

COMMISSION ON AGING
AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL
3500 Coffee Road, Suite 19, Modesto, CA 95355
MINUTES – March 11, 2024 – *In-Person Meeting*

- I. President Martha Martin called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m., led the Pledge of Allegiance, and performed roll call.
- II. **Presentation:** Jose Michel from Community Services Agency (CSA), Adult, Child, and Family Services Division (ACFSD) presented an overview of the Adult Protective Services and In Home Support Services Programs.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** – Minutes for February 12, 2024, were approved with correction to Commissioner Vieyra’s report to include the wording “those with disabilities” so that her role is accurately represented. Moved to approve by John Dinan, seconded by Richard Navarro. Motion carried.
- IV. **Consent Item**-The 2024-2028 Area Plan was voted and approved by the commission members in attendance unanimously. (15-Y, 0-N,1-Abstained) Motion carried.
- V. **Public Comment**-None.
- VI. **Advisory Committee Reports:**
 - A. Technical/Area Plan Committee: Committee Chair Joyce Gandelman had no report.
 - B. Membership/Bylaws: Committee Chair Jeri Johnson – Ms. Johnson announced there are currently two At Large vacancies. Jeri reported the committee has received an application to fill one of those vacancies and will begin the process to interview the candidate later this week.
 - C. Advocacy/Legislative: Committee Chair John Dinan reported the next Advocacy/Legislative Committee meeting is scheduled for April 8th. Mr. Dinan shared he attended the Riverbank Planning Commission on February 20th to discuss the eight-year housing plan and shared that although ten bills related to housing passed into law, none addressed low-cost senior housing.
 - D. Public Relations: Committee Chair Lupe Aguilera reported the committee met last Tuesday to vote for and select the next five outstanding senior award nominees. The winners will be announced at a later date.
- VII. **Area Agency on Aging Report:**

Margie Palomino, Aging & Veterans Director: Ms. Palomino reported the department is currently working on the budget for the next fiscal year. Miss Palomino shared the department is not expecting any budget cuts on a state or federal level or increases so all programs and services will remain the same.

Maria Profeta, Senior Meals/HICAP: Ms. Profeta shared the Senior Meals Program is planning to put together about 4,000 boxes of seven shelf stable meals for home bound seniors in the month of May which will coincide with the Older Americans month. Ms. Profeta reported the congregate sites have seen an increase in attendance reiterating the

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need for seniors meals as well as socialization. Maria shared they are working with the state to provide them success stories of seniors to see how our Senior Meals Program has improved their lives. Ms. Profeta reported HICAP is planning Senior Awareness Day in the month of May.

Tiffany Fanfa, Planner, Aging and Veterans Services: Tiffany reported that 18 people and two program providers attended the 2024-2028 Area Plan Public Hearing at 12:30 pm, just prior to the COA meeting on March 11, 2024. Ms. Fanfa summarized the outreach efforts in seeking input to the Area Plan and discussed the Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults. In addition, she reviewed how the Program Development and Coordination funds work as well as Title IIIB priority services. There was ample time allowed for questions. Tiffany's next step will be submitting the proposed Area Plan to the Board of Supervisors for approval and signature, prior to submitting to the California Department of Aging (CDA) no later than May 1, 2024. Ms. Fanfa shared that a copy of the Area Plan will be posted on the department website and final copies given to the COA after CDA approval.

Claudia Gomez, Executive Assistant: Ms. Gomez shared there were 17 nomination forms received and the winners will be announced once we receive final approval from BOS.

VIII. COA Activity Reports

District 1 – Susan Hall, John Dinan: Ms. Hall shared there will be a bingo night event tomorrow night at the Oakdale Community Center and it is free for seniors and includes a free dinner. Susan reported they've already signed up about 130 people so far. Mr. Dinan shared the Oakdale Silver Strummers Ukulele Band entertained the seniors at the Belmare Senior Living facility on February 23rd with Irish songs and inspired some of the attendees to dance along.

District 2 – Lupe Aguilera, Eileen King: Ms. Aguilera had nothing to report. Ms. King was not in attendance at this meeting.

District 3 – Nirmal Basi, Richard Navarro: Mr. Basi had no report. Mr. Navarro shared he attended the Public Relations Committee meeting. Mr. Navarro informed the commission he had an unfortunate interaction with the LoCost Funeral service provider. Mr. Navarro shared there will be a fund raiser in September to raise money to purchase psychotropic medication for a children's hospital in the Ukraine.

District 4 – Martha Martin, Billie Taylor: Ms. Martin – Ms. Martin reported she attended the Senior Ball meeting and the senior awards meeting. Martha shared she will begin meeting with a client at Modesto Gospel Mission women's ministry on a one-on-one basis. Ms. Martin continues to serve as museum docent at McHenry museum and assisted the Stanislaus County Ag helpline last Wednesday and the speakers barrel. Martha shared she

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helped at the Riverbank library for the Master Gardner group. Ms. Taylor was not in attendance at this meeting.

District 5 – Roselee Hurst, Ken Hanigan: Mr. Hanigan had no report. Ms. Hurst shared the senior she was assisting has moved to Texas with family. Ms. Hurst was not in attendance at this meeting.

Members at Large:

Joyce Gandelman: Ms. Gandelman reported she worked on the technical report, attended Bylaws committee and TAC meeting, and reported Senior Legislature has finished talks with legislators to carry bills.

Rachell LeViege: Ms. LeViege had no report.

Hayley Vieyra: Ms. Vieyra reported she continues to advocate for the older adult and those with disabilities in her current role with Stanislaus County. Ms. Vieyra continues to work on two cases with Valley Mountain Regional Center (VMRC).

Dianna Olsen: Ms. Olsen had nothing to report.

Teresa Jenna: Ms. Jenna reported attending a tea event for the senior Lions Club. Ms. Jenna gave an update on her recent absence from the commission.

Jeri Johnson: Ms. Johnson reported she is busy attending the Bylaws, Exec, and Senior Ball Committees, as well as church activities.

Marye Martinez: Ms. Martinez reported she has attended the Senior Ball Committee and shared “pinks” with a rehab in Turlock.

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

Ben Reuben: Mr. Reuben had nothing to report.

IX. Old Business:

A. None.

X. New Business:

A. The Senior Ball update was given by Shannon Parker. Ms. Parker passed out a Senior Ball packet and reviewed it with the commission. The packet includes sponsorship information, a help sign-up list and other related documents.

XI. Other Local Agency Reports:

Senior Law Project: Ms. Hannah Brady reported they have closed just under 1100 cases last year and that represented 900 individual people. Ms. Brady shared they have also had about 500 housing cases, so they are helping a lot of people in the community with a lot of different services. Hannah reported housing is huge on the legal and the non-legal side as

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well as powers of attorney and partnering with various agencies one way or another. Ms. Brady shared they will be holding their first legal clinic in Oakdale on March 22nd from 9:00 to 1:00. Hannah shared one of her goals this year is to reach out to the religious community across Stanislaus County to share information about their services. Joyce shared the C4A a conference will be held in May.

MOVE: Kristen Bragg reported they have completed the rebranding process of their vehicles. Ms. Bragg shared MOVE will provide recognition to Jenny Kenoyer and Micky Peabody by adding their pictures on their large van as part of their rebranding. Kristen reported they are researching technology solutions to expand care more efficiently. MOVE continues to provide transportation services for the disabled and veteran community through different programs.

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. Ms. Olsen reported this event is free for seniors. The COA table will be manned by Marye and Martha 8am-10am and Teresa, Rachell, and Lupe from 10am-12pm.

Catholic Charities: Roseanna Velazquez reported their homemaker program and serves seniors 60 years of age or older that live in Stanislaus County by providing housekeeping, meal prepping, laundry and running errands. Roseanna shared they have received funding to hire two more homemakers which will help take care of 25 seniors. Ms. Velazquez shared they will hold the annual Beacon of Hope Gala on April 13th. Melissa Flaherty with the Ombudsman program shared Brandel Manor and Cypress Assisted Living are in the process of closing on April 16th and continue to relocate residents to available skilled nursing facilities. Melissa reported the Ombudsman program is looking for volunteers and left some brochures. Ms. Flaherty shared that SEAPA continues to look for a 20-hour person for the supervisor position.

Modesto Senior Center: Shannon Parker shared that on February 29th they held their first leap year celebration and had 51 participants. Ms. Parker shared that two of their newest programs: modified functional aerobics and chair volleyball have increased in participation Shannon said according to her statistics the January/February attendance from 2023 to 2024 has increased by 45% in one year.

XII. Elected Officials:

Supervisor Buck Condit: Mr. Condit introduced his new field representative for District 1 Jazmine Velazquez. Mr. Condit shared there is one item on the consent calendar tomorrow Tuesday it's the approval agreement for the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy program with the California Department of Aging for the term of April 1st, 2024, through March 31st.

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Kelly Covello- CEO Representative: Ms. Covello was not present at this meeting.

Abby Pendleton, for Assemblyman Juan Alanis: Ms. Pendleton reported Assembly Bill 1813 (AB 1813) will establish the Senior Tenant Shallow Rental Subsidy Program within the Department of Housing and Community Development. Through this program, cities and counties will be given a \$100 million grant to provide rent subsidies for vulnerable senior citizens. Ms. Pendleton reported this bill has been referred to the housing and community development committee but hasn't been scheduled for a hearing yet.

XIII. Next Meeting: April 8, 2024, at 1:30 pm

XIV. Adjournment: By President Martin at 3:03 p.m.

Minutes: Claudia Gomez, gomezcl@stancounty.com