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**ADVISORY COUNCIL, March 2, 2017, 1:00 PM**

**Area Agency on Aging Serving Napa and Solano**  
**Napa Senior Activity Center – Large Annex Room, Napa, CA 94559**

**Minutes**

- I. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by Chair, Steven Rozensky, with the pledge of Allegiance. Guests were introduced.
  - A. Members Present, Steven Rozensky, Carl Bunch, Suzanne Blakeley, Carroll Cotten, Arnold Koenig, Susan Okun, Sandy Calloway, Sally Livingston, Steve Sillen, John Morris, Mary Palmer.
  - B. Staff Present: Leanne Martinsen – AAoA Executive Director, Vincent Valenzuela, -- Planner, Jason Curletto -- Program Assistant/MIS&IT, Elizabeth Mautner – Coordinator Napa Long-Term Care Ombudsman.
  - C. Members Absent/Excused: Teri Ruggiero, Lois Harper.
  - D. Board Members Present: Carolyn Wrage.
  - E. Guests Present: Stephanie Stergion, Myrna David, Marsha Dornan.
- II. Consent Agenda
  - A. **Motion by Carl Bunch, seconded by Suzanne Blakeley, to approve the agenda for the March 2, 2017 meeting minutes correcting the date of the next meeting to April 6, 2017, motion carried.**
  - B. **Motion by Carroll Cotten, seconded by Steve Sillen, to approve the February 2, 2017 meeting minutes, as presented, motion carried.**
- III. Correspondence: None.
- IV. Presentations:
  - A. Steve Sillen distributed folders with information about the Carquinez Village Project. He discussed the nationwide network of “Villages”, a concept developed on the East Coast, that has spread across the country, and there are several now in the Bay Area and Marin County. He described this as Seniors Helping Seniors, and the goal is to assist seniors to remain in their own homes. This is a membership organization, with annual dues, and the official launch will be on April 3. They will provide occasional help with things like rides, chores and yardwork, and they have volunteers for many of the most requested services, as well as a list of preferred providers for others, so that members can purchase services at a discount. This Village will also have a social component, with scheduled events that are free for members, and open to guests of members, for a fee. He answered questions from Council members.

B. Elizabeth Mautner, Coordinator Napa Long-Term Care Ombudsman shared information about the program and the licensed facilities in Napa County, including the Veterans Home. She indicated that there is only one RCFE in Napa County that accepts SSI, so lower income folks who need that level of care often are placed in other counties. She explained that some counties have facilities with waivers that allow the placement of some residents with nursing needs in RCFE facilities, but there are none in Napa County. Some RCFE facilities have waivers that allow them to accept residents with dementia. She reported that they have part-time staff and about 12 volunteers, with two more volunteers in training. They visit Nursing Facilities weekly and RCFE's monthly, in addition to responding to complaints. The Ombudsman's role is to advocate for the rights of residents, and they must obtain the resident's permission to pursue their issues. By having a regular presence in facilities, they have the opportunity to mediate and resolve problems at the lowest level, and they do report problems to licensing (Department of Health or Department of Social Services) when they find them. She shared information about recent facility surveys with citations that can cause the facility to have their Medicare certification suspended until corrective actions are completed. She also explained that the Ombudsman receives reports of elder abuse that occur in facilities, while APS receives reports of elder abuse when it is from the community, and that facilities are required to report instances of physical abuse that occur in facilities both to the Ombudsman and local law enforcement.

V. Community Input I – None.

VI. AAoA Board Report: At the February 21 Board of Directors meeting, Bruce Wagstaff presented the report of the Organizational Assessment. Leanne Martinsen distributed copies of the report to Advisory Council members. Carolyn Wrage stated that this process started last summer, when the County Supervisors expressed concerns and recommended that an organizational assessment be conducted, and the consultant was engaged in November. He noted that three overriding themes were consistent across the stakeholder interviews, focus groups and other input. These issues were the oversight of contract providers, the distribution of resources between the two counties, and a desire for more leadership from the organization. The focus will be to be better communicators and increase visibility in the community. Leanne Martinsen walked the members through the sections of the report. There are 11 specific recommendations, for which the Board and Executive staff will be developing responses, and a meeting is being scheduled to share information with the County Supervisors and others that had initially expressed concerns. Carolyn Wrage thanked the Advisory Council members for their assistance and participation in the process, and encouraged them to feel free to provide additional feedback.

VII. Committee Reports:

A. Program Performance Monitoring Committee –The Service Delivery report (July 2016-January 2017) was distributed with the meeting packet. Jason Curletto noted that all contract and direct service providers were on track to meet or exceed their goals. The next meeting of the committee will be before the May 4 meeting, when they will review the service delivery reports through March, the third quarter of the fiscal year.

- B. Legislative Committee CSL Report – Leanne Martinsen reported that John Morris and Arnold Koenig had participated in the C4A Capitol Day on February 23. They had the opportunity to hear from staff from the Governor’s office, as well as the Assembly and Senate committees on Aging and Long-term Care about budget concerns in the morning and in the afternoon they participated in visits to legislators and their staff to advocate for the needs of older adults and community-based services. Specific proposals were to provide an additional \$12.5 million to the senior nutrition program, to provide an Information and Assistance Alzheimer’s Specialist (AB 614), and to codify the definition of Aging and Disability Resource Centers in State Statute (AB 1200). Copies of the fact sheets are available as handouts. John Morris stated that it was interesting to hear about the budget and funding from the staffers. Arnold Koenig stated that it was a wonderful opportunity to make contacts.
- C. Advocacy Committee – Suzanne Blakeley reported that a bill has been entered at the California Senate that would establish Single Payer Healthcare in California. She shared information from Washington DC about the proposed repeal of the Affordable Care Act and other changes proposed by the new administration that would impact seniors. Leanne Martinsen indicated that there were copies available of the N4A Policy Brief that outlined the potential impact that repeal of the ACA would have on Older Adults, Caregivers and the Aging Network.
- D. Membership Committee – Lois Harper was not present, and there are no applications for membership pending at this time.
- E. Ad Hoc Committee on Senior Safety: Arnold Koenig reported that the Month of June has been designated as Elder Abuse Awareness Month, and June 15 is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. The Napa County Alliance on Senior Education (NCASE) is planning a symposium focused on Elder Financial Abuse to be held on June 15, at the Performing Arts Center at the Napa Valley College, and a planning meeting was held in February. He indicated that he will be following up with representative of the Napa Police Department, and that the new District Attorney would be presenting to NCASE at their next meeting. They have reserved the Performing Arts Center at the Napa Valley College on June 16, and are inviting folks from surrounding Counties with the objective of establishing a regional action plan.
- F. Steven Rozensky reviewed his report (included in the meeting packet) of the Triple-A Council of California (TACC) meeting that was held in Sacramento on February 7-8. TACC was able to participate with the Alzheimer’s Association State Advocacy Day, and he shared some facts and figures about Alzheimer’s as well as how to advocate. He also shared information from Laurel Mildred, consultant and staff to the Ca. Collaborative on Long Term Services and Supports on the Proposed State Budget and the developing crisis in Medicaid, which impacts older adults and persons with disabilities. There was discussion about how block granting might work.

VIII. AAoA Executive Director & Staff Report.

- A. Leanne Martinsen reported on AAoA activity, including the following items:
  - CDA requested clarification on a few items in the Area Plan in February, and staff submitted a response, awaiting approval.

- Working with CFO on various items related to the Independent Audit for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2016 and the CDA Fiscal Audit for Fiscal Years 2011/12 through, 2014/15 which started in January 2017, and also updating the agency budget to include the OTO funds.
- Conducted new member orientation on February 17.
- Solano Guide has been updated and copies are available now. Napa Guide in final editing, will be reprinted soon.
- Both Napa and Solano Counties are developing websites for the Network of Care for Seniors and persons with disabilities.
- Kaiser sponsorship approved for printing of resource guides and Fall Prevention events in September 2017.
- Planning to submit application for Kaiser Community Benefit funds to support Latino Outreach and/or expansion of existing Health Promotion programs. Application due March 24.
- Planning to make application to Napa County for Master Settlement Account (MSA) funding to support StopFalls Napa Valley during 2017-2018. Application due March 8.

B. Vincent Valenzuela reported that the Request for Proposals (RFP) had been released and two bidder's conferences have been held, with another one scheduled on March 10. Applications are due on March 31, and he distributed a sign-up sheet for members interested in serving on the proposal review team.

C. Jason Curletto offered to answer questions from members about the quarterly reports or any other concerns about program monitoring. He noted that four site visits have been completed and shared the dates of scheduled site visits in the next month. Advisory Council members were encouraged to sign up and participate in program monitoring site visits. He also shared that after consultation with staff from the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, we are considering changing the format of the service delivery reports for the local ombudsman programs.

IX. Action Items:

- A. There were no other recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding program monitoring or any other matters at this time.
- B. No other action items were brought to the attention of the Council.
- C. The next update of the Area Plan is due on May 1, and we should schedule Public Hearings in April, but since we are still waiting on approval from last year, no definite plans have been made. We may choose to use the April Advisory Council meeting as one of the hearings.

X. Information Items: Sally Livingston reported that the Senior Coalition of Solano County will be sponsoring the Mini-Medical School at the Kroc Center in Suisun City. This will be on Saturdays in March and April, and speakers will present information on health issues of concern to older adults. She distributed flyers with the details. She also discussed the work of the Senior Poverty working group in Solano County and presentations to each of the City Councils.

.XI. Communication with AAoA Board: None at this time.

XII. Community Input II. None

XIII. The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 PM.

Submitted by: Leanne Martinsen, Executive Director

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

Date: April 6, 2017

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