities. Ms. Velazquez shared

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the program currently has 143 clients on the waiting list. Ms. Velazquez reported Ombudsman, Melissa Flaherty is currently finishing up training for two new volunteers for the Ombudsman program.

Modesto Senior Center: Shannon Parker shared the Modesto Senior Center has a new audio/video system in place.

XII. Elected Officials:

Supervisor Buck Condit: Mr. Condit reported that he and Supervisor Withrow served over 1,700 meals over the holiday season at the Gospel Mission. Mr. Condit reported the Board of Supervisors has had a change in chair and vice-chair. The new chair of the BOS is Supervisor Many Grewal, and the vice-chair is now Supervisor Buck Condit.

Kelly Covello- CEO Representative: Ms. Covello reported working on department budgets and beginning to work with next year's budget in the face of the reported state deficit.

Narinder Bahia, Representative from Senator Alvarado-Gil: Ms. Bahia introduced herself to the commission.

XIII. Next Meeting: February 12, 2024, at 1:30 pm

XIV. Adjournment: By President Martin at 2:48 p.m.

Minutes: Claudia Gomez, gomezcl@stancounty.com