



ADVISORY COUNCIL, November 3, 2011, 1:00 PM
Florence Douglas Senior Center
333 Amador St., Vallejo, CA 94590

Minutes

- I. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by Sharon Monck, with the pledge of Allegiance.
 - A. Members Present: Sharon Monck, Suzanne Blakeley, Georgia Craddock, Nieves Fernandez, Rodrigo Galindo, Lois Harper, Richard Lundin, Teri Ruggiero, Richard Sager, Elsie Tate, Rosemarie Wilson, Juliana Williams, Nancy Yingst.
 - B. Staff Present: Leanne Martinsen – AAA Executive Director, Anne Payne – AAA Direct Services Supervisor, Terry Ann Steffen, Family Caregiver Support Program Coordinator.
 - C. Members Absent/Excused: Betty Holland, Lauren Rolfe.
 - D. Introduction of Guests: Constance Boulware – Rio Vista City Council Member, Joyce Scharf – Volunteer at Florence Douglas Sr. Center, David Stewart, former council member.

- II. Consent Agenda
 - A. **Motion by Teri Ruggiero, seconded by Rosemarie Wilson to approve the agenda for the November 3, 2011 meeting, motion carried.**
 - B. **Motion by Nancy Yingst, seconded by Richard Lundin to approve the minutes for the October 6, 2011 meeting, motion carried.**

- III. Community Input – Teri Ruggiero gave an update on the Solano County IHSS Public Authority, including the impact of funding reductions, and the potential closure of the Solano Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) program. She also mentioned the trigger cuts that would result in a 20% cut in service hours in January. She noted that about 80% of the IHSS caseload is over 64 years old. Nancy Yingst announced that the Florence Douglas Senior Center would be serving a free dinner on Christmas Day from 11am to 1pm. Constance Boulware discussed the renovations underway at the Rio Vista Senior Center, and also announced the Gingerbread House Fundraiser on December 3, from 10 am to noon and 1:30 to 3:30 pm. The cost is \$20.00. She reported that the Rio Vista Senior Summit on October 14 was well attended. Rudy Galindo reminded everyone that it was Election Day and they should remember to vote. Nieves Fernandez reported on a Holiday Workshop on coping. Richard Sager, who is employed at the Napa Library, inquired as to whether council members used the library, and if they felt the library accommodate their needs. There was some discussion about the needs of disabled persons, accessibility issues, shelf

height, etc. Joyce Scharf noted that she was on the library board in Vallejo. Several members indicated that the libraries in their community were welcoming to seniors, and staff assisted them when needed. Georgia Craddock indicated that she had distributed Napa Senior Resource Guided in Lake Berryessa, and they were very well received. Juliana Williams reported that she was now working at Pinole Senior Village, a retirement community that provides housing, assisted living, adult day care and memory care. Suzanne Blakeley shared a newspaper article about the merger of health insurance companies, and shared information about Medicare Part D premiums. Elsie Tate reported that Consumer Reports Magazine had printed an article rating PPOs and HMOs. David Stewart stated that at the October meeting he had reported that a homeless woman in Napa was going to get housing, but that report was premature, as she was still living in her car and needing help. He stated that the mandatory reporting system had failed to help her.

- IV. Correspondence: Leanne Martinsen reported that she had received an e-mail from Susan Turner yesterday, indicating that some family health issues would prevent her from participating on Thursdays, so she was resigning.
- V. AAOA Board Liaison Report – Donald Bond, Board Chair was unable to attend the meeting today, and he sent his regrets. A copy of the minutes of September 20, 2011 Board meeting was included in the agenda packet. The Board will not have a meeting in November, but will meet with the Advisory Council in a joint meeting on December 1.
- VI. Committee Reports:
 - A. Legislative Committee CSL Report – Richard Lundin reported that the California Senior Legislature (CSL) session was held in October, and distributed a report of the Top 10 State and Top 4 Federal Proposals. He noted that proposals from Lauren Rolfe made the list, and others presented by members of the Bay Area Caucus were well represented. He gave a brief description of the CSL for the benefit of visitors. Dr. Lundin was honored to receive the Moira Jackson Award at the CSL Session. He also reported on the progress of establishing Senior Courts in Napa County, and it was recommended that this be an agenda item at a future meeting.
 - B. Suzanne Blakely reported that she had participated in the Health Insurance Counseling & Advocacy Program (HICAP) Coordinating Committee meeting on October 14 in Santa Rosa, and distributed printed materials, including the information on Medicare Advantage Plans (Part C) that will be available in Napa and Solano Counties. Some plans that were available in 2011 will not be available next year. She also reported that Kaiser had notified the participants of their Special Needs Plan (SNP) of changes in eligibility. Effective January 1, 2012, in order to qualify for the SNP program, beneficiaries must be enrolled in Medicare and Medi-Cal with NO share of cost. The Annual Medicare Enrollment for prescription drug and health plans began on October 15 and closes on December 7 this year. This is the time when enrollees can switch between plans or return to original Medicare. HICAP Counselors can help beneficiaries with enrollment and

coverage issues. Suzanne also indicated that she had received a resource guide from the California Department of Corporations, which she will forward to the office so we can make available to members.

- C. Leanne Martinsen reported that the Board Fundraising Committee was making plans for a benefit variety show on February 12, 2012 at the USA World Classic Event Center. The next planning committee meeting will be on November 8. Teri Ruggiero and Nancy Yingst have indicated that they will serve, and would welcome the participation of more Advisory Council members.
- D. Juliana Williams reported for the Advocacy Committee that the Oktoberfest event had raised \$17,000 for the Florence Douglas Senior Center. She thanked AAoA staff that had supported this event.

VII. AAoA Executive Director & Staff Report

- A. Leanne Martinsen reported on AAoA status, including two positions filled. Norma Caballero has been hired as the Napa PEI navigator, and Harriett Dietz will be starting next week as the Planner. As a result of funding and staffing reductions, the MSSP program has gone from 4 to 3.5 case managers. The annual independent audit is scheduled to begin on November 28. The patio at the main office has been repaired. Peggy Pellon has informed us that the funding will be maintained at the same level for the Prevention and Early Intervention (Solano MHSA-PEI), for another year (2012-13).
- B. Anne Payne, Direct Services Supervisor reported on status of AAoA Direct Services, distributed copies of the report of the recent evaluation of the AAoA Title III B Direct Services. She stated that there was one item in the report that indicated that the programs did not routinely collaborate with other programs, which is not the case, but other than that, the issues raised were all things that we were aware of, and are addressing to correct. She responded to comments from Council members. She indicated that the program goals set for the current year were reasonable, and that she was working with her team on to meet these goals. She also reported that she had developed a letter to encourage client donations. Teri Ruggiero confirmed that due to their budget constraints, they had lost funding for services including training, so the IHSS Public Authority had not been able to partner with the AAoA as planned in the past couple of years, but now they had reorganized and had plans to collaborate on training. David Stewart inquired about a client in Napa, and Anne responded that she was aware of this client, but unable to discuss in this meeting. There was discussion about providing services that are responsive to client needs, and collaborating with other provider organizations to coordinate service delivery.
- C. Dan Hernandez was unable to attend the meeting today, due to a funeral out of the area. He prepared an update report, which was distributed to the members, along with the Service Delivery Report that reflects the services delivered in the first quarter of the fiscal year, and a schedule of program monitoring visits for the remainder of the current year.

- D. Terry Ann Steffen, Family Caregiver Support Program Coordinator distributed a report and reminded the members that November is National Family Caregiver's month. She reported that her current caseload includes 31 caregivers of older family members, 7 caring for grandchildren, and 3 caring for both, for a total of 41 active clients. She also reported on Support groups and Chronic Disease Self management classes that she was facilitating. It was recommended that information about this program be incorporated into the TACC report.

VIII. Action Items:

- A. Committee Assignments. A list of Advisory Council Committee members was distributed, and Sharon Monck reported that at a meeting immediately preceding this one, the membership for these committees had been established, and chairs selected as indicated below.

Standing Committees

1. Area/Strategic Plan and Grants Committee: Rick Sager (Chair), Elsie Tate
2. Program Performance Monitoring Committee: Teri Ruggiero (Chair), Lauren Rolfe, Rosemarie Wilson, Rudy Galindo,
3. Advocacy Committee: Suzanne Blakeley (Chair), Juliana Williams, Betty Holland, Nieves Fernandez.
4. Legislative Committee: Lauren Rolfe, Richard Lundin (Co-Chairs).
5. Nominating & Elections Committee: Nancy Yingst (Chair), Lois Harper.

Ad Hoc Committees

1. Rules & Procedures:
2. Membership: Nancy Yingst.
3. HICAP Coordinating Committee: Suzanne Blakeley.
4. Fundraising/Variety Show planning (Board of Directors Committee): Teri Ruggiero, Nancy Yingst.

Motion by Richard Sager, 2nd by Richard Lundin that Council committees will establish regular meeting times to be held at 12:30 pm the regular meeting day of the Council each month as needed, motion carried.

- B, Consideration of meeting location. The bylaws indicate that meetings should be held in accessible locations throughout the PSA, and that meetings should alternate between the two counties. **Motion by Elsie Tate, 2nd by Nieves Fernandez to hold the December meeting at the Napa Hospice and Adult Day Center.**

IX. Information Items

- A. Area Plan Goal #2, Leanne Martinsen reviewed objectives related to this goal and progress toward completion. Copies of the complete Area Plan Document are available, and it will soon be posted on the AAoA website.
- B. Little Hoover Commission's Report, "A Long-Term Strategy for Long-Term Care" (Executive Summary provided in October). Due to the time, it was recommended that this discussion be tabled until a future meeting.
- C. "Shredding the Aging Services Network." Copies of this document that had been provided by Mariko Yamada were distributed.

- X. Communication with AAoA Board: The Board is not meeting in November, and will have a joint meeting with the Advisory Council on December 1 in Napa. Leanne Martinsen highlighted the additional handout materials and announced the Holiday Safety Seminars for Seniors that are being scheduled at various locations throughout the area.

- XI. Parking lot items –. For discussion at a future meeting
 - A. Status of CDA/CARS reporting, and program monitoring
 - B. Legislative Priorities.
 - C. Little Hoover Commission's Report, "A Long-Term Strategy for Long-Term Care"
 - D. Leanne Martinsen highlighted the additional handout materials and announced the Holiday Safety Seminars for Seniors that are being scheduled at various locations throughout the area.

- XIII. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM.

The next *Advisory Council Meeting* is scheduled on Thursday December 1 at 1:00 pm at Napa Valley Hospice and Adult Day Services, 414 South Jefferson St., Napa. This will be a joint meeting with the Board of Directors.