



TACC – Triple-A Council of California
1300 National Drive, Suite 173 Sacramento, CA 95834
Phone 916-419-7591 Fax 916-419-7596 E-Mail ccoa@cco.ca.gov
www.4tacc.org

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Vagabond Inn, 909 3rd Street, Sacramento, CA
July 26-27, 2006

- I. Call to Order: The general meeting of the Triple-A Council of California (TACC) was called to order by President Havard Staggs at 9:15 am, July 26, 2006.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance: Joseph A. Cox.
- III. Roll Call: A quorum was established. Those present were:

PSA 1 Thea Gast	PSA 16 Kathryn Williams
PSA 4 Jacque Brown	PSA 17 Martin Tucker
PSA 5 Roberta H. Romeo	PSA 18 Don Hunt, Alternate
PSA 6 George H. Schofield	PSA 19 Peter McGrath
PSA 6 Bill Hollabaugh, Alternate	PSA 20 David Wilder
PSA 7 Vernon Jones	PSA 21 Venetta Maiden, Alternate
PSA 8 Arline Elliott	PSA 22 Dee Erman
PSA 10 Anne M. Mack	PSA 23 Jack Duff
PSA 11 Terry Sonnefeld	PSA 25 Edward Woods
PSA 12 Joan Bowen, Alternate	PSA 26 Jacque Spiker
PSA 12 Havard Staggs, Alternate	PSA 26 Patricia Jauregui-Darland, Alternate
PSA 13 George "Bud" Winslow	PSA 31 Joseph A. Cox, Alternate
PSA 15 Leonard Smith, Alternate	PSA 33 Marti Overfield, Alternate

Guests present during the meeting included Claudine Diff, Jim Romeo, Gary Passmore (Executive Director, Congress of California Seniors), and the invited speakers named below.

- IV. Introductions, Announcements

Winslow: presented a "Hot weather alert" poster.
- V. Approve Agenda: Wilder asked that the Legislative Report be made an Action item; Hunt moved to make this amendment, and Elliott seconded: unanimous. Wilder moved that the amended agenda be accepted, Tucker seconded: unanimous.
- VI. Approve Minutes of April 24, 2006: Motion to accept as presented by Hunt, seconded by Wilder; unanimous.
- VII. Confirm Dates of September Meeting: There was discussion about moving the meeting, but it was found that no date can satisfy everyone. It was suggested that meetings not be in the same week every month. Wilder moved that the scheduled date of September 27-28, 2006 be retained; Elliott seconded; unanimous.
- VIII. Consider passage of By-Laws amendment

The Executive Committee observed that creating a Nominating Committee in July which generally has no duties for nine or ten months creates the problem that by the time the Committee needs to perform its work the members may no longer be available; further, there is no particular need to have the Committee formed so early unless a vacancy in an office occurs early. The Committee made two proposals both of which provided for creation of the Committee at the first meeting after January 1 (unless required sooner by a vacancy); the essential difference between the two is that #1 would require that three members be chosen by consensus while #2 would specify that the Committee consist of the Member-at-Large, the

TACC Minutes, July 26-27, 2006, Page 2 of 6

immediate Past President, and one additional Director chosen by consensus. A vote was taken to choose between the two choices: #1 had 11 votes, and #2 had 12 votes. Tucker moved adoption of proposal #2, Woods seconded, and the amendment was accepted with 15 ayes, 3 noes, and one abstention.

The two proposals are included as Appendix A of these Minutes.

IX. Panel Discussion: Status of Preparations for Implementation of SB1018 (Simitian) – Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse

The panel consisted of:

David Mandel, moderator – Supervising Attorney, Senior Legal Hotline

Peggy Osborn – Program Manager, Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Prevention, Office of the Attorney General

Frank Mecca – Executive Director, California Welfare Directors' Association

LeLand Chan – Senior Vice President and General Counsel, California Bankers Association

Mr. Mandel said that they often counsel victims or potential victims.

Mr. Chan said that banks have been concerned about liability from customers. APS is required to report to law enforcement and to follow up upon report from bank. Banks are encouraged to take a more active stance with respect to customers – but this means transactions may take longer. Training of personnel has included web-based training. Mr. Chan also noted that most cases do not occur in the branches.

Mr. Mecca said that APS is under funded.

Mr. Chan said that mandated reporters include any bank employees who have direct contact with customers, as well as those who review individual transactions.

Mr. Mecca pointed out that CWDA was a sponsor of SB1018. The concept of mandated reporting is not new; what is new is that bankers are now reporting.

Ms. Osborn explained that the Attorney General has undertaken a three-year campaign to educate the public about several types of abuse. She pointed out that with financial abuse, once the money is gone, it rarely can be gotten back.

Mr. Mandel said that there are chronic abusers that require tremendous efforts with case management.

Ms. Osborn called attention to sources of additional information – the Securities & Exchange Commission held a Seniors Summit July 17; a webcast is to be posted to the SEC website. Also, the Attorney General has a short video posted on the web site.

Mr. Mandel pointed out that conservatorships can also be abusive.

X. California Commission on Aging Report

Sandi Fitzpatrick, Executive Director of the CCoA, asked the Directors to fill out a travel option form to indicate whether or not we would schedule through House of Travel. She also spoke about Carol Sewell, new to the staff.

The California Endowment has provided a grant for follow up on the White House Conference on Aging.

CCoA is working on the Workmen's Compensation issue. The problem is with the volunteer status of the people involved. For example, one question is, should the responsibility for an injury be with the local agency associated with, say, a TACC Director rather than CCoA?

The Commission will meet August 1-3 in Ventura to discuss Prevention and Wellness, and October 31-November 2 in Jackson with the topic "Community LTC Services in Rural Communities".

Ms. Fitzpatrick provided a financial report showing for the last fiscal year a projected deficit of \$1,716 against the \$57,000 budget. The major offender is in travel; it is most helpful that the travel expense for many TACC Directors is paid for by local agencies.

TACC Minutes, July 26-27, 2006, Page 3 of 6

XI. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Margaret Mooney, was not present, and the item was covered in Ms. Fitzpatrick's report.

XII. California Senior Legislature Report

Cox reported that the 2006 Legislative Session of the California Senior Legislature will be abbreviated to three days as a money-saving effort. The JRC met in teleconference, also to save money. With the transition of the CSL away from the CCoA, Sandi Fitzpatrick is missed. SB1249 which relaxes the requirements surrounding line 54 of the California income tax forms is very important.

XIII. Older Adult Traffic & Safety Task Force Report: Staggs had no report.

XIV. Medicare Part D – The Rest of the Story

Peter Bauer, of Region 9, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and liaison to several outside groups including HICAP, gave some historical background, then emphasized that there are a number of underutilized services within Medicare that are intended to promote wellness and reduce or postpone the need for more expensive services:

Welcome to Medicare physical exam – to be performed with six months of joining Medicare with a 20% copay.

Diabetes screening, free for those who are at risk.

Cardiovascular screening, free every five years.

Cancer screening project.

Hospice care.

Mr. Bauer called attention to the My.Medicare.Gov web site where those who have Medicare may obtain personal information about their account.

XV. Committee Reports

Legislative Committee - Wilder

- HR147: Tucker requested support for the "Social Security Fairness Act of 2005" by supporting a discharge petition to force the bill out of committee and to the floor of Congress. Passed with 1 no and 1 abstain.
- SB1249: Noted that this bill passed the Senate and awaits action in the Assembly Revenue & Taxation Committee.
- Reviewed status of other legislation supported by TACC.

SB 910: 2 task teams are still working:

- CCoA is holding a Wellness and Prevention hearing in Ventura August 2-3, 2006.
- The Transportation Team under Peter Steinert is active.

XVI. PSA Reports

Spiker, PSA 26, reported on the rebuilding of the AAA which now operates under a joint powers agreement between Lake and Mendocino counties developed with the assistance of the California Department of Aging. There is a five-member Board which includes Roberta King (who was a TACC Director). The Advisory Council has 10 members.

Duff, PSA 23, gave an update on their intergenerational program, bringing foster children together with seniors. They have a suspicious death review program requiring review of deaths of children as well as those of adults with suspicious circumstances.

Romeo, PSA 5, reported on a new meals-on-wheels provider. She reported on their work with elder abuse which includes a train-the-trainer program and a task force. Concerns include reverse mortgage scams. They are planning an all-day symposium on elder abuse.

Cox, PSA 31, reported that they are buying new buses, and also have undertaken a baby boomer survey that got a good return.

TACC Minutes, July 26-27, 2006, Page 4 of 6

Overfield, PSA 33, reported on an all-day seminar held in May regarding adult abuse and sexual abuse.

Schofield, PSA 6, spoke about efforts to revitalize the Advisory Council and reactivate its committees.

Erman, PSA 22, reported on disaster preparedness efforts, including the use of green reflectors in roads to identify people needing assistance. Their advisory council has a new ethics clause.

Elliott, PSA 8, said that they are using prop 63 money for home visits and reaching out to the homeless. There is concern that the practice on the part of senior centers of renting space to vendors offering annuities, savings, long term care, etc. constitutes a conflict of interest. They are addressing issues of alcohol, drug, and tobacco abuse.

Winslow, PSA 13, reported on plans for a retreat for the council. The AAA has given emergency kits to low income seniors. A representative of the police department gave a talk on identity theft that was a wake-up call.

Maiden, PSA 21, reported on a housing forum for aging folk, architects, planners, and developers. They've reduced their nutrition waiting list from over 500. They are setting up a foundation for funding support.

Smith, PSA 15, said they are revising their bylaws; also, producing a new brochure for better outreach.

The meeting was suspended until Thursday, July 27 at 9am.

XVII. Public Comment: Cox reported that Massachusetts has health care for all.

XVIII. Election of Officers

The Nominating Committee presented nominations for office as follows:

President	David Wilder
Vice President	Don Hunt
Secretary	Bill Hollabaugh
Treasurer	Martin Tucker
Member-at-Large	Jacque Brown

In each case, no nominations were made from the floor; nominations were closed by motion properly made, seconded, and passed unanimously; and the Secretary was instructed to cast a unanimous ballot by motion made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

In accordance with the change to the Bylaws passed earlier in the meeting, no Nominating Committee was elected.

XVI. PSA Reports, continued

Gast, PSA 1, reported that the AAA has received a \$30,000 grant from the Archstone Foundation to address fall prevention, and a \$10,000 grant from P. G. & E. for a "Flex Your Power" energy conservation program.

McGrath, PSA 19, reported on issues facing a large AAA, stating that there's lots of staff support, but it changes a lot; senior centers feel disconnected from the County. The Advisory Council is asking to provide more input to the annual plan, and expects to be more involved.

Williams, PSA 16, says her AAA is looking for a larger volunteer base. Money is a problem, particularly with the impact of the increased price of gasoline.

Brown, PSA 4, described the issues faced by an Advisory Council of 35 serving a PSA covering seven counties. The AAA also has a Governing Board of 18. They are following up to the White House Conference on Aging in the areas of transportation, housing, and health care.

TACC Minutes, July 26-27, 2006, Page 5 of 6

Mack, PSA 10, reported that their Advisory Council is relatively independent, answering to no one. They are also working on issues of disaster preparedness. They are providing free transportation for seniors. PSA 10 is one of several offering the Network of Care services on the Internet.

XIX. Reverse Mortgages and Seniors plus Update on Revocable Transfer-on-Death Beneficiary Deeds: David Mandel, Senior Legal Hotline

Mr. Mandel reported that the Hotline is losing its federal funding; this is a severe blow to their \$500,000 budget.

On the subject of reverse mortgages: Up front costs are high. Minimum age is 62. \$362,990 is maximum value. Fee is up to 2% of value. Insurance is expensive, and junk fees are often attached. Counseling is required by FHA and Fannie Mae. Reverse mortgage should be used only as a last resort. Even worse is using the income from a reverse mortgage to purchase an annuity. The "income" from a reverse mortgage does not count for SSI or SDI.

On the subject of revocable transfer-on-death beneficiary deeds [reference the report by Mary Pat Toups at the March 2006 meeting]: this capability is already available for assets other than real estate. The California Law Revision Commission is required to report to the legislature by January 1, 2007, and is working on a bill to answer the many open questions on this topic.

XX. PSA Reports

Bowen, PSA 12, reported that "Seniors of the Mother Lode" nonprofit has a new permanent director. Alpine County, with a population of 1300 and 60 seniors, has pulled out of the PSA and will not receive federal or state funding.

Tucker, PSA 17, reported that the PSA is large, with some traveling 180 miles to meetings; they are working on the county to subsidize the cost of gasoline.

Woods, PSA 25, spoke of a Men's Caregiver Retreat that worked well. The held an Older Americans Month luncheon at Hollywood Bowl, and a senior art exhibition that had a large catalog.

Sonnefeld, PSA 11, reported that their Commission actually decides on spending. Of concern is the closing of a therapy pool operated by Easter Seals in a donated building.

Hunt, PSA 18, mentioned receipt of a nutrition services grant. They've also had a presentation on the flu pandemic. Pepperdine University continues to provide interns for the AAA. They have an active 211 number.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bill Hollabaugh, Recording Secretary

Next Meeting: September 27-28, 2006: Vagabond Inn, Sacramento

Appendix A. Proposed changes to Bylaws

VERSION #1

Article V, Section B

B. Nominating Committee:

1. The Nominating Committee shall consist of three Directors selected by consensus at the first meeting after January 1 of each year except that should the services of the Committee be required earlier due to a vacancy in an office, it shall be so selected at the first regular meeting after the vacancy occurs. A quorum must be present at the time of the selection.
2. The Nominating Committee shall present a slate of nominations for officers of the Board in accordance with the provisions of Article IV, Section 2.
3. Vacancies in the Nominating Committee occurring after its selection, but prior to the annual meeting, shall be filled by the Executive Committee.

VERSION #2

Article V, Section B

B. Nominating Committee:

1. The Nominating Committee shall consist of three Directors: the immediate past President, the Member-at-Large and one Director selected by consensus of those Directors present at the first meeting after January 1 of each year. Should the services of the Committee be required earlier due to a vacancy in an office, it shall be so selected at the first regular meeting after the vacancy occurs. A quorum must be present at the time of the selection.
2. The Nominating Committee shall present a slate of nominations for officers of the Board in accordance with the provisions of Article IV, Section 2.
3. Vacancies in the Nominating Committee occurring after its selection, but prior to the annual meeting, shall be filled by the Executive Committee.