

COMMISSION ON AGING
AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL
3500 Coffee Road, Suite 19, Modesto, CA 95355
MINUTES – April 08, 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:** Jewell Kee from the Alzheimer’s Support Center presented an overview of the support services provided for caregivers with loved ones affected with various cognitive impairments.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** – Minutes for March 11, 2024, were approved. Moved to approve by Sebastian Jones, seconded by Ben Reuben. Motion carried.
- IV. **Consent Item**-None.
- V. **Public Comment**-None.
- VI. **Advisory Committee Reports:**
 - A. Technical/Area Plan Committee: 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 The committee was unable to interview the candidate due to a family emergency. Committee Chair Johnson will follow-up with the candidate to reschedule the interview.
 - C. Advocacy/Legislative: Committee Chair John Dinan reported the Advocacy/Legislative Committee met today. Mr. Dinan shared he attended an event at the Oakdale Senior Center put on by the Senior Law Project on March 22. Mr. Dinan reported Dianna Olsen shared statistics about the senior population in Stanislaus County. Mr. Dinan expressed his concern about California seniors being “squeezed” by higher rents and shared SB27, which was introduced in 2022, by Senator Caballero addresses homeless seniors and AB1813 by Assemblyman Juan Alanis provides rent subsidies for seniors at risk of homelessness. Mr. Dinan forwarded this information to committee members.
 - D. Public Relations: Committee Chair Lupe Aguilera informed the commission about the awards ceremony on May 21, 2024, at 6:30 pm for the Outstanding Senior Awards at the Board of Supervisors Chambers.
- VII. **Area Agency on Aging Report:**
 - Margie Palomino, Aging & Veterans Director: Ms. Palomino was not in attendance at this meeting.
 - Maria Profeta, Senior Meals/HICAP: Ms. Profeta shared the Senior Meals Program received a donation of 182 pounds of sweets from the See’s Candy in Turlock and has agreed to donate three times per year. Ms. Profeta shared they continue to work on the shelf stable boxes.

COMMISSION ON AGING

April 8, 2024, Minutes

Tiffany Fanfa, Planner, Aging and Veterans Services: Ms. Fanfa was not in attendance but relayed through email that the Area Plan is on schedule to go to the Board of Supervisors for approval on April 23, 2024.

Claudia Gomez, Executive Assistant: Ms. Gomez shared she will be completing interviews for each district winner.

VIII. COA Activity Reports

District 1 – Susan Hall, John Dinan: Ms. Hall shared two new computers and two cornhole games will be purchased for the Oakdale Senior Center. Mr. Dinan reported he chaired a StanCOG Citizens Advisory Committee meeting and received an annual report of Measure L uses and the amount of work being provided by MOVE with these funds.

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 was not in attendance at this meeting. Mr. Navarro shared he attended the Public Relations Committee meeting. Mr. Navarro shared information with the commission about tiny homes and affiliation with a church. Mr. Navarro attended an event for Cesar Chavez Day at the Red Event Center where they honored Erlinda Hernandez for her community work.

District 4 – Martha Martin, Billie Taylor: Ms. Martin – Ms. Martin had nothing to report. Ms. Taylor was not in attendance at this meeting.

District 5 – Roselee Hurst, Ken Hanigan: Mr. Hanigan was not in attendance at this meeting. Ms. Hurst voiced the request for longer hours for senior meals congregate site in Newman and stated there is still no exercise program for seniors in Newman. Ms. Hurst informed the commission mostly seniors have been attending the Grief Support Group she started at church. Ms. Hurst shared Host House will be closing, and Naomi House will be selling salsa to help them raise funds to keep them open.

Members at Large:

Joyce Gandelman: Ms. Gandelman was not in attendance at this meeting.

Rachell LeViege: Ms. LeViege had no report.

Hayley Vieyra: Ms. Vieyra was not in attendance at this meeting.

Dianna Olsen: Ms. Olsen had nothing to report.

Teresa Jenna: Ms. Jenna had nothing to report.

Jeri Johnson: Ms. Johnson reported she is continues attending various commission meetings as well as church activities.

Marye Martinez: Ms. Martinez clarified some of the discussion that took place at the

COMMISSION ON AGING

April 8, 2024, Minutes

meeting in regard to the tiny homes and the Church of the Brethren and updated the commission that a board meeting will be held at the church to further discuss this matter and she will bring an update next month.

Sebastian Jones: Mr. Jones reported he attended the Cesar Chavez celebration at the Red Event Center and completed the march as well. Mr. Jones suggested the commission enter the Cinco de Mayo parade to connect with seniors on that side of town. Ms. Martin has recommended this subject be discussed at the next COA Exec meeting.

Ben Reuben: Mr. Reuben had nothing to report.

IX. Old Business:

- A. The Senior Ball update was given by Shannon Parker. Ms. Parker passed out a form for commission members to sign up to volunteer on the Senior Ball Committee and announced tickets will be available at this office and the Modesto Senior Center.

X. New Business:

- A. Copies of the Bylaw amendments were given to all present commissioners to review. Moved to approve the amendments made to the Bylaws by Commissioner John Dinan and seconded by Commissioner by Richard Navarro. Motioned carried. (Y-14, N-0)
- B. Selection of new California Senior Legislature (CSL) candidate was made by a unanimous vote by the commission to select Rachell LeViege to be the new Senior Senator/Assemblymember. Moved to approve the nomination made by Commissioner Jeri Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Marye Martinez. Motion carried. (Y-14, N-0)
- C. Hospitality Committee/Club has been created to ensure a card is sent to members of the commission to acknowledge special events in their life or to offer support. Motion to approve the creation of this committee/club made by Commissioner Sebastian Jones and seconded by Marye Martinez. Motion carried.

XI. Other Local Agency Reports:

Senior Law Project: Ms. Hannah Brady shared she will be presenting to the Stanislaus Homeless Alliance (SHA) regarding homelessness prevention for seniors. Ms. Brady reported the Eviction defense program funding is ending this year. Ms. Brady shared the rental subsidy program funding ending in June and reported applying through the county for the Aging in Place grant, since the state is not renewing the current grant.

MOVE: Anthony Hill reported they have been researching opportunities to secure grant funding from the FTA. Mr. Hill shared they have been working with their partners from StanRTA and StanCOG to form a partnership that will allow them to participate in the grant funding. Mr. Hill reported they are looking for technological solutions to routing and part

COMMISSION ON AGING

April 8, 2024, Minutes

of that will be meeting with the FAST Transit Agency staff in Fairfield. Many changes are coming with respect to increasing the reach of the Measure L dollars.

Healthy Aging Association: Ms. Olsen reminded the commission about the services available through the Dignity at Home program and shared the Age with Movement event on May 3rd will be held at La Loma Park from 8-12pm. Ms. Olsen reported this event is free for seniors and there will be a COA table will be manned by commissioners.

Catholic Charities: Melissa Flaherty with the Ombudsman program reported the Homemaker program may have hired someone and SEAPA has also found someone for the supervisor position. Melissa Flaherty with the Ombudsman program shared Brandel Manor and Cypress Assisted Living will be closing on April 16th as planned. Ms. Velazquez shared they will hold the annual Beacon of Hope Gala this weekend, April 13th.

Modesto Senior Center: Shannon Parker shared the April newsletter for the Modesto Senior Center. Ms. Parker shared the health and fitness programs are very popular with seniors at their center.

XII. Elected Officials:

Supervisor Buck Condit: Jazmine Velazquez, Field Representative for Supervisor Buck Condit, shared her business cards with commission members.

Kelly Covello- CEO Representative: Ms. Covello had no report.

Justin Farkas, for Assemblyman Juan Alanis: Mr. Farkas 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. Mr. Farkas shared proposed amendments for Prop 13. These amendments include eliminating loopholes, restoring two-thirds vote requirements, and honest ballot titles.

XIII. Next Meeting: May 13, 2024, at 1:30 pm

XIV. Adjournment: By Commissioner Richard Navarro at 3:08 p.m.

Minutes: Claudia Gomez, gomezcl@stancounty.com