

COMMITTEE: GENERAL	DATE: OCTOBER 1, 2020	LOCATION: TELECONFERENCE
PRESENT: Asimos, Bortel, Barry, Boutilier, Brandon, Brilliant, Brinkmann, Dowling, Etemovic, Gunn, Lamorte, Locks, López, Marchese, Nuessle, Silverman, Timms, Weingarten		
EXCUSED: Bradley, Hanan Friedman, Saffran, Vreeland Long		
VACANT: Town of Corte Madera		
RECORDER: Mandy Reyes		
NEXT MEETING: Thursday, November 5, 2020, Zoom Teleconference		

MINUTE SUMMARY	ACTION TAKEN/ RESPONSIBLE PARTY
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<p>Call to Order Chair Marchese called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.</p> <p>Approval of Agenda The agenda of October 1, 2020 was approved as written.</p> <p>Approval of the Minutes The minutes of September 3, 2020 were approved as amended.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The correct statement by Chair Marchese should say 84% (not 94%) of Covid19 deaths are facility deaths in Marin County. <p>Open Time for Public Expression on Matters not on the Agenda: None</p>	
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Chair/Vice Chair/Secretary Reports:

Chair Marchese reported on the following:

- Telehealth has risen as an important item in Marin Community Clinics. It will be discussed if any commissioners want to get involved with this.
- It will be decided in January whether to have the Senior Fair in October 2021. The Commission will need to decide on alternative formats to distribute information given many in-person events are no longer being held.
- Commission meetings are going to be more efficient and will allow everyone to have their voice heard.

Vice Chair López reported on the following:

- Attended a training for designing powerful online meetings which she highly recommends. Information will be in an amended report.
- California Department of Aging, Aging Matters – Surveyed 1,000 people. Isolation from family and friends has been the most challenging issue.

Secretary Gunn reported on the following:

None

Commissioner Updates (*representatives of the City and Town Jurisdictions*):

Boutilier (City of Sausalito):

- Boutilier gave a presentation to the Sausalito City Council on Sept. 8 about the Commission on Aging (COA). She used the Area Plan survey results slides.

Lamorte (City of San Anselmo):

- San Anselmo’s masked trees have been getting a lot of publicity. There’s a GoFundMe to purchase more masks.
- There is a new Senior Housing Project with 17 units in the process of being built. The units will go for market rate.

Timms (Town of Fairfax):

- Endorsements have been a big issue. It’s making people uncomfortable.

- The issue of trying to locate and support older, isolated adults has snowballed in terms of the amount of work that goes into it.
- Timms and Commissioner Nuessle had a productive meeting with the new Resident Service Coordinator at Victory Village.
- Fairfax is beginning to question the legal status/Brown Act of the Age Friendly task force and would like something more official from the group beyond just “task force.”

Brinkmann (CSL):

- The legislature is waiting for movement with the Master Plan for Aging. It will meet in October and hopefully there will be more to report.

Barry for Vreeland-Long (City of Novato):

- The Age-Friendly Novato website is being updated. A Face Book page will also be launched soon.
- Novato recently completed Hill Recreation Area sport complex.
- Oakmont Senior Home will open in Nov. 2020 offering assisted living and memory care.
- Homeward Bound of Marin is building Veteran Housing and an assisted living and memory care facility is also being built in the Hamilton area.
- Novato Sunrise Rotary will be donating Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to a few congregate facilities in the county.

Dowling (Town of Ross):

- The Town of Ross now has a team of three on age-friendly planning.
- The town also has a new park and recreation staff member.
- The clerk for the Town of Ross called Commissioner Dowling to ask her to talk to family members who live away from Ross about disaster preparedness and their older adult family members who live in Ross.

Brilliant (City of Mill Valley):

- Commissioner Brilliant encourages all to read the article she sent out on a syndemic as opposed to a pandemic.
- She has been working with the Mill Valley Rec Department to set up a community cooline, but the line has had limited response.

- Neighborhood Response Groups (NRGs) are active in Mill Valley. They are finding seniors in their homes without transportation or computers and helping them figure out what to do in case of fire or evacuation.
- Mill Valley has an equity committee. A part-time facilitator has been hired to support.
- Stephanie Moulton-Peters will assume her role as a county supervisor in January. She will be a great ally to the Commission.

Etemovic (District 4):

- If there is interest among the Health and Nutrition Committee or at the Commission, she suggests approaching Dr. O'Malley from the Coastal Health Alliance in West Marin to present on telehealth in rural communities.
- If there is an interest, she will approach the executive director for the Point Reyes National Seashore Association with the Point Reyes National Park to present on programming for older adults in COVID times.
- KQED website features a series called, "Older and Overlooked" that aired in August. Several episodes focused on older adults affected by fires as well as on emergency preparedness and response for older adults.

Committee/Reports & Chairs:

Health/Nutrition: Chrisula Asimos

- Three representatives from the Berkeley and East Bay Gray Panthers spoke at the last meeting about advocacy activities. They gave a brief history of this group's 30+ years of work. It is an active group again, focusing on the rights of residents in nursing homes as a primary focus. The speakers encouraged a chapter in Marin County.
- This committee will sponsor the November Commission meeting focused on mental health issues. Diana and Chris will put together a draft of ideas for the November meeting then formalize them at the Oct. 12 meeting.

Housing/Transportation: Suellen Lamorte for Allan Bortel:

- Last meeting was Sept. 23. We had update from Joanna Huitt - Marin Transit
- Victory Village has opened in Fairfax.
- Guest speaker was Micha Berman - Program Director at King Street Senior Housing in Larkspur who also oversees Homeward Bound's Fireside apartments in Mill Valley and Warner Creek apartments in Novato.

Legislative: Sybil Boutilier

- Carole Mills, Mike McGuire's Legislative Aide, will retire in January. She introduced her successor Abby Robbins.
- The Legislative Committee will have a special meeting on Fri., Oct. 2 to give updates to Marin County's Legislative Policy.
- Diana López will take on the chairmanship beginning November.
- Not many bills about COVID-19 or fires have been introduced.

Planning: Girija Brilliant

- The Planning Committee met Sept. 4 and crafted a statement for the Equity, Outreach and Advocacy Committee.

Equity, Outreach and Advocacy: Fred Silverman / Wendy Nuesle

- The committee met on Sept. 10. Two organizations attended the meeting: Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) and Juanita Edwards from the Marin City CSD.
- Discussed possible resolutions that the Commission might pass.
- Discussed the possibility of doing presentations and/or offering Commission members a chance to attend workshops similar to "Courageous Conversations."
- The committee will sponsor the January presentation for the Commission (topic to be discussed).
- The "tool kit" was discussed. It includes "elevator" speeches and really good tips on writing and speaking that Commissioner Weingarten put together.
- Next meeting: October 15th

Discussion/Reports:

Bylaws: Jean Gunn

- The Executive Committee has approved the Bylaws with two modifications. The final document will be included in packets for the November Commission meeting at which time a vote will be taken. Lee Pullen will then take the revisions to the Board of Supervisors to request its approval.

Ad-hoc Committee on Communications: Ralph Marchese

- The toolkits being developed are to improve the Commission's ability to reach out to town council members county supervisors. Editorial Board members are among additional audiences. In addition, mechanisms for communications will be reviewed to see where these can be improved.

Leadership Guidance: Jean Gunn

- Commissioner Gunn developed this document which she will send to all Commissioners. These guidelines are intended to help the Commission committees be more action oriented.

Proposal for Telehealth/Telemedicine Presentation: Ralph Marchese

- This proposal, including logistical issues, will be discussed at a subsequent Executive Committee.

Ageing Action Initiative (AAI) Update:

Linda Jackson/Teri Dowling as Members of the Public reported on the following:

- AAI Convening in September was 2 ½ days. From the evaluations, the most favorite session was the Master Plan for Aging.
- AAI is conducting [candidate's forums](#).

Ageing and Adult Services Report:

Amy Dietz for Lee Pullen, Director, Area Agency on Aging:

- Pleased that Sara Robinson will be starting as a full-time County employee in the age-friendly coordinator position on Mon., October 5. She has been working the last few weeks as a contractor.
- The next round of Area Agency on Aging (AAA) contracts starts Oct. 1. Expressed thanks to Commissioners who served on the Request for Proposal (RFP) review panels. Gary will send out a list of the contractors and their services after today's meeting. It will be a sheet with contractors' logos and the services each provide.
- Issuing RFPs for Senior Center Activities and the Dignity at Home Fall Prevention Program in mid-October. Services will start in January.
- Great Age:
 - Commissioners: Gary will assemble packets for distribution to sites as many have reopened. Please contact him if you would like the packet to be mailed to you, or it will be available at the front desk for pick up. The Great Age will come out in mid-November.

- Committees: By Oct. 23, Amy needs to know topics and speakers for the MMCOA meetings Nov-Mar.

New Business:

- Salamah Locks – Some city and town libraries are opening on a limited basis. She is going to find out more information.
- Ralph Marchese – there is potential for a Commission retreat. He will follow up with an attempt to narrow down a two-part date.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

The next meeting will be on November 5, 2020