

COMMISSION ON AGING
AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL
3500 Coffee Road, Suite 19, Modesto, CA 95355
MINUTES – February 12, 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:** Modesto Mayor Sue Zwahlen along with Heather Jones shared past, present, and future housing projects in the City of Modesto and shared some of the difficulties in navigating funding when it comes to building homes for seniors.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** – Minutes for January 8, 2024, were approved. Moved to approve by Jeri Johnson, seconded by Sebastian Jones. Motion carried.
- IV. **Consent Item**-None.
- V. **Public Comment** –None.
- VI. **Advisory Committee Reports:**
 - A. Technical/Area Plan Committee: Committee Chair Joyce Gandelman deferred her update of this committee to the update provided later in the meeting by Ms. Tiffany Fanfa.
 - B. Membership/Bylaws: Committee Chair Jeri Johnson – Ms. Johnson announced there are currently two At Large vacancies and the vacancy in District 3 has now been filled by Commissioner Nirmal Basi.
 - C. Advocacy/Legislative: Committee Chair John Dinan welcomed Maria Profeta as the staff liaison for the Advocacy/Legislative Committee. Mr. Dinan reported the League of California Cities analysis of Gov. Newsom’s proposed budget shows serious cuts in housing programs. Mr. Dinan shared a Modesto Bee article regarding the situation with rental units was shared with the Advocacy/Legislative Committee and Executive Board. Mr. Dinan reported the Advocacy/Legislative Committee meeting earlier today, the committee discussed the Annual Action Plan for Housing.
 - D. Public Relations: Committee Chair Lupe Aguilera encouraged all commissioners to take a nomination form with them to share out in the community for the 2024 Outstanding Senior Award. Ms. Aguilera reminded all commissioners to make copies of the nomination form or request an email copy from Claudia. Ms. Aguilera informed the Public Relations Committee they will be meeting in March to vote/select the next five Outstanding Seniors.
- VII. **Area Agency on Aging Report:**

Margie Palomino, Aging & Veterans Director: Ms. Palomino was not in attendance in this meeting.

Tiffany Fanfa, Planner, Aging and Veterans Services:

 - Introduced Older American Act Definition (Explained AP for new members) and role of COA as Advisory Council
 - Explained Area Plan Timeline

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- Explained Area Plan Process and CDA Guidance
- Reminded COA to please be present at the Public Hearing on March 11th at 12:30 PM
- Shared the following handouts: Area Plan Draft, Older American Act Fact Sheet, and the Area Plan Timeline.

Maria Profeta, Senior Meals/HICAP: Ms. Profeta shared Senior Meals is a little over 500 participants. Ms. Profeta reported there are currently 12 meal sites, and she hopes to open a couple more sites to serve those seniors that come from the Salida area. Maria shared HICAP has hired a new program manager, Cristina Flores. Ms. Profeta shared the end of Medicare open enrollment will be on March 31, 2024. Maria asks if anyone currently using Sutter Gould plan to call the HICAP number to help them find a new plan.

Claudia Gomez, Executive Assistant: Ms. Gomez shared the theme for Older Adults Month in 2024 is Power through Connection and suggested nominators add to their nomination form how their nominee keeps their community connected or how they connect to their community.

VIII. COA Activity Reports

District 1 – Susan Hall, John Dinan: Ms. Hall shared she met with Jane from the Oakdale Senior Center regarding getting a contract to reinstate breakfasts and the first one will be on March 12. Ms. Hall also asked Jane about issues faced by seniors in the community and Jane shared senior housing and transportation issues are the two most pressing issues. Ms. Hall will meet with Kristen Bragg from MOVE after this meeting to discuss possible transportation solutions. Mr. Dinan shared the Oakdale Silver Strummers Ukulele Band entertained the seniors at the Astoria Senior Living facility and will be performing at Belmar Senior Living facility one week from Friday.

District 2 – Lupe Aguilera, Eileen King: Ms. Aguilera reported she hopes to meet with City of Turlock soon. Ms. Aguilera reported the last beginners iPad class is taking place in Oakdale and will consist of ten people and they would like to start an advanced class. Ms. Aguilera shared that through senior outreach funding, blinds at the Senior Center were replaced. Lupe shared the new management company is taking over Oak Haven, right next to the Senior Center and have replaced carpeting and balconies and hired a new activities coordinator. Ms. King was not in attendance at this meeting.

District 3 – Nirmal Basi, Richard Navarro: Mr. Basi gave a little background about himself as this is his first meeting. Mr. Navarro shared he attended the Bylaw Committee meeting.

District 4 – Martha Martin, Billie Taylor: Ms. Martin – Ms. Martin reported she was the speaker for the University of California Master Gardner program on citrus at the mail library this past month and attended a training for new docents at the McHenry Museum and attended the breakfast at the Gospel Mission. Ms. Martin shared that Modesto

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Leadership students come and helped seniors with technical devices at the Modesto Senior Center. Ms. Taylor was not in attendance at this meeting.

District 5 – Roselee Hurst, Ken Hanigan: Mr. Hanigan attended this meeting but was excused to leave before report-out was given. Ms. Hurst shared the senior she was assisting has moved to Texas with family. Ms. Hurst shared she is still volunteering at Naomi’s House and shared concerns with Senior Information Day and feeding seniors at Christmas due to lack of volunteer assistance. Ms. Hurst shared she started a Grief Support Group in Newman.

Members at Large:

Joyce Gandelman: Ms. Gandelman reported she presented at Siroptimist in Oakdale and attended the Martin Luther King Jr commemoration. Ms. Gandelman shared a housing covenant article for information about deeds.

Rachell LeViege: Ms. LeViege reported continuing to be out in the community as an Ombudsman.

Hayley Vieyra: Ms. Vieyra reported she continues to advocate for the older adult and disabled populations in her current role with Stanislaus County. Ms. Vieyra continues to work on referral for shared living through Senior Advocacy Network.

Dianna Olsen: Ms. Olsen had nothing to report.

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

Jeri Johnson: Ms. Johnson reported she is busy attending all three committees she is a part of as well as the Senior Ball Committee.

Marye Martinez: Ms. Martinez was not present at this meeting.

Sebastian Jones: Mr. Jones was present at this meeting but was excused to leave before the report-out was given.

Ben Reuben: Mr. Reuben reported he attended the Martin Luther Jr. commemoration even and attended Bylaw Committee meeting.

IX. Old Business:

A. None.

X. New Business:

A. The Senior Ball needs sponsors for the event or for donation of basket items. Please let Commissioner Aguilera know if you have any people interested in sponsorship opportunities.

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XI. Other Local Agency Reports:

Senior Law Project: Ms. Hannah Brady was unable to attend this meeting, and Commissioner Gandelman gave a Senior Legislature report. Ten top bills with three of interest were mentioned. Senate Bill 2 standardizes discharge summaries, Senate Bill 6 allows for teleconferencing for county-based commissions and advisory committees, and SP8 which increases personal needs allowance from SSI from \$35 to \$50. Ms. Gandelman reminded commissioners we are currently without a Senior Assemblyperson and elections are in May.

MOVE: Kristen Bragg reported they are still in the process of rebranding their vehicles. They continue to provide transportation services for the disabled and veteran community.

Healthy Aging Association: Ms. Olsen reported they are currently working on their Age with Movement event on May 3rd at La Loma Park from 8-12pm.

Catholic Charities: Beverly Ballam attended this meeting for Roseanna Velazquez, Coordinator for Homemaker Program, and Melissa Flaherty. Ms. Ballam reported Catholic Charities is currently hiring a SEAPA coordinator. The position is a 20 hour position.

Modesto Senior Center: Shannon Parker attended this meeting but left before the report-out for her program.

XII. Elected Officials:

Supervisor Buck Condit: Mr. Condit reported the county and city work well together in all common area where services are provided. Stanislaus Project 2030 would be a wonderful presentation opportunity for this commission.

Kelly Covello- CEO Representative: Ms. Covello reported on the complexity of housing project funding and requires a lot of effort to “quilt” it all together.

Abby Pendleton, for Assemblyman Juan Alanis: Ms. Pendleton introduced herself to the commission and shared information regarding the AB 1813 – Senior Tenant Shallow Rental Subsidy Program.

XIII. Next Meeting: March 11, 2024, at 1:30 pm

XIV. Adjournment: By President Martin at 3:15 p.m.

Minutes: Claudia Gomez, gomezcl@stancounty.com