



**PLACER COUNTY
OLDER ADULT ADVISORY COMMISSION**
11533 C Avenue, Auburn, CA 95603
(530) 886-3680

MEETING MINUTES
March 17, 2015

Attendance

Members Present: Dr. Irwin Herman, Al Gonzalez, Suzanne Jones, David Wiltsee, William Reed, Antoinette Fabela, Sue Dings, Gloria Plasencia, Ignacio Cespedes, Candace Roeder, Karla Gustafson, Eldon Luce, Margaret Riley, and Cheryl Trenwith

Members Absent: David Soto

Guests: Jamee Horning, Seniors First; Maggie Borowiak, Wellness Gerontologist; Maureen Bauman, Director ASOC; Will Tift, Asst. Director A4AA; Karen & Dan Grow, visitors; Claire Buckley, Seniors First; Lynn Blankenheim, Kindred Siena; Susan Feldman, Bright Star Care; Jennifer Cook, HHS-CSOC; Bhakti Banning, interested senior; Melinda Lacey, HHS-ASOC Senior Services; Susie Patton, Senior Peer Counselor; Gina Olivares, IHSS Program Supervisor; Jennifer Blumenberg, Care Manager; Ginger McMurchie, Elder Care Management of Northern CA.

County Staff: Leah Rosasco, aide to Supervisor Holmes and Pauline Moreno, Public Authority Secretary

Call to Order: Luce called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

Member Introductions: The roll was taken, a quorum was established, and introductions were made.

Member Announcements: No member announcements were offered.

Approve 2-17-15 Meeting Minutes: The minutes were approved as presented:

Executive Committee Recommendations:

- 1) Appoint Jamee Horning of Seniors First to the OAAC. **Appointment approved.**
- 2) Support Seniors First's appointment of Dave Wiltsee to the A4AA Advisory Council. Luce explained that this Advisory Council position was to be appointed by a senior nutrition program, in this case Seniors First. **Appointment approved.**

Public Comment: The following public comment was offered.

- Lacey from Placer County Senior Services handed out and spoke about a survey for older adults over 55 years of age. She also left brochures for anyone interested.

Mental Health Needs of Seniors: Maureen Bauman, HHS-ASOC

- Looking at Innovation Planning.
 - Component of Mental Health Services Act (MHSA),
 - Intent is to try something new, must:
 - Introduce a new MH practice/and approach
 - Make a change to an existing MH practice/approach
 - Apply to the MH system a new promising, community driven practice/approach
 - Has limitations to use
 - Project cannot exceed four years
- Ms. Bauman asked for suggested projects/areas of need. The following were suggested by the group:
 - Some frustration with the current system was expressed, e.g., lack of funds, length of time to gain services even when client is in crisis, limited prescription availability, MHSA not covering dementia, older adults and families having lack of information about what is available.
 - Outreach Ideas: visiting senior HUD complexes to explain what is available and how to access services, working with community collaboratives and faith-based organizations, going to where seniors congregate already (senior centers, meals on wheels, congregate meal sites, etc.), distributing information through Meals-on-Wheels, IHSS providers, a property tax flier, outreach through the medical community.
 - Issues to be addresses: MH issues of family and unpaid care givers, isolation, depression, suicide, older adults reluctance to admit to MH problems, not knowing where to find help, not looking for help until in crisis, need for training of medical community, e.g., personal care physicians, nurses, addressing alcohol and drug misuse, transitions out of acute care and discharge planning, and problems reaching those in need living in more remote rural areas.

Presentation: Older Americans Act and Services Funding, Will Tift and Karla Gustafson

(Note: This presentation had a high degree of detail. What follows is a relatively brief summary. For those wanting more detail, the tape of the full presentation is available by calling Pauline.)

- Gustafson provided a brief history of the Older Americans' Act (OAA) including an funding flowchart describing how funding flows from the Federal Government/OAA down to local seniors service providers and recipients. She also covered details of service categories and the regulations tied to funding.
 - There are seven required service categories: support services, congregate meals, home delivered meals, preventive health, national family caregiver's support program, elder abuse prevention, and ombudsman

- Tift began his presentation with an overview of the Area 4 Agency on Aging (A4AA). Other items covered included:
 - OAA Fundable Services (see above)
 - Federal formula for allocating funding to the states
 - A4AA formula for allocating funding to the counties, e.g., population 60 years of age and older, need assessments, geographically isolated and low income.
 - The majority of money goes to senior nutrition services.
 - Emphasized a need for transparency on how funds are allocated and disbursed.
 - Needs assessment results and new 4-year plan will help guide development of future RFPs for services.
 - Future may find fewer responders to RFPs due to reluctance to accept federal money due to restrictive nature of funding and the somewhat onerous reporting required requirements.
 - Spoke to how retirement has changed, i.e., retirees relying on MediCare and Social Security only, will find themselves with very serious financial difficulties.
 - A need for collaborative efforts of long-term service and support providers/systems. As an example he mentioned the ADRC Model and the need for person-centered services.

- Other discussion items that arose around senior issues included:
 - What the Governor wants/or will do around older adult issues/services.
 - Lack of necessary funding to address senior issues; lack of awareness or concern for senior issues in the greater community
 - Seniors being seen as a financial liability.
 - The need for more data substantiating senior needs.
 - The need for more people to advocate; a call to action.
 - Eventually, demographics will drive the funding, but it will take time.
 - Recent survey showed of the 38 million AARP members, 26% are at or below the federal poverty level.
 - Older adult poverty and hunger are becoming major issues nationally and in the A4AA service area.

Chairs' Report: Luce reported on:

- An OCCA Orientation Manual is being worked on. Once completed it will be distributed to all members.
- Meeting with Tink Miller, PIRS; Pam Miller, Director A4AA; and Robin Jordan, CA Department of Aging concerning the development and implementation of the Placer County ADRC.

- The new OAAC Brochure: Many thanks to Gustafson for her work on this. Moreno to reproduce the brochure on an as-needed basis – provide advance notice if you need some.
- Adding a question to the OAAC application: Where did you hear about the OAAC?

Report A4AA: In Dave Soto's absence, Luce provided the following report: a survey will be coming out from A4AA. This is a compliance survey required by the CA Department of Aging.

Report - A4AA Advisory Council Update: What would have been included was covered in previous presentation/reports.

Report - Senior Legislation: Plasencia

- CSL information had been emailed to members; information on nine hearings, and members were encouraged to go to hearings and speak up!

Report - Placer County Report: Rosasco gave the following report on:

- The March for Meals (Seniors First) that took place this week. Great fun!
- Feasibility study for Multi-Purpose Center: RFP going out; funding approved.
- Senior Center: back looking for a new location.
- Possible closure of Loomis Library, location may still be available for meetings, etc.
- 211 Sacramento is under restructure; County looking to team with United Way for Placer County 211.

Report - Housing Committee Update:

- Will meetings will be held one hour before the regularly scheduled OAAC meeting
 - Interested members to call David
 - Report on Senior Living Facilities: 167 in Placer County, 144 are six or less beds; no MediCal beds available.
- The BOS approved temporary homeless shelter at the old barracks; will open mid-April

New Business: No new business reported.

Agenda Items for April Meeting: None offered.

Future Agenda Items: Monthly reports: A4AA, Senior Legislation, Placer County Report, A4AA Advisory Council and Housing Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:22 PM

Next Meeting

Date: April 21, 2015

Time: 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

**Location: Auburn Library
Beecher Room
350 Nevada Street
Auburn, CA**