COMMITTEE: GENERAL
DATE: JULY 1, 2021
LOCATION: TELECONFERENCE

PRESENT: Chris Asimos, Sylvia Barry, Allan Bortel, Girija Brilliant, Diana Bradley, Everett Brandon, Lisa Brinkmann, Teri Dowling, Jasmina Etemovic, Jean Gunn, Suellen Lamorte, Salamah Locks, Diana López, Wendy Nuessle, Fred Silverman, Jody Timms, Lauren Vreeland Long

ABSENT: Lisa Brinkmann, Julie Hanan Friedman, Judith Saffran, Ralph Marchese, Sybil Boutilier

VACANT: Town of Corte Madera, District 2

RECORER: Kari Bell (Marin County Area Agency on Aging)

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, September 2, 2021, Zoom Teleconference

MINUTE SUMMARY

Call to Order
Chair López called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m.

Approval of Agenda
- Commissioner Lamorte made a motion to approve the agenda as written.
- It was seconded by Commissioner Silverman.
- The motion carried 17-0.

Approval of the Minutes
- Commissioner Silverman made a motion to approve the minutes.
- Commissioner Nuessle seconded.
- Motion carried 17-0.

Open Time for Public Expression on Matters not on the Agenda:
Linda Jackson:
- Homeless Steering Committee meets July 15, and August 11.
- Demographic information needed about the homeless people being helped.
- Digital Marin Project.: Encouraged Commission to be aware of digital needs in their area.
Susan Windman:
- Training needed for dementia caregivers.
- Has a parent with dementia.
- Financial Elder Abuse is a problem.

Robert Newcomer:
- Commission candidate for District 2 lives in Larkspur introduced himself.

Lee Notowich:
- Commission candidate for District 2 lives in Ross introduced himself.

Aging and Adult Services Report:
Jenay Cottrell, Program Manager reported on the following in Director Lee Pullen’s absence:
- Additional funding will go to the nutrition program, but the amount is unknown.
- Adult Protective Services will receive $48,000 in funding for supportive services.
- The goal is to start congregate meals on site in October.
- Staff will be working on an RFP for a meal vendor in August. Outreach will be done at the congregate meal sites to see what their needs are for this program.
- Nutrition program contractor monitoring is complete.
- More monitoring of other contractors will be done in August and September.
- The Great Plates program is ending on July 9.
- National AAA conference will be giving an award to the Information and Assistance program for the internship program.
- Thanked commissioners López and Etemovic for their participation in the nutrition program monitoring.
- Sara Robinson has been working with Wildlife Prevention and Fire Wise for the Age Forward plan.
- There are 25 action items in the Age Forward plan in which County departments may be able to assist.

Discussion Item: Chair López Report:
- Structure of commission meetings.
  - Length of meeting.
  - Hybrid meeting format.
  - Location of hybrid in-person general meetings.
  - Vaccine policy may be needed.
  - A plan needs to be in place by September.
- Commissioner Bortel suggested the library in Tiburon as a location.
• Commissioner Etemovic suggested that Zoom makes the meetings more accessible to the public and for working commissioners.
• Commissioner Barry suggested a hybrid meeting at one centralized location, and each district hosting a meeting.

Selection of Nominating Committee for Fiscal Year 2021-22:
• Commissioners Girija Brilliant, Lisa Brinkmann, and Lauren Vreeland-Long have volunteered to join the nominating committee.

Chair/Vice Chair/Secretary Reports:
Chair Lopez reported on the following:
• Thanked Commissioner Gunn for her work as secretary, and with the telehealth webinar.
• Thanked Commissioner Marchese for his leadership, and hard work as chair during the pandemic.

Vice Chair Silverman reported on the following:
• Thanked the Commissioners for the vote.
• Vice-Chair Silverman reported that there will be a bylaws ad hoc committee to look at the structure of the commission meetings.

Secretary Barry reported on the following:
• Thanked the commissioners for their votes.
• Requested that relevant meeting and event schedules are sent, so a master calendar can be created.

Aging Action Initiative (AAI) Update: Teri Dowling/Linda Jackson
• In person annual convening on September 30 from 9:00 a.m-4p.m.
• AAI has requested more services for older adults.
• Requested demographic information for the homeless served.
• Tracking Digital Marin Project to meet the needs of older adults.
• Interested in a County wide forum on the Master Plan for Aging.
• Interested in crossover collaboration with commissioners to help with advocacy efforts.

Commissioner Updates (Commissioners appointed by the Board of Supervisors):
Commissioner Barry (District 1):
• Advocated for AAI and spoke with Supervisor Arnold and at the County Budget meeting to request demographic information for the homeless population.
• City of Novato celebrated Pride Month at City Hall and provided a pop-up vaccination clinic at the event.
• Margaret Todd Senior Center started in person classes, and other activities:
  o Gentle Yoga Classes
  o Concert on the Green
  o Ballroom, Swing, Salsa, and Tango dancing starting July 1.

Commissioner Gunn (District 1):
• Novato is seeking fast track approval for a large 272-unit, affordable housing building downtown.
  o Included in this plan is outdoor space.

Locks/López/Asimos (City of San Rafael/ District 1):
• Commissioner Locks reported Vivalon is starting a Healthy Aging Program on July 22.
• Salsa block party in San Rafael on July 1, from 5:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
• Chair López reported as of June 17, 98% of Marin residents 65 and over have received at least one vaccine dose. Latinx residents, who were among the hardest hit by the pandemic, have the highest vaccination rates within the county.
• Budget hearings began on June 21. Supervisor Connolly will work to align the budget with the community’s priorities.
• On June 8, the County passed an ordinance prohibiting residential evictions through September 30th in unincorporated Marin.
• ADUs and JADUs – 67 permitted in 2019 and 50 in 2020. Incentives to waive or reduce building permit fees by a maximum of $1,500/unit for JADUs, maximum of $2,500 for ADUs. Approve waiving and reducing fees for eligible ADUs that are rented under affordable housing parameters up to $10,000.
• Resilient Neighborhoods will be hosting a Climate Action Workshop Series to support community members in accessing local resources, helping you calculate your carbon footprint, and making a personalized climate action plan to help you make your household more resilient to droughts, wildfires, and power outages. The workshop is comprised of 5 meetings over ten weeks, the next series starts tonight, June 17 from 6:30 - 8:30 pm.
• Commissioner Asimos reported that she met with Fire Department about concerns with fire risks in neighborhood.
  o There is an evacuation sign that can be placed on the door during an emergency, so people will know that the house has been evacuated.

Jody Timms (Town of Fairfax):
Age-Friendly Update:
• Age Friendly Marin Network is now meeting just once a month, third Tuesdays, and no longer on the first Thursday of each month.
Age Friendly Marin Forum was held on June 23 on Finding Caregivers in Marin, 22 attendees; next Forum is July 28 on Living Together/Co-housing & Shared Housing Options.

Commissioner Etemovic (District 4):
- AT&T may remove the land lines in West Marin.
- Program for radios may have to be given to isolated seniors.
- Working with Sara Robinson from Age Forward Marin to create a collaborate committee to complete projects in West Marin.

Commissioner Brandon (District 3):
- Marin City did not receive the AARP grant.
- Marin City Community Center has opened with activities.
  - Calendar of classes include Bingo, Teatime, Zumba, intergenerational gardening, and computer classes.
  - Father’s Day Event with food and music was the first event since the pandemic.
  - Working with Sara Robinson on some Age Forward projects.

Committee/Reports & Chairs:
Health/Nutrition: Salama Locks
- An Audiologist will be at the next meeting in July.

Housing Transportation: Allan Bortel/Sylvia Barry
- Commissioner Barry reported on the transportation presentation in June.
- Meeting about the homeless with Co-Chair Silverman.

Legislative: Diana López
- Met on legislation that committee would like to support.
  - There are eight pieces of legislation the committee is reviewing.
- John Pointer Chair of CSL will do a presentation.

Planning: Girija Brilliant
- Possible presentation in October from the Fire Department regarding lessons learned.

Equity, Outreach and Advocacy: Fred Silverman/Wendy Nuessle.
- Commissioner Nuessle started an Advocacy sub-committee and the first meeting was on Monday, June 28.
- Commissioner Nuessle attended AAI Detect & Connect Dementia Training.
• Commissioner Nuessle met with the new program manager at Casa Buena in Corte Madera to deliver seven Welcome Packs to the residents over 60 years old living there.
• Attended the Fairfax Housing Element Meeting and attended the monthly Marin Age Friendly Network Meeting.
• The Equity Committee presentation/discussion with Sara Robinson regarding the Age-Forward plan took about half the meeting.
• Marin Youth Commission collaboration for a future presentation.
• Possible presentations by District Attorney Lori Frugoli, Canal Alliance CEO Omar Carrera, and Canal Alliance Director of Advocacy and Policy Stephanie McNally.
• Committee voted to have an August meeting.
• Next meeting will be July 15, speakers will be from the Canal Alliance.

California Senior Legislature (CSL): Allan Bortel Reported:
• A.B. 383 Mental Health for Seniors, which is a behavioral coordinator for seniors in the Master Plan for Aging.
• The Governor’s budget will add 10 million in public awareness allocation for Alzheimer’s.

New Business:
None

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

The next meeting will be on September 2, 2021.