

# Riverside County Advisory Council on Aging

# MINUTES

# January 14, 2015 - 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Location: 6296 River Crest Drive, Ste. K, Riverside, CA 92507

Contact Lisa Alexen, Executive Assistant II
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Riverside County Advisory Council on Aging Mission Statement
The Riverside County Advisory Council on Aging is a group of seasoned and diverse
community leaders committed to each other and the process of consensus building to meet
the needs of older adults, persons with disabilities, and caregivers in Riverside County.

10 am: Call to Order: Patricia Smith, Vice Chair Pledge of Allegiance: Patricia Smith, Vice Chair

**Invocation:** Doris Morgan

ADA Guidelines review: Patricia Smith, Vice Chair

#### Establish Quorum-Jerry Corrales, Parliamentarian

Alice B. Chandler Sharon Lambeth Eileen Packer - **ABS** 

Jerry Corrales Vee Maiden - ABS Excused

Erwin Fromm Sonja Martin Cynthia Quintero
Bev Greer Steve Mehlman Gloria Sanchez
Ann Kasper Barbara Mitchell Patricia Smith
Gary Kelley - ABS Doris Morgan Luella Thornton

LOA – Leave of Absence

ABS – Absent

#### 10:05 am: Staff and Public Introductions

The council welcomed Robin Reid from Supervisor Jeffries Office, Don Brock from In Home Support Services (IHSS), Phyllis Purcell from the California State Legislature (CSL), Al Lopez from Renaissance Village, and Wanda Nelson, Senior Employment.

#### 10:10 am: Public Comments

**Objective:** Comments may be time limited (see Meeting Guidelines for details). This portion of the agenda is reserved for the public to address the Council on any matter under the jurisdiction of the Council. This is information only and there can be no discussion.

Two (2) requests for comment were submitted:

- ❖ Phyllis Purcell, CSL stated that the proposal addressing senior hunger was not passed.
- ❖ Al Lopez, Renaissance Village, invited the Council to tour the facility. Tours are scheduled by appointment and include lunch. He can be reached at 951-538-9019.

#### 10:15 am: Advisory Council Chair Report – Patricia Smith, Vice Chair

**Chair Report:** May include any correspondence, date and location of next meeting, council operations, updates, upcoming events, report of chair activities, miscellaneous information.

Paul Van Doren received the Telisman Memorial Award at the Board of Supervisor's Meeting on January 13<sup>th</sup>. Jerry Corrales and Michele Haddock participated in the presentation.

Advocacy letters will be sent to Legislators in support for reauthorization of the Older Americans Act as a 2015 endeavor and pursue efforts at the State level to support the restoration of Older Californians Act that was defunded due to the California recession.

The RSVP Volunteer Recognition Event is scheduled for January 22, 2015 in Indian Wells, CA. This event will celebrate volunteers who selflessly give their time and energy to benefit older adults in our community.

#### 10:25 am: Action Items

1. Motion to approve minutes of December 10, 2014 meeting:

Motion by: Barbara Mitchell Seconded by: Luella Thornton

Notes:

#### 10:30 am: Advisory Council Committee Reports

A. Advisory Council Community Connections Committee – Ann Kasper and Patti Smith, Co-Chairs: Report on Committee goals, activities, and progress

Ms. Smith reviewed the revised Annual Work plan. Elder justice and scams against older Americans will be the topics of focus. Ms. Bell presented Part Two of the Riverside County Advisory Council on Aging 2014 - 2015 Elder Justice Education Series. The subject of this presentation was Lottery Scams.

Ms. Haddock requested that the Committee exercise community outreach to educate the seniors on the threats of scamming attempts.

Ms. Smith reminded the Council that cell phone collections continue.

B. Advisory Council Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Task Force - Sonja Martin/Opal Hellweg, Co-Chairs: Report on Committee goals, activities, and progress

Ms. Martin updated the Council on the efforts to address the issues facing grandparents living in 55+ Communities. She noted that the lack of legislative support of this initiative has resulted in researching alternative approaches to the issue.

C. Advisory Council Membership Connection – Vee Maiden, Chair Report on Committee goals, activities, and progress

No Report

D. Aging and Disability Resource Connection Stakeholders Advisory Group - Erwin Fromm, Chair: Report on Committee goals, activities, and progress

The LTSS – SAG has changed their name to Long Term Services and Support (LTSS) Coalition. Members of the LTSS Coalition are actively participating in regional and statewide collaborative efforts, including Cal MediConnect coordination. The Mental Health Behavioral Board has expanded their mission to include behavioral health issues. The next meeting will be February 19, 2015, therefore the next update will be at the March 11<sup>th</sup> Advisory Council Meeting. A copy of the complete report from the LTSS Coalition is on file with the Advisory Council Administrative Office.

**E.** Advisory Council Healthy Living Committee - Bev Greer/Jerry Corrales, Co-Chairs: Report on Committee goals, activities, and progress

The committee is on target to present the Final Nutrition Report to the Council at their meeting on February 11, 2015. They are currently outlining the Caregivers flagship topic of 2015 as the next focus of the committee.

#### 11:00 am: Office on Aging Director's Report - Michele Haddock, Director

Office on Aging Director's Report: Report on Office on Aging, and local, state, federal government updates and announcements. Written report is included in meeting packet.

Ms. Haddock highlighted the significant cuts to Older American Act programs in the Federal Budget. These cuts included the White House Conference on Aging, ADRC's and the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program. California is significantly impacted by these cuts due to the high population of older adults in the State. Ms. Haddock reviewed the advocacy letters addressed to Legislators and emphasized the need for in-person advocacy efforts in Sacramento. Opportunities for increased educational efforts and outreach are highlighted in the State appropriations for Senior Programs.

Ms. Haddock reviewed coordination and upcoming events focused on Agency initiatives. The theme for Older Americans Month is "Get into the Act." A video was shown of an interview of an elementary school teacher who recently turned 100 years old and continues to teach.

### 11:45 Office on Aging Strategic Plan on Aging Report - Jamiko Bell, Planner

Ms. Bell explained that collection of the Community Assessment Surveys will continue through this year and will be used to prepare the Plan update. The Plan update will be presented during the Public Hearing at the February Advisory Council Meeting.

She presented new forms generated for mileage reimbursement in lieu of the IRS 2015 Mileage Reimbursement Rate of \$.57 per mile.

She introduced the new Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP-Ed). This program includes several County departments working on a Countywide workplan for nutrition education and health promotion. It has been determined that fewer than 10% of qualifying older adults are enrolled to receive CalFresh assistance. The Office on Aging is conducting a series of educational sessions at various sites in English and Spanish. A four-week series titled *Eat Smart*, *Live Strong* will kick off the SNAP-Ed program. The program includes games incorporated with elements of physical fitness, such as Bingocize.

There was discussion regarding how senior centers will be identified to receive these sessions and partnering with the Parks and Recreation agencies.

## 12:00 pm: Advisory Council Liaison Reports

**Objective:** Report on activities of committees or organizations that the Council members are liaison to.

California Senior Legislature: Sonja Martin

Ms. Martin noted that the CSL was celebrating 35 years of existence. The 120 seniors who volunteer to support this organization were working to improve the financial status of the CSL. She presented two ways to support the CSL through donations. An information card provided instructions for donating via State Income Tax Forms. A Friends of CSL form was also provided to allow for individual donations and membership information.

#### **Triple A Council of California (TACC):** Gloria Sanchez

Ms. Sanchez reported that the TACC will meet at the end of February and she will present the update at the March Advisory Council meeting. As a member of TACC, she will attend the C4A Legislative Briefing on February 26<sup>th</sup> in Sacramento.

#### Older Adults System of Care: Barbara Mitchell

Ms. Mitchell noted the changes occurring within the composition of the committee. She indicated that the focus had evolved into peer support group for individuals who receive mental health services. She suggested that a Council member attend the Mental Health Board meetings, where the focus was on policy and revenue issues. Ms. Haddock will investigate the state of the committee and their position on mental health and substance abuse issues, and report to the Council at the February meeting.

#### In Home Support Service Advisory Council: Ann Kasper

No report.

#### Foundation on Aging: Gloria Sanchez

Ms. Sanchez thanked volunteers who distributed 3000 gift cards to various senior centers during the Holidays. Specific senior centers reported using alternate methods of distribution, which she will investigate. Ms. Sanchez will represent Senator Jeff Stone at the La Quinta Senior Center ribbon cutting event on Saturday, January 17, 2015 at 10:00AM.

#### **Veterans Services**: Alice Chandler, Vee Maiden

The next Veterans Breakfast has not been scheduled. The breakfast schedule will be distributed to the Council. Mr. Mehlman announced the Veteran Expo on January 31, 2015 in Beaumont.

## 1:30 pm: Members Closing Comments:

Objective: Report on Council and senior related activities of members in the community. Comments are limited to the scope of the Advisory Council.

Ms. Martin announced the County of Riverside Commission for Women was accepting nominations for the 2015 Woman of the Year and Young Lady of the Year Awards. Nomination

information was included in the agenda packets. Ms. Martin requested the opportunity to talk about CSL in Advisory Council Committee Meetings to help educate the community and encourage participation in the CSL.

**Mr. Corrales** addressed the essence of the Advisory Council meetings noting he would like to incorporate empowering/encouraging concepts into the agenda and gear the meetings to endow council members with a sense of purpose. This will be discussed further during the 2015 Development Day sessions.

**Mr. Fromm** noted that the RSVP Advisory Council met and acknowledged that the desert office manager Rhonda Morken was working hard to generate new spirit in the RSVP. The volunteer recognition event is scheduled for January 22, 2015 in Indian Wells.

**Ms. Mitchell** will attend the California Commission on Aging meeting. She shared her experience with distributing gift cards to the senior centers. She also collected Community Assessment Surveys while visiting the centers.

**Ms. Thornton** will be doing the invocation at the RSVP Volunteer Appreciation Event on January 22, 2015.

**Ms. Lambeth** was happy to be back from her leave of absence and anxious to get back to working on the Council.

Ms. Quintero expressed her gratitude for the gift cards distributed in the Perris senior center.

Mr. Clarke invited people to join the Foundation on Aging meetings to share ideas for fund raising.

Ms. Sanchez indicated that she is a volunteer serving Senator Jeff Stone.

Ms. Morgan attended the ribbon cutting event at the Blythe Senior Center and noted sizeable that attendance to celebrate the completion of the \$400,000 project. Local elected officials, County officials and the public attended the event which showcased the building renovation.

**Mr. Mehlman** looks forward to working with the Council.

Ms. Greer attended and presented at the Caliente Springs Health Fair in Desert Hot Springs. She will brief the Council at the next meeting on expanded services offered by the Stroke Recovery Center.

# Adjourn - 1:00pm

#### **Riverside County Board of Supervisors:**

District I Supervisor Kevin Jeffries
District II Supervisor John F. Tavaglione

District III Supervisor Jeff Stone

District IV Supervisor John J. Benoit District V Supervisor Marion Ashley

#### **Advisory Council Membership:**

Officers: Gary Kelley, Chair; Patricia Smith, Vice Chair; Jerry Corrales, Parliamentarian

#### **Board of Supervisor Appointees:**

Gary Kelley, District I; Alice B. Chandler, District II; Patricia Smith, District III; Sonja Martin District IV; and, Gloria Sanchez, District V

#### **Advisory Council Appointees:**

Doris Morgan; Erwin Fromm; Jerry Corrales; Beverly Greer; Barbara Mitchell; Eileen Packer, Luella Thornton; Ann Kasper; Vee Maiden; Sharon Lambeth; Cynthia Quintero

#### Office on Aging Staff

Michele Haddock, Director; Jamiko Bell, Planner; Lisa Alexen, Executive Assistant

#### Advisory Council on Aging meeting guidelines/requirements

Materials Distributed: In compliance with the Brown Act and Government Code Section 54957.5, agenda materials distributed 72 hours prior to the meeting, which are public records relating to open session agenda items, will be available for inspection by members of the public prior to the meeting at the Office on Aging, 6296 River Crest Drive, Suite K, Riverside, CA 92507.

ADA: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Government Code Section 54954.2, if special assistance is needed to attend an Advisory Council on Aging meeting, please contact Rachelle Roman at (800) 510-2020, (951) 867-3800, or TTD (951) 697-4699. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to meeting time will assist staff in assuring that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility at the meeting.

Public Comments: Each speaker may be limited to speak three (3) minutes or less depending on the number of speakers. At the direction of the Chair or by majority vote of the Council, the three (3) minute time limitation may be waived or reduced. The maximum time for public comment for any individual item or topic may be limited to thirty (30) minutes. The Council may terminate public comments if such comments become repetitious or disruptive. Any written documents to be distributed or presented to the Council shall be submitted to the Council's assigned staff. This policy applies to Public Comments and general comments on agenda items. Under the Brown Act, the Council will not take action on or discuss matters raised which are not posted 72 hours in advance. Council members may refer such matters to staff for factual information or to be placed on the subsequent agenda for consideration.