

COMMITTEE: GENERAL	DATE: SEPTEMBER 5, 2019	LOCATION: ALBERT J. BORO COMMUNITY CENTER
<p>PRESENT: Bloch, Bortel, Boutilier, Brilliant, Dowling, Etemovic, Gunn, Hagerty, Kwentus, Lamorte, Locks, López, Marchese, Saffran, Silverman, Timms, Weingarten, Zeller</p>		
<p>EXCUSED: Asimos, Bradley, Turner</p>		
<p>VACANT: City of Novato, District 2</p>		
<p>RECORDER: Mandy Reyes</p>		
<p>NEXT MEETING: Thursday, October 3, 2019, Marguerita C. Johnson Senior Center</p>		

MINUTE SUMMARY	ACTION TAKEN/RESPONSIBLE PARTY
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<p>Call to Order Chair Marchese called the meeting to order at 11:26 a.m.</p> <p>Approval of Agenda The agenda of September 5, 2019 was approved as written.</p> <p>Approval of the Minutes The minutes of July 11, 2019 were approved as written.</p>	
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Open Time for Public Expression:

Dowling on behalf of Linda Jackson, Aging Action Initiative (AAI), as a member of the public:

- Inform and Connect academies are scheduled for October 15 and November 12. These workshops are open to anyone who wants to know more about local resources for older adults in Marin.
- AAI and Commission on Aging (COA) are collaborating with the Housing and Transportation Committee on a JADU Expo at the Senior Fair on Oct. 23. Thanks to Commissioners Allan Bortel and Michael Hagerty for their help on this.
- The AAI has a component called The Advocacy Alliance which will be taking more proactive efforts on behalf of older adults in the county. Stay tuned for a candidate's forum coming up. A meeting is being scheduled with the new Health and Human Services Director Benita McLarin. They will also be meeting with the fire chief and other key people around older adults and fire protection in Marin County.
- Please stay involved in the advocacy for older adults and Mental Health Services Act. There will be an older adult focused Behavioral Health Community Planning meeting at Whistlestop on October 24 from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Please attend.

Stephanie Robinson, New Program Director at Whistlestop:

- Introduced herself and gave her background

Chair's Report:

Chair Marchese reported on the following:

- Planning for Sept. 6 retreat is finished and will be reviewed this evening for final touches. The retreat consultant that the planning committee worked with will follow up after the retreat with a report on the deliberations and decisions made at the retreat.
- The selection for new committee chairs will be taken under review after the retreat.
- All ideas from retreat will be vetted and taken into consideration.

**All COA
commissioners**

- Marin Civil Grand Jury Opportunity – there is a window of time for the grand jury to select one of the COA’s topics. This window has begun and starts at the beginning of the fiscal year. Please be thinking of topics.
- A new alliance is forming and has to do with aligning the commission’s advocacy. More to come.

Vice Chair’s Report:

Chair López reported on the following:

- Written reports will be created and submitted before the COA meeting. Please give reports to staff 5 business days before the meeting.
- López met with the College of Marin. She will be attending their meeting on Sept. 11 and talking about what the Commission does.

Secretary Kwentus reported on the following:

- Thanked everyone for filling out surveys which helped plan the retreat.
- Retreat specific details: Everyone is invited. It’s starts at 9:30 a.m. at Aqua Hotel in Mill Valley. Come with an appetite, brains and ready to have a good time and get work accomplished. Retreat ends at 3 p.m.

Census 2020: Stephanie McNally, Advocacy and Policy Manager, Canal Alliance

- On July 9, the Board of Supervisors (BOS) selected Canal Alliance as the lead agency for the 2020 Census outreach. Stephanie is the project lead. They are partnering with Community Action Marin on the project and building coalitions at non-profit organizations as they request additional funding for census outreach and activity over the coming months.
- Three items regarding Census 2020:
 1. Why it matters to older adults in Marin County? - Marin County is aging rapidly. This is an opportunity to get an accurate count of the county including ages. The State of California estimates that for each person missed in the count, federal funding will be reduced by \$1000 per person, per year. The data also ensures that we have enough housing care facilities and healthcare workers over the next 10 years for Marin’s aging populations.
 2. Progress to date – Complete Count Committee and subcommittees have been formed and are meeting regularly to develop outreach strategies to account for those historically

undercounted groups. An implementation plan is due at the end of October. Marin County received \$100,000 from the state. The Marin Community Foundation and the County of Marin each added \$50,000 for a total of \$200,000. It's not enough. Recent grants received have added \$155,000.

3. Actions to take to support outreach – visit county census website at www.marincensus2020.org. Join the pledge campaign to be a trusted messenger and/or participate in the census. Join a regional Complete Count subcommittee to help get an accurate count of older adults in Marin. Come to census forum is coming up on Thursday, Sept. 19 from 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at the Marin County BOS Chambers.

- There will be no citizenship questions on the census.
- Stephanie will be a speaker at the next COA meeting on Oct. 3 for a longer presentation.

Commissioner Locks is a member of the Complete Count Committee. One focus for this committee has been to identify 5 areas of the county that are traditionally hard to count areas. The opportunity for commissioners to take action as individuals in the process is big and wonderful. Please take action.

Committee Reports:

Health and Nutrition (Zeller on behalf of Asimos):

- Encouraging attendance of the Older Adult Behavioral Health Community Plan on Thursday, Oct. 24 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Whistlestop
- How to avoid falling and how to fall safely - Corte Madera Community Center on Sept. 18, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Housing and Transportation (Bortel):

- Commissioner Locks will pass around a sign-up sheet to man the booth at the Senior Fair on October 23.
- Moving Options for Seniors is the title of the November COA meeting forum.
- Next meeting is Sept. 18 from 1p.m. - 3p.m. at 20 NSP, Pt. Reyes Room.

Legislative:

(Co-Chair Bloch):

- Tally of SF most vulnerable was at 4,000 homeless

- Care homes in SF are closing
- SB 5 is important and will affect property taxes
- Chiu's bill regarding unfair evictions has moved forward
- Most other housing bills the Leg committee has been looking at have gone away or on a two-year plan

(Co-Chair Boutilier):

- Master Plan on Aging is moving forward
- There is a Master Plan on Aging meeting on Sept. 20, 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. in San Francisco at the Hyatt Regency that the public can attend and it is free. You can register [here](#).

Planning (Brilliant):

- Needs assessment survey is 90% done
- Next meeting is not currently scheduled

Age-Friendly Update (Timms as Member of the Public):

- Age-Friendly has a new facilitator from Novato
- AARP has round table coming up
- All task forces in each town need volunteers
- Next meeting is Tuesday, Sept. 17 at 1:30 PM

Ageing and Adult Services Report (Pullen):

- Novato has not appointed a member yet, they will be doing that this month
- Introduced Chua Chau as new Program Manager of APS/IHSS

New Business:

- Presentation from the Spahr Center: Dana Van Gorder, Executive Director and Nancy Flaxman, MSW, LGBT Senior Program Coordinator
 - Senior program consists of primarily of a set of discussion groups that are very well attended. One in Novato and one in Corte Madera and everyone is welcome to encourage those who might benefit to participate.
 - They operate a significant number of social activities for older adults throughout the county.

- On HIV side, Spahr Center is the primary provider of benefits advocacy, case management and social services to keep people with HIV healthy and to prevent new infections.
- The Spahr Center has been happy to be warmly received by the Commission on Aging to help strengthen the surveys in the county. They look forward to an ongoing relationship.
- LGBT seniors are more likely to experience mental health issues and isolation as well as poverty.
- Many come from experiences of profound discrimination and rejection and so they are less likely to seek care.
- The Spahr Center will be working with AAI and the help of the commission to develop Inform and Connect trainings throughout the county.
- The Spahr Center is hoping to develop some focused trainings with nursing homes and assisted living facilities to make sure that LGBT seniors feel as though they can be out.

Commissioner Updates:

Chair Marchese noted that in the interest of time, only vital updates will be taken.

Hagerty (District 5):

- Is back from minor heart surgery and had no symptoms at all. He was lucky to have asked for a stress test. He recommends taking this test.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 12:32 p.m.

The next meeting will be on October 3, 2019 at Marguerita C. Johnson Senior Center, 640 Drake Ave, Marin City