

COMMITTEE: EXECUTIVE	JUNE 26, 2017	LOCATION: 10 NORTH SAN PEDRO ROAD, RM 1018
<p>PRESENT: Teri Dowling, Ellie Bloch, Salamah Locks, Ralph Marchese, Marianne York, Lee Pullen, Jim Monson PUBLIC: Linda Jackson</p>		
<p>EXCUSED: Jody Timms, Chris Asimos, Sybil Boutilier ABSENT:</p>		
<p>RECORDER: Gary Lara</p>		
<p>Next Meeting: 10 N. San Pedro Rd., Conference Room 1018 - Monday, July 24, 2017</p>		

MINUTES SUMMARY	ACTION TAKEN/RESPONSIBLE PARTY
<p><u>Agenda</u></p> <p>Chair Dowling called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Quorum established. The agenda was approved as written after noting a discussion involving the roles and responsibilities between Aging Staff and the Commission will take place after the new Chairs have been assigned to their roles for the next fiscal year.</p> <p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p>The May 22, 2017 minutes were approved as written.</p>	

MINUTES SUMMARY

**ACTION
TAKEN/RESPONSIBLE
PARTY**

Public Comment

None

Chair's Report:

Chair Dowling reported the following:

Chair Dowling attended the Health and Human Services Strategic Plan Stakeholder's meeting last Friday at Homeward Bound of Marin. Present to discuss the concerns of older adults were Chair Dowling, Commissioners Salamah Locks and Marianne York, Joe O'Hehir (Whistlestop CEO) and Linda Jackson (Aging Action Initiative Program Director).

The purpose of this meeting was to look at the relationship between the community at large and Marin County Health and Human Services. About 40 people from various organizations attended. The attendees broke out into five smaller groups in order to have a more in depth discussion about policy and direction. The topics were: undocumented immigrants, low-income residents, homelessness, people of color and older adults. Afterwards, the group met with "at risk" groups to discuss food insecurity, mental and behavioral health and access to services. People were very active and outspoken in their different break out groups. Dowling felt the voice for older adults was well represented at this meeting. A report will be available in the fall.

The Executive Committee made the following comments:

Locks: as far as stakeholders, we (Commission on Aging) are known throughout the County as stakeholders.

Dowling felt the email sent to Grant Colfax helped the Commission's goal of having the needs of older

MINUTES SUMMARY

**ACTION
TAKEN/RESPONSIBLE
PARTY**

adults represented at the table during the stakeholder’s meeting.

York noted that although Dr. Suzanne Tavano was not present at the stakeholder’s meeting, some good discussion points were made with Dr. Matt Willis. York learned a lot of providers have to double and triple bill. York also received support for sensitivity training. It was a bit disheartening to learn that everyone who is declared “5150” has to be handcuffed.

Linda Jackson, AAI Program Director and member of the public noted the focus group was very client centered. Jackson distributed focus group notes and a PowerPoint presentation for the executives to review. It was noted the housing group was very small although there were lots of ideas expressed about what we can do. Jackson counted 39 individuals (representing 26 individual groups) attending the stakeholder’s meeting and noted a good number of the 39 attendees were HHS staff.

Marchese asked if a deep need for housing was expressed at the agency level.

Dowling responded by noting we will have to wait and see what the report looks like when it is distributed. Dr. Colfax knows he will be invited to speak to the Commission when the report is ready.

Bloch asked where are we going as far dealing with aging issues in the County.

Jackson noted the interal plan of changing HHS starts by being intentional. How does the county do its work in a collaborative way?

Marchese noted the commission is the right entity. There is a need for aging services to be married to housing. It is difficult to have it assigned to any one particular. How do we get to where we need to be?

Pullen noted to coalesce them together but cautioned not to be so good in our area that we’re not isolated from everything else.

MINUTES SUMMARY

**ACTION
TAKEN/RESPONSIBLE
PARTY**

York noted Supervisor Judy Arnold needs key talking points about mental health.

Dowling noted that we're addressing the needs together but there may still be questions on how to go about the process.

Director's Report:

Director Pullen reported the following:

Thanked everyone who participated in the World Elder Abuse and Awareness Day event that was held on Thursday, June 15th at Temple Rodef Sholom.

Noted the recruitment for a new Aging Program Manager to replace Ana Bagtas is underway. The hiring process with Human Resources will take between four to six months.

An orientation for new commissioners was held on Thursday, June 15th. Participants were Commissioners Hagerty, Kwentus and McDonald. Commissioner López was unable to participate.

Locks inquired about the availability of the feedback for the Healthy Aging Symposium event last May. Pullen noted the results should be available by the end of August.

Action Item:

1. Adopt Policy: Public Information and Media Policy:

York noted Ad Hoc Committee member Cicily Emerson provided the media policy currently in place with another HHS Department in order to modify the language for use by the Commission on Aging. The Ad Hoc revised verbiage where appropriate and is requesting adoption of the

MINUTES SUMMARY

**ACTION
TAKEN/RESPONSIBLE
PARTY**

policy for use by the Commission.

After further discussion and review of the policy, the executives made the following edits:

1. The three occurrences of the word “positive” will be stricken from page 1.
2. Top of page 2, the word “committee” will be revised to “commission.”

Marchese noted the Executive Committee should articulate the policy and the need for a broader group of messengers (designees) but stressed that the message be consistent. Marchese didn’t see the current policy as empowering the community.

Jackson felt it would be good to keep the basic structure of the policy.

Locks expressed concern over the edits and the need for further review, possibly with the full commission before approving the policy.

Pullen noted a delay in approving the policy would mean the Commission would not see it until the September meeting.

York noted this is just the beginning. Once we have agreed, we can have a discussion at the main commission meeting. York further stated that talking points will be developed for every committee.

Dowling noted the executives have a decision to make today about approval of this policy.

Bloch made a motion to approve the policy as a “living document,” York seconded followed by Marchese. The executives approved the policy. No one abstained from the vote.

MINUTES SUMMARY

**ACTION
TAKEN/RESPONSIBLE
PARTY**

2. California Commission on Aging Meeting Topics:

Pullen reviewed the draft agenda for the California Commission on Aging (CCOA) meeting on September 7th and 8th 2017. Pullen provided a brief overview of the CCOA and noted their last meeting in Marin was 15 years ago. Pullen also noted this is an opportunity for the Commission on Aging (COA) to let the CCOA know what we are struggling with in Marin also plans to invite Board of Supervisors District 3 representative Kate Sears. The CCOA will visit Whistlestop’s Jackson Café while the business meeting for the COA takes place at Embassy Suites in San Rafael. Lunch will follow. The Commission on Aging will need to give input on the following items:

Page 2, section X: “Determine 2-4 Commissioners that could give short remarks on the Commission, general activities, their preceptions of needs in Marin etc.” The time allotted for this section is from 10:15 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Page 2, section XI: “Identify 3-4 presenters to speak about age-friendly cities and the potential for expansion to full County-wide; Transportation Initiatives; Housing.” These three topics tie to CCOA priority issues for 2017-19.

Dowling noted that Pullen is asking for a group to help plan the the agenda. Commissioners Bloch, Marchese and Locks agreed to participate. Pullen hopes to have the planning meeting within the next couple of weeks.

Discussion Items:

1. Future Marin Community Foundation Update to Commission:

Pullen noted Shirin Vakharia, Director of Health and Aging at the Marin Community Foundation

MINUTES SUMMARY

**ACTION
TAKEN/RESPONSIBLE
PARTY**

offered to provide a 10-15 minute update at a commission meeting. Dowling noted the update would be kept as part of the business meeting which would not interfere with the committee planning the presentation. Pullen suggested November 2nd or December 6th as possible dates. It was also noted that the Marin Community Foundation may be a good meeting site.

Bloch noted she is still confirming the Legislative speaker for the December 6th meeting. Monson will ask Supervisor Dennis Rodini from District 4 to attend.

2. Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Report:

York noted the MHSA report has finally been released. A public hearing will take place at the Mental Health Board meeting on Tuesday, July 11th at 6:00 p.m. at 20 N. San Pedro Rd in the Point Reyes Conference Room.

York noted the annual update didn't contain substantial changes and wants engagement. Due to this fact, York will write a statement to inform the MHSA Board the Commission is not happy with the plan update. York suggested Health and Nutrition Chair Chris Asimos as the appropriate person to read the statement when Dr. Suzanne Tavano is present. The verbiage will be drafted by York. York announced that after the statement was read, people in agreement would be asked to stand up and then leave the meeting.

Locks noted the full commission would be notified at the next General meeting on July 7th of the public hearing and will encourage commissioners to attend the July 11th public hearing.

Public comment is being accepted on the MHSA website for the timeframe of June 8th thru July 9th at the following url: <https://www.marinhhs.org/content/mental-health-services-act-mhsa>.

Pullen suggested one or two Commissioners review the statement drafted by York. Dowling and York will have the statement ready in order to be reviewed by the full commission at their

MINUTES SUMMARY

**ACTION
TAKEN/RESPONSIBLE
PARTY**

next meeting. This will be an agenda item for the July 7th General meeting.

Committee Reports

- **Planning:** Commissioner Boutilier was out of town and unable to attend today’s meeting. The next meeting of the committee is Tuesday, July 18th.
- **Health and Nutrition:** Commissioner Asimos was unable to attend today’s meeting due to a previous commitment. Locks did not have a report. The next meeting date of the committee is TBD.
- **Housing and Transportation:** Commissioner Marchese noted there was nothing new to report. The next meeting of the committee is Wednesday, July 19th.
- **Legislative Task Force:** Commissioner Bloch noted the CSL money previously left over has not entirely been spent. Bloch will have a report next week on what’s going thru legislation and noted the Ombudsman program is in need of funding.
- **Ad Hoc Communications/Task Force:** York noted the report of the task force’s activities for the past six months is due to the Executive Committee on September 25th. The task force will be known as the Public Information and Engagement Committee (PIE). York will be speaking to members of the Editorial Board offline to discuss folding the task force into the Editorial Board. York remains a strong proponent of having talking points for press releases and stressed consistent messaging.

New Business/Other:

Marchese would like to take a look at advocacy from the engagement sense. Since the content comes from the community, how do we address advocacy in the political sense and how do we as a

MINUTES SUMMARY

**ACTION
TAKEN/RESPONSIBLE
PARTY**

Commission engage at a higher level? Marchese noted continuity is important as the Commission continues to shape their mission further. Advocacy requires organization and bodies. Dowling noted she is happy to play an advocacy role.

In closing, Dowling handed off the gavel to Commissioner Locks who will become the new Chair as of July 1st.

The meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.m. The next meeting is Monday, July 24, 2017 from 10:30 a.m. - noon.