



COMMISSION ON AGING GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, January 12, 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, Brown, Clemmons, Denton Cohen, Gould, Doodha, Ng, Notowich, Phegan, Rubens, Sadowsky, Smith, Winer

EXCUSED: Bortel, Elkin **ABSENT:** Binkley, López

Call to Order and Roll Call:

Chair Denton Cohen called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm.

Approval of Agenda

Motion/Seconded/Carried (M/S/C) – Gould/Doodha/11-0.

Approval of Minutes as Written

November 10, 2025: M/S/C – Alexovich/Smith/11-0

Open Time for Public Expression on Matters not on the agenda

- Welcome to new upcoming commissioner Ann Sparkman for the Town of Corte Madera. Ann updated the commissioners on her background.
- Luanne Mullin –
 - College of Marin (COM) is celebrating its 100th birthday. There are many events happenings to celebrate.
 - The new student success building will have its ribbon cutting on Feb. 4, 11 – 1 p.m.
 - Emeritus Students of the College of Marin (ESCOM) is recruiting council members.
- Jenay Cottrell –
 - Gary Lara’s mother passed away on Christmas. The funeral is this Friday.
 - Kate Stanford from County Council will be attending this meeting to answer questions on the bylaws and meeting reminders.
- Rachel Kertz –

- The opening for the [What About Age?](#) program is on Jan. 29 from 5-7 p.m. at the Civic Center. The exhibit will be through May. There is a lot of accompanied programming that is happening across the county. There will be a comprehensive calendar.

Commission Meeting Roles and Structure

Chair Denton Cohen reviewed the reminders about meeting roles and structure.

Discussion, Voting

Revisions to the Commission Bylaws:

Commissioner Winer went through the revisions to the Commission Bylaws that allow for flexibility, while Commissioner Alexievich read the revisions to the Commission. Discussion ensued.

Vote on initial revisions as presented today:

M/S/C – Phegan/Ruben/13-1 abstain (Notowich)

Motion passed

Commissioner General Announcements

Commissioner Gould -

- Older adults need reliable, safe and effective means of transportation. Gould has been following the idea of using self-driving vehicles for older adults. The Tesla dealership is offering two dates to try their self-driving cars. Gould passed around a signup sheet to attend.

Commissioner Notowich -

- On Jan. 21 from 10 – 12 p.m., there will be a listening session on how to bring people together within District 2.

Commissioner Ng –

- Ng has informed the Town of San Anselmo that he will not reapply for another term on this commission.

Commissioner Sadowsky –

- Attends an online meeting with the ISOJI (Nigerian for "rebirth") organization. They meet on the first Friday of the month. It's a good way to connect with others in the community outside of your own. West Marin Collaborative is another good meeting to attend.

Committee/Reports & Chairs

Equity and Inclusion: Commissioner Ng

- The committee is still determining how they want to move forward after focusing on the resolution last year and are looking into making a presentation to the BOS.

Health/Nutrition: Commissioner Brown

- At the Nov. meeting there were two speakers. Dan Steckline gave the quarterly Ombudsman report and Rachel Kertz, San Rafael City Council member, gave an overview of the What About Age? project.
- At the Dec. meeting there was a presentation by Barbara Brown, Executive Director of LITA. She gave an overview of their Visiting program and mentioned they need volunteers.
- Hopefully in Feb., there will be a listening session regarding social isolation.
- Joan Clemmons attended the Marin Health Services Act meeting in order to advocate and to keep older adults at the forefront when they are discussing funding.

Housing/Transportation: Commissioner Barry

At the Dec. meeting, Gary Naja-Riese, Director, Homelessness & Coordinated Care, gave a presentation on Marin Homeless Care System update and how to prevent older adults from

becoming homeless.

- Marin Transit has promoted its director of operations and service development Robert Betts, to general manager.
- The committee members were asked to review the sections of the new resource guide that are related to housing and transportation.

Planning, Legislation, and Communications: Commissioner Rubens

- Update on the resource guide – outreach has been sent out to subject matter experts. The guide is moving to a design phase.
- Looking forward to working with Diana López in advocating for older adults.

Commission Priority Review and Updates

- Each committee had to choose a focus area. Reminder to get people's stories to use in the BOS presentation to make an impact.
- Next is outreach to the community to do listening sessions that are directly targeting priorities.

Chair and Officers' Reports

- Chair Denton Cohen - None
- Vice Chair Kay Winer - None
- Secretary Brown – if there are any changes to your meetings and updates to speakers/topics, communicate this to Brown and Sue Krennek. If you have work you would like Sue to do, please complete the jot form at this time.

Aging and Adult Services (AAS) Report and Announcements

- Congregate Meals: Dietz –
 - Community Action Marin (CAM) terminated their contract for meals on Dec. 31. For Jan. we have contracted with Council on Aging to provide home-delivered meals to each of the congregate meal sites, which are heated and served onsite.
 - Dee's Organics has been chosen to provide congregate meals beginning Feb. 1. This is a temporary contract which will be through June 2026. Another RFP for the next two years will be issued in next few months.
 - San Geronimo Community Center is contracting with the Lagunitas Community School kitchen to prepare their congregate meals. First lunch with new vendor was today (January 12th 2026), and went well.
 - The congregate meal program is going to be renamed. The Health and Nutrition committee came up with three possible names. Dietz handed out a survey to each commissioner so they could vote on the name. This survey will go to all congregate meal sites so all participants can vote on final name.
- California Senior Legislature Elections Process and Timeline: Reyes
 - The application deadline for one CSL Assemblymember and one CSL Senator is March 31. The flyer with application information will be going out this week. You can obtain applications by emailing Mandy Reyes or following the link on the flyer to the CSL website. CSL terms are 4 years. Once the applications are in and the CSL has certified they are eligible, the commission will vote at the May or June General meeting.
- Venue List for Commission Events and JotForm: Jolly and Krennek
 - The venue list has become quite extensive, up to 35 locations. Next, there will be a

meeting with the commission officers to determine the top 5-10 locations and then conduct site visits.

- If you are looking to do a listening session in your community, please submit a Jotform so Krenek can assist.
- Please use the Jotform for all of your projects that you need Krenek's assistance.
- Krenek will be trying to attend all the committee meetings this month and will help get you all started using the form.
- Resource Guide Update: Cottrell
 - Resource Guide is moving to version 14. There has been a lot of great input and edits. A designer has been working on accessibility.
 - Hoping the Planning, Communications and Legislative Advocacy committee will put together a distribution plan.
- Aging Action Initiative (AAI)/Master Plan for Aging Update: Cottrell
 - The transformation of the AAI update – the steering committee has convened 3 times. The committee agreed it wants to pursue a Master Plan for Aging along with AAS.
- I&A/One Door Promotion: Jolly
 - Reminder that as part of the Moving Forward group, there was an I&A/One Door task force who had around \$50K and decided to put that money towards a media campaign.
 - Three proposals have been submitted for the campaign. Jolly has put together a panel.
- AARP Scam Jam Event: Jolly and Reyes
 - The FAST team is putting on a Scam Jam in April. This is in collaboration with AARP. The event will possibly be held at the Mill Valley Community Center.
- A Fall Prevention RFP will be going out in two weeks.

Commissioner Reports:

- Questions/comments on submitted reports –
 - Only two reports were submitted before agendas went out this month. There is a deadline on your calendar for when these reports are due.
 - Districts 1 and 5 stated they have no report for this month.

New Business Items for the Next Agenda: None

Adjournment: 3:57 p.m.

M/S/C – Notowich/Barry/14-0.

Next meeting date: Monday, February 9, 2026