

COMMITTEE: EXECUTIVE	NOVEMBER 17, 2014	LOCATION: 10 NORTH SAN PEDRO ROAD, RM 1012
PRESENT: Teri Dowling, Jim Monson, Lee Pullen, Ellie Bloch, Sybil Boutilier, Allan Bortel		
EXCUSED: Jody Timms, Chris Asimos, Salamah Locks ABSENT:		
RECORDER: Gary Lara		
Next Meeting: 10 N. San Pedro Rd., Conference Room 1012 - Monday, January 26, 2015		

MINUTES SUMMARY	ACTION TAKEN/RESPONSIBLE PARTY
<p><u>Agenda</u></p> <p>Chair Monson called the meeting to order at 1:01p.m. The agenda was approved as written.</p> <p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p>The September 22, 2014 minutes were approved as written.</p> <p><u>Public Comment</u></p> <p>None</p> <p><u>Chair's Report</u></p> <p>Monson discussed the following items:</p>	

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Monson received a request from District 5 Commissioner Marianne Gontarz-York in regard to the February 12, 2015 General Commission meeting at the Marin Mobile Valley Country Club. Commissioner Gontarz-York felt there would be better attendance if the topic for February was switched with the topic for the March 12, 2015 meeting. The proposed change would be to have Fall Prevention discussed at the February meeting and the Ombudsman update presented in March. There will be a discussion with Ombudsman manager Ana Bagtas to initiate this change. Once finalized, Program Coordinator Amy Dietz will be informed so the meeting calendar for the next issue of Great Age is accurate.

Director’s Report

Area Agency on Aging Director Lee Pullen updated the executives about the Aging Action Initiative (AAI) and informed them the first convening of the workgroups will take place at the Embassy Suites Hotel in San Rafael on Tuesday, November 18th in the Santa Rosa Ballroom. It was noted attendance is at capacity with 63 participants. Board of Supervisors President Kathrin Sears is scheduled to speak at the beginning of the meeting.

A summary of the commissioner retreat prepared by consultant Ned Schaub was distributed. Feedback was given under discussion item #2.

Action Item:

None

Discussion Items:

1) Marin Community Foundation Strategic Plan and Funding:

Area Agency on Aging Director Lee Pullen stated he had a good conversation with Shirin Vakharia, Program Director for Community Health and Successful Aging at the Marin Community Foundation (MCF). There is currently research taking place in order to develop a 5th workgroup under the Aging Action Initiative project that will focus on the eligibility gap. Pullen stated Shirin offered to come and speak to the commission about MCF’s

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upcoming strategic plan.

The MCF plan for the current year totals \$900,000 in funding for various projects. Although the plan is not yet available, we can expect to see emphasis on nutrition, the eligibility gap and green and healthy housing.

The Executive Committee agreed they would modify the agenda for the January 8, 2015 General meeting at the Redwoods in order for this update to be presented from 11:00am to 11:15am.

2) Retreat Follow-up:

The Executive Committee reviewed the report prepared by consultant Ned Schaub. Chair Monson would like to move forward with implementation of the items noted on page 4 entitled “Hopes for the Work Going Forward, Articulated at the End of the Session” by soliciting feedback from the full commission at the meeting of December 11th.

The Executive Committee was in agreement that item #3, “education and exposure to policy formulation” is already implemented. Commissioner Dowling seconded the thought about receiving feedback from the full commission. Dowling also was in favor of item #10, “getting the word out to the community on resources that the commission brings” and also emphasized the “uniqueness” of Marin.

The executives also favored the idea of previous commissioners working as mentors for new commission members since there is a wealth of knowledge to be shared and learned; e.g. engaging talents thru mentorship. Commissioner Sybil Boutilier stated the Commission on Aging is a model that is very different from other reporting bodies. Boutilier further stated that our advisory council has a unique engagement with accomplishments out in the community versus other cities and counties. Commissioner Ellie Bloch stated there is still a section of the older adult population in denial about needing assistance.

Other ideas expressed were having more information about available resources, intergenerational projects and more opportunities for commissioners to work together.

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Monson commented the current Editorial Board set up may not meet the goals and objectives that were previously accomplished by the Public Information Committee. Commission Bortel noted that a television show was coordinated by previous program coordinator Annette Balter (previously Annette Gent) with Marin Community Television.

Pullen would like to do media relations around the Aging Action Initiative. Before embarking on this outreach, we will need to pull back and determine what the overall public relations strategy is and work on development. There also needs to be action for aging in general and involvement from commission members that have a background in public relations. We need to ask ourselves, “What message do we want to express and how do we want to frame it?” Partnership is needed within all our organizations. Dowling stated we should have an internal working group that looks at public information by county, community and partners.

Commissioner Boutilier stated that the new Information and Assistance should be a part of this and to open up this topic at the next meeting for people to express interest and ideas. We should have a business session to go over themes.

Commissioner Dowling would like to have an open discussion about the retreat goals and how to address items. The Executives agreed that a summary of highlights from consultant Ned Schaub’s findings will be put together by Aging and Adult Services’ staff and distributed to the full commission and the former commissioners that attended the retreat. The photo of the commission members will be included in this proposed summary noting the themes that emerged.

Committee Reports

- **Health and Nutrition:** Commissioner Asimos was unable to attend today’s meeting due to a previous commitment. Their next meeting is Thursday, November 20th.
- **Housing and Transportation:** Commissioner Bortel noted their next meeting date is not until January 21, 2015.

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Bortel debriefed on his recent visit to the railroad supporters in Sacramento. A speaker was present from Governor Brown’s office. In regard to funding for the high speed rail project, Marin may be qualified for “Smart” funding to have a rail line from San Rafael to Larkspur.

Chair Monson inquired about the status of the advocacy letter in support of the Whistlestop transportation project. Bortel noted he is ready to write the letter of support once Executive Director of Whistlestop Joe O’ Hehir has a design review in February 2015.

- **Legislative Task Force:** Commissioner Bloch noted they are in an “interim” moment and that there are no new updates. Commissioner Boutilier will send updates from the CSL to program coordinator Michele McCabe for distribution. At a recent meeting with Jared Huffman’s office, there was a review of policy issues at the Federal level. The argument to put forward reauthorization of the Older Americans Act is still on the table.

Director Pullen noted he will be meeting with Stephanie Moulton-Peters, Mayor of Mill Valley, who has expressed an interest in healthy eating and safe routes for seniors. Pullen will also be meeting with District 4 Commissioner Ralph Marchese who is interested in promoting age-friendly awareness and has been suggested as a good candidate for the Legislative Task Force.

- **Planning Committee:** Commissioner Boutilier did not report on behalf of Commissioner Timms since they have not met recently. Their next meeting date is currently being set by program coordinator Amy Dietz.

New Business

None.

The meeting adjourned at 2:22 p.m. The next meeting is Monday, January 26, 2015.