



COMMISSION ON AGING GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, February 9, 2026 – 1:30 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Minutes Summary

RECORDER: Mandy Reyes, Staff, Area Agency on Aging (AAA)

LOCATION: Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority - 1600 Los Gamos Rd., Ste. 335, San Rafael

PRESENT: Alexovich, Barry, Binkley, Brown, Clemmons, Denton Cohen, Elkin, Gould, López, Ng, Notowich, Phegan, Rubens, Sadowsky, Smith, Winer

EXCUSED: Bortel, Doodha **ABSENT:** None

Call to Order and Roll Call:

Chair Denton Cohen called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm.

Approval of Agenda

Motion/Seconded/Carried (M/S/C) – Rubens/Elkin/16-0.

Approval of Minutes as Written

January 12, 2026: M/S/C – Brown/Gould/16-0

Open Time for Public Expression on Matters not on the agenda

- Susan Windman – Susan wants to make everyone aware that she feels there are a lot of misunderstandings when elder abuse is being investigated.
- Jordan Bloch, Audio/Visual for commission meetings – Jordan stated that he works multiple jobs and none of his employers offer retirement because he is part-time. Jordan would like a law that forces employers to provide retirement benefits to those who are part-time.

California Senior Legislature (CSL) Elections

Mandy Reyes, Area Agency on Aging -

- Commissioners have been given 10 copies of the CSL Election flyer. Please post these flyers in your jurisdictions at community centers, libraries, senior centers, and places of worship.
- Please post the electronic version on social media and local Nextdoor communities.

Discussion, Voting

Commission Mid-Year Check in (FY 25/26 Priorities and Restructure)

- There was an agreement at the July retreat to have a mid-year check in on how the priorities and restructure of the Commission are going. The committee discussed obstacles, gave suggestions for improvement, and whether it was working for individuals and staff.

Commissioner General Announcements

Commissioner Notowich -

- Tour of the Cedars in Ross will be taking place Feb. 10 from 10 – 11:30 a.m. Please RSVP to Notowich.

Commissioner López -

- The [Call Marin Home](#) coalition had their first meeting. There was a lot of good information. A document will be sent out.

Commissioner Ng –

- Feb. 17 is Chinese New Year. It's the year of the horse.

Commissioner Gould –

- The Tesla dealership is offering another date to try their self-driving cars. Gould passed around a signup sheet to attend.

Committee/Reports & Chairs

Equity and Inclusion: Commissioner Ng

- The committee discussed the presentation they have been planning for the Board of Supervisors (BOS).

Health/Nutrition: Commissioner Brown

- Barbara Brown from Love is the Answer (LITA) presented on their Visiting program. This program has volunteers going into homes to visit older adults. They need more volunteers.
- At the January meeting, Amber Carroll, Senior Director of Front Porch Connection Programs described her work with virtual communities of older adults.
- There will be a listening session with Goldenaires of San Rafael in March. The listening stories will consist of feedback on what is working and not working for older adults regarding the issue of social isolation.
- Chair Brown is hearing personally from people that she interacts with who are trying to determine what they can do to have a meaningful retirement. Please spread the word about volunteer opportunities.

Housing/Transportation: Commissioner Barry

- The committee talked about how they were going to work towards their goal objectives of helping to prevent homelessness.
- The [What About Age](#) program on transportation will be at Vivalon on April 30 from 1 – 4 p.m.
- Chair Barry is hoping to have Canal Alliance present at the April committee meeting.

Planning, Legislation, and Communications (PLC): Commissioners López/Rubens

- A document has been put together on the relevant 2-year bills. At the next meeting, the committee will discuss how they want to move forward with the bills they are interested in.

Nominating: Commissioner Notowich

- Job descriptions will be sent for the 3 positions available to refresh everyone's memory.

Bylaws: Commissioner Binkley

- The committee has made clarifications, and everyone seems to agree. The clarifications are being refined.

Chair and Officers' Reports

- Chair Denton Cohen – recommends going to the Civic Center to view the [What About Age](#) art exhibit.
- Denton Cohen and Vice Chair Smith worked on a Request for Proposal (RFP) for One Door.
- Sign up for Alert Marin.
- There is a presentation on March 8 at Westminster Church in Tiburon called 'The Future of Public Health' with Dr. Lisa Santora and Teri Dowling.

Vice Chair Kay Winer - None

- Secretary Brown – the commission is getting updates on the calendar. You can also go to the MCCOA website and find the calendar there. Remember to let Chairs Sue Krenek and Commissioner Brown know who your speakers are.

Aging and Adult Services (AAS) Report and Announcements

Jenay Cottrell, Director

- Welcomed Commissioner Ann Sparkman who will be ratified by the BOS on Tues., Feb. 10.
- Nationally, the Older Americans Act (OAA) funding is flat this year for meals, congregate meals, home-delivered meals and preventive health. Nationally there is a 1% increase in supportive services funding. There will be a 2% increase for Family Caregiver Support.
- Cottrell attended the [What About Age](#) events. Rachel Kertz may be a guest in April for the Area Plan Update (APU).
- Resource Guide – we're in the home stretch on getting the guide into print.
- [FixItMarin](#) had a soft launch. It will be announced to the public this week. You can report non-emergency issues within your area.

Camille Jolly, Program Manager

- The Fall Prevention RFP was posted on Feb. 5. The contract will start on Apr. 1. Please spread the word.
- One Door campaign media panel was held last week and there was a clear winner to be announced soon.
- Cal Fresh – the program is underutilized and word needs to get out about it. All commissioners have been given several Cal Fresh cards to hand out in their communities.
- Congregate Meal Update – Dee's organics started delivering food at the different sites. So far there have been good reviews. The Hilarita is on hold due to staffing issues. There may be a need to look for a new Friday site, and we will know more in the next month or so.
- Area Plan Update (APU) – Amy will be working on the narrative and will get ideas from the PLC committee. As part of the APU, the commissioners are given an anonymous demographic survey. Please fill it out and give it to Mandy before you leave today.
- Scam Jam Update – locations are still being decided. Westminster Church or Margaret Todd Senior Center are being considered. The event will be either April 28 or 29.
- A list of locations for future MCCOA meetings has been handed out to the commission. The next step from commission is to please look at places that are on the list and let staff know if you think the space will work.

Commissioner Reports (Commissioners appointed by Cities and Towns):

Questions/comments on submitted reports –

- Commissioner Clemmons – There is a luncheon called the [Seeds of Hope Luncheon](#) on March 2. This luncheon is dedicated to bringing together individuals, local businesses, and organizations committed to making a positive impact on the lives of those experiencing homelessness in San Rafael.

New Business Items for the Next Agenda: None

Adjournment: 3:59 p.m.
M/S/C – Elkin/Binkley/16-0.

Next meeting date: Monday, March 9, 2026

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