

COMMITTEE: EXECUTIVE	SEPTEMBER 22, 2014	LOCATION: 10 NORTH SAN PEDRO ROAD, RM 1012
PRESENT: Teri Dowling, Jim Monson, Lee Pullen, Salamah Locks, Ellie Bloch, Sybil Boutilier, Chris Asimos, Allan Bortel		
EXCUSED: Jody Timms ABSENT:		
RECORDER: Gary Lara		
Next Meeting: 10 N. San Pedro Rd., Conference Room 1012 - Monday, November 17, 2014		

MINUTES SUMMARY	ACTION TAKEN/RESPONSIBLE PARTY
<p><u>Agenda</u></p> <p>Chair Monson called the meeting to order at 1:11p.m. The agenda was approved as written.</p> <p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p>The June 23, 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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Chair Monson missed the recent Great Age Editorial Board meeting due to some unforeseen circumstances; however, the other task force members were able to lay the ground work for the next issue of the newsletter which will be the winter edition.

Monson was also unable to attend the orientation for new commissioners on Thursday, September 18 for the reason noted above. Housing and Transportation Chair Allan Bortel was able to attend on behalf of Monson.

A draft of the Commission on Aging’s accomplishments from fiscal year 2013-14 is in the works. Commissioners Dowling and Monson will be reaching out to the full commission for ideas for the current fiscal year’s objectives and goals. One area of focus will be communication with appointing bodies and the public.

In regard to commission goals and objectives, Commissioner Bloch stated the following topics should be addressed in the work of the commission, specifically to articles written for the Great Age: Digestion and digestive related issues; medicine and how it affects an individual; housing issues related to rent increases.

Action Item:

None

Discussion Items:

Retreat Update:

Lee Pullen, Director of the Area Agency on Aging, gave the following report.

The planning staff includes co-chairs Sybil Boutilier and Marianne Gontarz-York. Additional members are Vera Gertler, Ellie Bloch, Lee Pullen and Gary Lara. The date for the retreat is Thursday, October 2nd from 8:45a.m. to 12:00p.m. with lunch served for the commissioners. The venue is the Unitarian Universalist Congregation located at 240 Channing Way in San Rafael. A save the date reminder for the event was sent to the commission earlier today.

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Facilitator Ned Schaub will oversee the retreat to help move along the conversation in order to keep the focus centered on the discussion topics about commissioners’ expertise and why they choose to serve as a commissioner. Aging and Adult Services’ staff will issue a public notice for this event in order to keep with the regulations of the Brown Act.

Grand Jury Response:

Chair Monson stated he felt the report was accurate and that it was unfortunate the Grand Jury did not have a positive experience with the Information and Assistance unit.

Copies of the recent response to the Marin Civil Grand Jury Report: “Aging in Marin – What’s the Plan?” were distributed recently to the full commission. Area Agency on Aging Director Lee Pullen explained the process for the review and response. Pullen stated that the written response is not the place to elaborate on discussion and planning; rather the purpose is to answer questions as a matter of fact, either agreeing, partially disagreeing or wholly disagreeing. Then the duty of the Agency, Commission and others is to move forward with findings and recommendations as warranted. The response report was on the August 19, 2014 Board of Supervisors agenda. The Board heard this item directly from the County Administrator and voted to accept the report. Aging and Adult Services’ staff were not solicited for comment on the item during the Board hearing.

Commissioner Boutilier suggested getting on the Board agenda at an upcoming meeting to inform them on the broader work of the commission;

Monson stated he and District 4 representative Ralph Marchese met with Supervisor Steve Kinsey recently and confirmed they were in agreement with Director Pullen and H & HS responses and that there should be a cooperative effort moving forward. There should be a “champion” from the Board of Supervisors to work with the commission. Monson also went on to state that planning is different in the eyes of the Board of Supervisors and there is no long term financial plan. There is no five year plan as a business would have at the local level.

Pullen suggested each Board appointed commissioner meet with their District representative a least 3 or 4 times per year. In addition, there will be a progress report provided to the Board regarding the Aging Action Initiative

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after the first three or four months of work. Commissioner Dowling suggested having the commission present during this update.

Committee Reports

- **Health and Nutrition:** Commissioner Asimos reported the committee is moving along with their objectives for the fiscal year. The last meeting featured speaker Teresa Tooker who spoke on end of life issues. Additional speakers will be planned for upcoming meetings. Commissioner Bortel suggested education on hospice from a member of the Neptune Society.

The committee is in the process of selecting literature to distribute at the Sr. Fair in October.

Chair Asimos will write an article for the winter edition of Great Age. Carol Zeller will have an article in the spring 2015 newsletter.

Monson asked Commissioner Asimos to comment on the Mental Health Prop 63 Act. Asimos suggested Health and Human Services have a mobile unit program with individuals out in the community providing outreach to older adults dealing with issues of mental health.

Monson also pushed for follow-up in regard to the meeting that took place earlier in the year with Mental Health and Substance Abuse Director Dr. Suzanne Tavano. Director Pullen suggested that Dr. Larry Meredith from Health and Human Services should be present in this upcoming meeting to keep him informed of the issues. It was agreed that Aging and Adults would move forward with initiating this meeting.

- **Housing and Transportation:** Commissioner Bortel stated the committee hasn't met recently and their next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 15th. The committee continues to be actively involved with the work of the Marin Villages and the age-friendly cities initiatives within the various towns to become World Health Organization (WHO) designated.

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There will be a new coalition to educate the public about affordable housing for seniors. The wait list for independent units at the Redwoods is seven years.

- **Legislative Task Force:** Commissioner Bloch recently distributed the latest legislative update through Program Coordinator, Michele McCabe. There will be more information available next month. The next CSL meeting will take place at the end of October. Bloch also commented that Governor Brown has been vetoing a lot of bills in general.
- **Planning Committee:** Commissioner Boutilier reported on behalf of Commissioner Timms. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 5th. The committee recently reviewed the caregiver survey and will be using this information to formulate the topic for the General Commission meeting in January 2015.

New Business

Chair Monson inquired about the status of the results being tabulated for the Healthy Aging Symposium in May 2014. Aging and Adult Services' staff informed the committee the results were being processed through volunteers overseen by Program Coordinator Amy Dietz and will be available soon.

Commissioner Bortel suggested carpooling to the Dance Palace for the General meeting on October 9th.

Several commissioners had a conflict with the next Exective Committee meeting date of October 27th. The meeting date was approved to be changed to Monday, November 17th.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m. The next meeting is Monday, November 17, 2014