

COMMITTEE: GENERAL	MARCH 13, 2014	LOCATION: MARGARET TODD SENIOR CENTER
<p>PRESENT: Bedinger, Bloch, Bortel, Boutilier, Brilliant, Dowling, Gertler, Gontarz York, Kemp, Robbins, Smith, Timms, Turner</p> <p>EXCUSED: Monson, Zeller, Kirshbaum, Livoti, Asimos, Peters-Janover, Locks</p> <p>VACANT: District 2, City of San Anselmo</p>		
<p>RECORDER: Amy Dietz</p>		
<p>NEXT MEETING: April 10, 2014 at San Rafael Community Center</p>		

MINUTE SUMMARY	ACTION TAKEN/RESPONSIBLE PARTY
<p>Presentation: Public Health: Aging in Marin County Speaker: Dr. Matthew Willis, Public Health Officer</p> <p>Call to Order Vice Chair Dowling called the meeting to order at 11:18a.m.</p> <p>Approval of Agenda The March 13, 2014 agenda was approved as submitted.</p> <p>Approval of the Minutes The minutes of February 13, 2014 were approved as written.</p>	

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<p>Open Time for Public Expression:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rachel Gila (Mental Health Registered Nurse): Provided information and resources regarding the Senior Peer Counseling Program with the Marin County HOPE Program. A training for new Senior Peer Counselors will be held April 15-May 20th. • Marilyn McConnell: Marin Medical Equipment Recyclers, recycling durable medical equipment, is available in San Rafael on Wednesdays from 11:00a.m.-2:00p.m. In 2005, the program provided 344 items; in 2014 that number has grown to 11,000 items. New website www.mmerecyclers.org. <p>Chair's Report: Vice Chair Teri Dowling reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All committee objectives completed. • As Commissioners, there is a responsibility to serve on at least one committee or task force and a commitment to attend regularly. • Healthy Aging Symposium will be May 8. Commissioners are encouraged to participate as volunteers. Volunteer positions include: registration, time keepers, greeters, etc. Commissioners can give additional funds to support people on a scholarship who cannot normally attend due to income restraints. • Ana Bagtas distributed Fiscal Year 2013/14 Annual Update as talking points for Commissioners to document their activities. <p>Vice-Chair Report: No Report</p> <p>Action Item: Proposal to form a special group to coordinate a commissioner retreat in the fall. Item was voted on and approved. Commissioners Bloch, Gertler, Boutilier, and Gontarz-York volunteered for the task force.</p> <p>Committee Reports:</p> <p>Health and Nutrition: Chair Asimos was absent. Commissioner Bedinger reported for Chair Asimos.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The previous meeting did not have a quorum and a make-up meeting was held to finalize objectives 	<p>Commissioners Bloch, Gertler, Boutilier, and Gontarz-York will meet to draft proposed agenda.</p>

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<p>for the coming year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 20, 2014. <p>Housing and Transportation: Chair Bortel reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copies of “Choices for Living” are available for distribution. They are available at the reception desk from 8:30a.m. to 4:30p.m. at the office of Aging and Adult Services located at 10 N San Pedro Rd. • The last meeting did not have a quorum and a make-up meeting was held to finalize objectives for the coming year. • Next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 16, 2014. <p>Legislative Task Force: Chair Bloch reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best practices for Assisted Living were distributed. • The Task Force will study legislation coming forth from State legislature. • Four bills have been picked up by the legislature; one to two are resolutions. • Copies of upcoming legislation will be distributed. • Next meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 14, 2014. <p>Planning: Chair Timms reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Kirshbaum chaired the February meeting to discuss the Larkspur Project. Selected seniors will be invited to lunch with the Larkspur Mayor to discuss senior needs in the community and what types of services they believe are lacking and need to be improved. Kirshbaum has asked that a Commissioner volunteer to be at each meeting to take notes and be of assistance. • The Planning Committee hopes to have their objectives for review after their next meeting. • The next meeting is Wednesday, March 26th at the Redwoods from 11:30a.m - 1:00p.m. 	

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<p>Editorial Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A <p>Director's Report: Lee Pullen, Director for the Area Agency on Aging reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committees have completed and submitted their objectives for the Area Plan Update. Director Pullen thanked each of the commissioners for their work. • The Fiscal Year 2014-15 Area Plan Update and Aging Action Initiative will be presented at the April 10th General meeting. • All are encouraged to apply for candidacy as a CSL representative. Closing date for applications is Friday March 21, 2014. Commissioners will vote next month. • Marianne Gontarz-York has joined the COA representing District 5. Director Pullen introduced her to the group and welcomed her to the commission. <p>Commission Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bedinger (District 2); Worked with Chair Monson on an article regarding caregiving that will be in upcoming Great Age Newsletter. • Bortel (CSL and City of Tiburon); Tiburon honored Merve Field (93 years old) at Tiburon Town Hall. Recommended the websites: politico.com for national issues; calbuzz.com for California specific politics. • Brilliant (City of Mill Valley); Went to disaster coalition meeting which discussed the reorganization of the Red Cross; will keep commission posted about volunteer trainings, etc. • Dowling (City of Ross); Thanked Chair Monson and Aging and Adult Services' Program Manager Ana Bagtas for the Commission on Aging's achievement summary. This will be a useful tool to help the commission report back to their appointing bodies. • Gertler: Hosted a Senior Access event last week at her home. Speaker reported on European best practices in dealing with dementia: take people out of the house, mix with the communities, special buildings in a community where they spend the day, then bring them home in the evening—as opposed to herewhere people are isolated from their communities. Will let the commissioners know 	

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<p>about upcoming meetings. Bedinger will talk with Gertler about inviting the speaker to speak at a Health and Nutrition sponsored COA meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kemp (District 1); Will speak to Marin retired employees in April regarding what the COA does. • Robbins (District 4); Recently moved to a retirement community; none of the community members have heard of the COA. COA needs more awareness promotion. Possible topic for retreat. • Smith (District 3); City of Sausalito has submitted its application to the WHO for the designation of “Age Friendly City.” They will know if their application has been accepted by May. Smith spoke with three religious congregations about shifting demographics and needs. In the past, these congregations would support seniors, now the majority of the congregations are seniors. • Timms (City of Fairfax): Emailed Fairfax town clerk about putting link to Great Age on the Fairfax website. A low-vision group is hosted at the Redwoods. Persons expressed experiences of ageism and the need for public education around white canes with red tips (indicating low vision). Asked the commission to support more awareness for people within low vision and what tools they use. • Gontarz-York: (District 5); Helped to design protocols for at-risk elders during a disaster situation and training for volunteers to help at risk elders in the community. • Turner (District 3); Spoke to Marin City Seniors regarding distribution of Great Age (the majority preferred it to be mailed) and presented information regarding the Health Aging Symposium. <p>Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 12:11p.m.</p> <p>The next meeting is Thursday, April 10, 2014 at San Rafael Community Center.</p>	