

COMMITTEE: EXECUTIVE	FEBRUARY 28, 2022	LOCATION: ZOOM TELECONFERENCE
COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Diana López, Fred Silverman, Girija Brilliant, Lisa Brinkmann, Jasmina Etemovic, Wendy Nuessle		
COA APPOINTEES NOT ON THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Salamah Locks		
PUBLIC: None		
STAFF: Lee Pullen, Jenay Cottrell		
EXCUSED:		
UNEXCUSED ABSENCE: Ralph Marchese, Sylvia Barry		
RECORDER: Lee Pullen		
Next Meeting: Zoom teleconference – March 28, 2022		

MINUTES SUMMARY	ACTION TAKEN/RESPONSIBLE PARTY
<p><u>Call to Order:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vice-chair Silverman called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m. (Commissioner López was delayed until approx. 3:30 p.m.) <p><u>Agenda:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioner Brinkmann made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Brilliant seconded. Motion carried 5-0. 	

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<p><u>Minutes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Nuessle made a motion to approve the January 24, 2022 minutes. • Commissioner Etemovic seconded. • Motion carried 5-0. <p><u>Public Comment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None <p><u>Director’s Report:</u> Director Pullen reported the following.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>USAgging Policy Briefing:</u> Will attend the annual USAgging update in Washington D.C. in March. Attendees will be briefed on high-level federal policy and budget matters and then meet with Members of Congress. Pullen will be joined by fellow AAA directors from San Francisco and San Bernardino counties along with the C4A (California Association of Area Agencies on Aging) executive director. • <u>Area Plan Update (APU)/Planning:</u> APU is well underway with first internal draft produced. Thanks extended to the Planning committee for its assistance and advice in development of the document. Pullen also reported on a recent meeting with Chair López, staff Cottrell and the Planning committee members to discuss future activities of the committee, including providing guidance to the Age Forward plan as well as advising the agency on fiscal allocations tied to community needs. <p><u>Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary's Report:</u></p> <p>Commissioner López reported the following: Commissioner Locks will now be serving in the role of vice chair of the Equity, Outreach and Advocacy (EOA) committee. The Commission and EOA are still</p>	

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<p>reviewing land acknowledgments at the start of meetings and Commissioners López, Nuessle and Boutilier will look more closely at the matter. The following report was provided by Chair López.</p> <p>Executive Committee – February 28, 2022 - Commission Chair’s Report</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Appointment – Salamah Locks, Vice-Chair, Equity, Outreach & Advocacy Committee 2. Land Acknowledgement 3. Triple A Council of California Meeting Schedule: March TBD, Align with California Association of Area Agencies on Aging (C4A); May 4th Advocacy Day, California Senior Legislature Rally Day 4. MCCoA members follow the work of the California Master Plan for Aging Committees and report to the full Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ IMPACT (Implementing the Master Plan for Aging in California) Committee ➤ Equity in Aging Advisory Committee ➤ Elder and Disability Justice Coordinating Council ➤ Disability and Aging Community Living Advisory Committee ➤ Alzheimer's Disease & Related Disorders Advisory Committee 5. American Society on Aging, Generations Journal – Winter 2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ On the Older Americans Act and Why We Need to Pay Attention to History. ▪ Vision: Meet Reality ▪ The Older Americans Act from the Inside: An Interview with Deputy Assistant Secretary for Aging Edwin Walker ▪ Success: An Original Area Agency on Aging at 50 Years ▪ Title VI of the Older Americans Act: Past, Present, and Future ▪ Reflections on Title VII 30 Years Later 	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Difficulties Demonstrating the Impact of OAA Programming and Glimmers of Hope ▪ Understanding the OAA's Purpose and Role in the Modern Life of Older Adults ▪ Doing Business: A Pathway to Coordination ▪ Balancing Mission and Momentum ▪ At Almost 60, It's Time for a Life Review of the Older Americans Act as it Approaches Eligibility Age ▪ Advocacy and the OAA: The Environment Is Very Different These Days ▪ The Older American's Act: Looking Back and Thinking Forward <p>Interview with Deputy Assistant for Aging, Edwin Walker</p> <p>I would definitely agree that the OAA has never gotten the attention that it truly deserves. I believe the OAA has always been forward leaning, as it has established many of the institutions, we enjoy in the aging services network. From my perspective, it created the infrastructure for home- and community-based long-term services and supports (LTSS) in this country, and through many Government Accountability Office reviews it has been identified as a great model because there is a small federal presence that sets out broad parameters, with the strength of the aging services network at the local level and the funding flexible enough to respond to local needs. Further, this model has been lauded globally. When I think of institutions, I think of how they develop, and I think of how the OAA was designed to test models and then to implement them after they have become successful, like the model of the AAAs started as a demonstration. The model of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman program started as a demonstration. The concept of where we are with home- and community-based long-term care—what we now call Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) or LTSS—came out of the OAA in coordination with the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation in the Channeling Grants. It was all about testing and being forward leaning to find what the field of aging will need in the future. The model is, “Let’s build it, let’s test it, and then build it out and replicate it if it works.”</p> <p>I believe in the OAA, I think it just hasn't gotten the appropriations that it deserves given how effective it has been.</p>	

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<p>6. Center for Medicare Advocacy – Special Report – How do Nursing Homes Spend the Reimbursement They Receive for Care? https://medicareadvocacy.org/how-nursing-homes-spend-public-money/</p> <p>In their lawsuit against the state, New York State nursing facilities describe their spending. They report that in 2019, they spent hundreds of millions of dollars that the State, in 2021 legislation, does not consider related to resident care and on profits in excess of 5%. The five Special Focus Facilities candidates report large overpayments and poor-quality care, as reflected in their ineligibility for payments from the state’s quality pool. Facilities sued by the U.S. Attorney for allegedly overbilling Medicare similarly show large overpayments, although five of seven qualified for payments from the quality pool.</p> <p>Nursing facilities receiving reimbursement from the Medicare and Medicaid programs are coming under increasing scrutiny for how they spend their reimbursement. The New York provider lawsuit shows that nursing facilities already receive hundreds of millions of dollars that they could redirect to care of residents. Policy makers must require greater transparency and accountability in how facilities spend the money they receive for care before they consider increasing payments to facilities.</p> <p>7. Justice in Aging</p> <p>Justice in Aging is celebrating fifty years of Advancing Equity and Building Justice in Los Angeles on April 28, 2022. You can buy tickets or donate to Justice in Aging by going to their webpage.</p>	

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<p>Federal Appeals Court Rejects Nursing Facility’s COVID Arguments</p> <p>In Saldana v. Glenhaven Healthcare, a federal appeals court this week rejected a nursing facility’s attempt to use federal COVID-related guidance in its defense. The facility had tried to move the case from state to federal court in order to reduce or eliminate the facility’s responsibility for a resident’s COVID-19 death. Justice in Aging submitted an amicus brief that explained why federal nursing facility COVID guidance did not convert nursing facilities into federal agents.</p> <p>Social Security 2100 Act Would End the Tax Cap for High-Income Earners</p> <p>High-income earners do not have to pay Social Security taxes on all their wages. Millionaires finished paying their Social Security taxes for all of 2022 as of Thursday, February 24. This limit, or cap, on Social Security taxes for those with a high income has left the Social Security Trust Fund without the money it needs in the long term to pay critical benefits to retirees, widow(er)s, surviving children, and people with disabilities. Read more about the problem and legislation that would fix it.</p> <p>Legislation Would Significantly Improve Access to Care and Economic Security for Older Californians</p> <p>Last week, legislators in California introduced two significant pieces of legislation to improve the lives of low-income older adults and people with disabilities. Assembly members Arambula and Wood introduced Assembly Bill 1900 that would fix California’s Medicaid share of cost program, also known as the medically needy program. Right now, older adults and people with disabilities in California who have income that is just \$1 over the free Medicaid limit are forced to live on just \$600 a month to obtain coverage. Medicaid medically needy programs across the country are similarly outdated and force older adults and people with disabilities to live in extreme poverty to access care. Read more in our fact sheet.</p>	

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<p>New Justice in Aging Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are ALL in on HCBS (2/18) • NCLER interview with Dr. Donna Benton, Director, USC Family Caregiver Support Center and Los Angeles Caregiver Resource Center (2/18) • Issue Brief: States Are Weakening Training Standards for Nursing Facility Aides (2/15) • Alert: New Bill Would End Federal Requirement that States Recoup Medicaid Costs from Families (2/15) <p>Webinar Recording</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language Access in Medicare and More (2/3) <p>New from the National Center on Law & Elder Rights (NCLER)</p> <p>On March 10th, NCLER and fellow ACL Elder Justice Resource Centers will host a training on Money Mule Scams: Tips for Prevention, Identification, and Trauma-Informed Assistance. Attendees will learn the basics about money mule scams, including examples of these scams, tips for prevention and identification, how individuals can seek help, and available consumer education materials. The Department of Justice will provide an overview of these scams and share their work to identify and address money mule activities. Additional presenters will share tips for how elder justice advocates can assist individuals with a trauma-informed approach and examples of assistance provided to older adults impacted by this scam. Learn more and register.</p>	

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<p>New & Updated Federal Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>White House Fact Sheet: Administration Announces New Actions to Address the Needs of People with Disabilities & Older Adults in Response to & Recovery from COVID-19 (2/24)</u> • <u>Accountable Care Organization (ACO) Realizing Equity, Access, and Community Health (REACH) Model (2/24)</u> • <u>CMS Request for Information on Access to Care and Coverage for People Enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP (2/17)</u> • <u>Updated list of medical conditions that put people at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 to include people with disabilities (2/15)</u> • <u>CMS: New Medicaid State Plan Amendment Templates (2/11)</u> <p>Other New Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Care Can't Wait: Time for Action Summit</u>, Care Can't Wait Coalition • <u>COVID-19 Cases and Deaths by Race/Ethnicity: Current Data and Changes Over Time</u>, Kaiser Family Foundation • <u>Taking Stock of Medicare Advantage: Overview</u>, The Commonwealth Fund • <u>The Gift of Experience vs. The Stress of Isolation: Older People Share How They've Made It Through the Pandemic</u>, Kaiser Family Foundation 	

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<p>Commissioner Silverman reported the following: Participated in an Aging Action Initiative (AAI) Inform and Connect workshop on the Digital Divide on this same day. He is also chairing the by-laws committee, which is looking at the document line-by-line and making changes as deemed appropriate and necessary. Once draft is ready, it will be sent to the full commission for review and ultimate voting.</p> <p>With the absence of Secretary Barry, Commissioner Brinkmann reported that the Ad-Hoc Communications committee is meeting almost weekly. Next steps are logo and webpage design.</p> <p><u>Committee Reports:</u></p> <p><u>Equity, Outreach and Advocacy (EOA): Wendy Nuessle</u></p> <p>Second ally presentation held. Allied organizations attend and present every four months. The committee is focusing on housing and social connection. Have added Linda Jackson, project director of AAI, to the committee. March will be a full business meeting with April having a presentation from the Indigenous Healing Center.</p> <p><u>Health and Nutrition: Jasmina Etemovic</u></p> <p>Met on February 21st and received a presentation on living with Alzheimer's. Forty-two persons attended this virtual event. Next meeting will be March 21st and will feature a presentation on Caregiving that Works.</p> <p><u>Housing and Transportation: Sylvia Barry</u></p> <p>No report</p> <p><u>Legislative / CSL: Lisa Brinkmann</u></p>	

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<p>Recently held a “working” session to go through the bill watch sheet and make updates as warranted during this fast-moving time of the legislative cycle. Pullen asked that AB 2547, a housing bill, be added to the list. Senator McGuire will be a featured speaker at the April meeting.</p> <p>CSL has enjoyed success in having most of its proposed bills being taken up by legislative authors. Commissioner Brinkmann informed the Executive Committee of her intentions to not seek reelection to the CSL. The CSL campaign is currently open. New four-year terms start July 1, 2022.</p> <p><u>Planning: Girija Brilliant</u></p> <p>Commissioner Brilliant noted the meeting mentioned earlier by Pullen and had no further additions to the committee update.</p> <p><u>Discussion Items:</u></p> <p>The group discussed proposals for a May health forum (see addendum). Affording Aging rose to the top with a recommended location in Marin City. An ad-hoc follow-up will be held by some of the members who were present at the Executive Committee meeting</p> <p><u>Role of Commission Committees (Brilliant):</u></p> <p>Commissioner Brilliant brought forward the importance of considering the role of all committees—and some degree of uniformity--as the by-laws are being updated, noting the structure of the committees are shaped differently within the by-laws. It was also remarked that some committees have grown to include subcommittees. Discussion on this item also included that numerous committee presentations have been occurring recently and more are scheduled which may hinder coordination and maximum community attendance and impact.</p> <p><u>Develop General Meeting Agenda: Items to add for the General meeting agenda.</u></p>	

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<p>Rendered null and void as meeting is within 72 hours of this Executive Committee meeting. Agenda sent end of previous week.</p> <p><u>New Business/Updates:</u></p> <p>None</p> <p><u>Announcements:</u></p> <p>None</p> <p><u>Adjourn:</u> The meeting adjourned at 4:30p.m. The next meeting is on Monday, March 28, 2022.</p>	