



P.O. Box 3069, Vallejo, CA 94590

707-644-6612

**ADVISORY COUNCIL, August 6, 2015, 1:00 PM**  
**Area Agency on Aging Serving Napa and Solano**  
**Training/Conference Room**  
**400 Contra Costa Street, Vallejo, CA 94590**

**Minutes**

- I. The meeting was called to order at 1:05 pm by, Steven Rozensky, Chair, with the pledge of Allegiance. Guests were introduced, and it was acknowledged that Nieves Fernandez had celebrated her birthday yesterday.
  - A. Members Present, Steven Rozensky, Suzanne Blakeley, Nieves Fernandez, Lois Harper, Sally Livingston, Susan Okun, Carl Bunch, Teri Ruggiero.
  - B. Staff Present: Leanne Martinsen – AAoA Executive Director, Ruth Feigel, Program Assistant.
  - C. Members Absent/Excused: Carroll Cotten, Betty Lou Mukerji, Patricia Scarcelli.
  - D. Board Members Present: Dr. Richard Lundin,
  - E. Guests Present: John Lord, Coordinator Solano Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program
- II. Consent Agenda
  - A. **Motion by Nieves Fernandez, seconded by Sally Livingston, to approve the agenda for August 6, 2015 meeting minutes as presented.**
  - B. **Motion by Suzanne Blakeley, seconded by Nieves Fernandez, to approve the June 4, 2015 meeting minutes as presented, motion carried.**
- III. Correspondence: None.
- IV. Presentation: John Lord He has been with the Long-Term Care Ombudsman program in Solano County under Ombudsman Services of Northern California for several years, and since that organization chose not to renew the contract, the Solano Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, has now transitioned to be a direct service of the Area Agency on Aging. Mr. Lord provided information about the program, that is responsible for advocating for residents of licensed facilities, including 9 (SNF) Nursing Facilities, 8 large (RCFE) Residential Facilities and 135 smaller (mostly 6-bed) RCFE homes in Solano County. They currently have 3 part-time employees (1.9 FTE) and 9 certified volunteers with 2 more in training. During the month of July, they investigated 26 cases and made 45-47 facility “monitor” visits that were not in response to a specific complaint. He indicated that they are updating forms, developing a new web page and preparing staff to deal with reporting and other tasks that had been done centrally at the OSNC office.

- V. Community Input I –Sally Livingston reported that the Senior Coalition of Solano County will be hosting the Centenarian Celebration on September 22 at the Board of Supervisor’s meeting. Lois Harper also noted that the speaker at the Senior Coalition of Solano County meeting on Friday August 7 will be State Senator Lois Wolk, who will be speaking about her SB128 the end of life options bill. There was also a brief discussion regarding the White House Conference on Aging that was held in Washington DC in July.
- VI. AAoA Board Liaison Report – Dr. Lundin reported that he had not attended the July Board of Directors meeting, but did share some information about Veterans issues, including the good work being done at the Pathways Program at the Veterans Home in Yountville, treating vets with PTSD and TBI, who deal with depression and preventing suicides.
- VII. Committee Reports:
  - A. Program Performance Monitoring Committee – The July 2014 – June 2015 provider service delivery was included in the mailed meeting packet. Teri Ruggiero reported that the committee had met with staff before the June 16 Board meeting to review the proposed provider contract funding and goals, and these were reviewed and accepted by the Board. She also reported on the discussion and action of the Board to regarding the Advisory Council’s recommendation that Provider Contracts for FY 2015-16 be revised to include the following language: “At the sole discretion of the Board, failure to fulfill contract obligations may result in reduced compensation”. The Board declined to authorize that language, but did direct staff to revise the provider contract language to read: “If Contractor shall fail to deliver the service units agreed upon in this contract by the end date of this contract, a percentage of the total funding equal to the percentage of the undelivered units may be subtracted from the total contracted amount.” Leanne Martinsen stated that the Board is continuing to discuss these issues. She also indicated that the staff guidelines for program monitoring do have provisions for responding to providers regarding their level of performance, and pointed out that the contracts are not simply performance-based, but negotiated based on the request for proposal and budget process and cost-reimbursement. The committee will meet following this meeting to review goals set for direct service programs and establish a meeting schedule for this year.
  - B. Legislative Committee CSL Report – There were no members present to report on Legislative Activity. Leanne Martinsen reported that legislators are on recess in August, and this is a good time to meet them in the district and remind them of issues related to older adults. The state legislature has scheduled special sessions to deal with unfinished business. The Senate has passed a bill to reauthorize the Older Americans Act, and the House is considering it as well, but funding will still be reduced due to sequestration. Dr. Lundin reported that there will be an official day of remembrance for the Bataan Death March (WWII, in the Philippines).
  - C. Advocacy Committee – Suzanne Blakeley reported that there is a lot of activity related to the declared presidential candidates, including the televised debates today, and that Congress and the Senate are taking up legislation related to Medicare and Social Security.

- D. Membership Committee – Lois Harper discussed the need for more outreach to potential members, and is trying to determine if we can get on the AARP list.
- E. TACC Report -- Steven Rozensky will represent PSA #28 at the Triple-A Council of California (TACC) meeting on August 11-12, 2015 in Sacramento. He discussed the elder abuse/fraud prevention activities that have been successful in other areas and scheduling a committee meeting in September to work on developing a local outreach publication.
- F. HICAP Coordinating Committee – Leanne Martinsen reported on the June 11, 2015 meeting that was held via conference call. The agenda included the monitoring report for the HICAP program, the services provided last year and the goals set for the current year. The next meeting will be in October. Teri Ruggiero and Suzanne Blakeley have volunteered for this assignment, which involves 3-4 meetings each year that are held in Sonoma County. Information about the open enrollment period is available now.

VIII. AAoA Executive Director & Staff Report.

- A. Leanne Martinsen reported on AAoA activity, including the following items:
  - Staffing: Posted positions for Planner, Direct Service Supervisor.
  - Area Plan submitted to CDA on May 1, awaiting approval.
  - Received contracts & budget display for FY 2015-16 from CDA on 6/5. Initial budget has been approved. Budget amendment with additional funds for LTCO just arrived, will submit Budget revision to CDA within 30 days
  - Provider Contracts for 2015-16 have been issued.
  - The State LTC Ombudsman has recommended that the AAoA be the Host agency for the Solano Long-Term Care Ombudsman for FY 2015-16, and the program will have office space at the AAoA main office in Vallejo.
  - StopFalls Napa Valley staffing has been reduced, due to funding reductions, and services continue while we seek additional funding sources.
  - Have transitioned Napa Caregiver Permit Application Processing duties to staff member working at Napa office on Main St. effective August 1.
  - Submitted full application for Auction Napa Valley 6/22 \$75,000 for SFNV, \$22,000 for HM-HAP, awaiting response.
  - StopFalls Solano Seniors. Filed report on first year were not successful in obtaining 2<sup>nd</sup> year funding from Solano Community Foundation/United Way Health Fund, but have other funds to continue comprehensive FP in Solano Co.
  - A new contract with Solano Co. Public Health to train/certify staff in specific evidence based exercise programs “Stepping on” and “Tai Chi for Better Balance” and deliver training classes for at risk seniors in Solano County.
  - Partners In Care, the organization that we have a contract with for Chronic Disease Self-Management Education (CDSMP/CDSME), has funding for two more years, and another grant that will train leaders to provide other evidence-based programs related to fall prevention (Matter of Balance and Home Meds) in both counties:
  - A training for CDSMP lay leaders is scheduled for August in Solano County. 2 staff members are now certified as leaders for CDSMP (Diabetes) and are also master trainers for CDSMP (General and Chronic Pain). They are scheduled to be trained as T-Trainers next month, which means that they will be able to train master trainers.

- 1 staff member is being trained in Teepa Snow's "Positive Approach to Care" (PAC), and will be able to provide specialized training for caregivers dealing with dementia.
- There is a potential funding stream with staff that are certified trainers in various programs. The sessions are generally expected to be provided without charge to community-dwelling older adults and caregivers, but we should be able to set up a fee schedule for organizations like home care agencies or find sponsors to subsidize training events in the community.
- Health Educator providing "Eat Smart-Live Strong" workshops – SNAP-Ed contract. Classes are being offered at congregate nutrition sites in both counties, and we have submitted the budget to continue this program for another year.
- Invitation from SCAN Foundation to apply for a community benefit grant in support of direct services. Requested \$15,000 to establish an Emergency Assistance Fund that can be accessed by Care Managers for clients with needs that cannot be covered by other program funds.
- State Budget passed legislature on June 15, and signed by Governor with additional funding for LTC Ombudsman programs.
- The Napa Senior Resource Guide is being updated, and the Spanish version is now available. The Solano Guide is also being updated and will be printed within the month. Solano County has launched the Network of Care for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities, a web-based application that is available for individuals who are seeking information about available services.

IX. Action Items:

- A. Since the Board of Directors is not meeting in August, the next opportunity to bring recommendations will be at the September meeting. Teri Ruggiero indicated that the Program monitoring committee will continue to receive provider performance reports from staff monthly, and suggested that the committee might want to change to a quarterly meeting schedule, and reporting to the Board following the review of each quarterly reporting period.

X. Information Items:

- A. In response to a question from Lois Harper, Steven Rozensky provided information about a proposed training opportunity for advocates that had been proposed at the last TACC meeting. This is a complicated issue, and Leanne Martinsen clarified that some AAA's, especially those that are located in County structures, are not able to take positions on legislation and issues unless they are consistent and approved by the County Board of Supervisors. As a nonprofit organization, we have more flexibility to determine priorities and the Advisory Council is the advocacy body for our organization. She indicated that at the November C4A conference in Los Angeles, a workshop track on legislative advocacy/leadership is planned, and each AAA is encouraged to select an appropriate volunteer (may be an Advisory Council member, but not necessarily a TACC member) to participate. More information will be coming about the specifics and how the travel and registration costs would be covered.

B. It was suggested that Molly's Angels be invited to make a presentation at the September 3, 2015 Advisory Council meeting in Napa.

.XI. Communication with AAoA Board: none this month.

XII Community Input II: none offered.

XIII. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM. With thanks to Nieves Fernandez and Steven Rozensky for providing cookies.

Submitted by: Leanne Martinsen, Executive Director

Approved by \_\_\_\_\_, Advisory Council Secretary

Date: September 3, 2015

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