



**TACC – TRIPLE-A COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA**  
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**TACC – TRIPLE-A COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA  
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES  
Wilshire Grand Hotel, 930 Wilshire Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA  
November 13-14, 2006**

**1. Call to Order**

President David Wilder called the Triple-A Council of California general meeting (TACC) to order at 10:00 a.m.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Martin Tucker was asked and agreed to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Roll Call – Establish a Quorum**

A quorum was present. Those in attendance were:

PSA 4 – Jacque Brown	PSA 20 – David Wilder
PSA 6 – George Schofield	PSA 21 – Venetta Maiden
PSA 7 – Joanna Kim-Selby	PSA 22 – Dee Erman
PSA 11 – Terry Sonnefeld	PSA 26 – Patricia Jauregui-Darland
PSA 12 – Hav Staggs	PSA 30 – Mary Van Loon
PSA 17 – Martin Tucker	PSA 25 – Ed Woods
PSA 18 – Donald Hunt	PSA 32 – Bob Petty
PSA 19 – Peter McGrath	PSA 33 – Marty Overfield

Margaret Sowma (PSA 25 alternate)

Staff: Carol Sewell

Guests: David Lipshutz, CA Health Advocates  
Cireena Scheffield, Riverside County IHSS Advisory Committee  
Mike Collins, State Independent Living Council

**4. Introductions, Announcements** - Wilder introduced the guests and announced that TACC would adjourn at 10 a.m. on November 14 to attend C4A Older Americans Act presentation.

**5. Approve Agenda** - The agenda for November 13 -14 was reviewed. Tucker motioned to approve; Sonnefeld seconded; the agenda was approved.

**6. Approve Minutes of Sept 28, 2006** - The September 28, 2006 meeting minutes were approved. Tucker motioned to approve; Overfield seconded. Motion was approved with four abstentions

**7. Confirm Dates of January Meeting** - The January 10 -11 meeting date was announced. Overfield motioned to approve; Tucker seconded. The January 10 and 11, 2007 meeting dates were approved.

**8. California Health Advocates** - David Lipshutz of California Health Advocates (CHA) described his organization as having begun as an informal network of HICAP managers that had evolved to focus on education and advocacy on behalf of Medicare beneficiaries in California. CHA promotes HICAPs, provides support and education, legislative advocacy, and runs a consumer-oriented informational website ([www.calmedicare.org](http://www.calmedicare.org)). Lipshutz gave an update on the status of Medicare Part D and pending changes to the program. He noted that relationships between AAA & HICAPS can be crucial to seniors obtaining good information. The CHA website, [www.calmedicare.org](http://www.calmedicare.org), gives lists of HICAPS and contacts for every county.

**9. Treasurer's Report – Martin Tucker** - Tucker reported that the California Foundation on Aging (CFoA) ending balance was \$480.18 with \$1,414 in the scholarship fund's ending balance. He reported that CFoA was working to remove the scholarship designation, removing scholarship designation since that fund had had no disbursements.

**10. California Senior Legislature Report** - Erman distributed proposals and a program book from the October, 2006 CSL session. She reported that the session results are online at [www.4csl.org](http://www.4csl.org) and will show which bill proposals are picked up by the legislature.

**11. Senior Low Vision Program, Department of Rehabilitation** - Joe Smith and Amy Scott, California Department of Rehabilitation (CDR), described the federal grant program the CDR administers providing independent living funding for older blind adults. Smith said the program tries to let clients know that vision problems are not a normal part of aging and that services are available. Programs to assist the aging with vision problems include the Center for the Blind – Aging with Vision Loss Program and the Center for the Partially Sighted, which were represented by Socorro Merchain, Dayle McIntosh, and LaDonna Ringering. Wilder noted that his county provides public education to sight-impaired and conducts comprehensive visual screenings in various locations.

## **12. Committee Reports**

**Legislative Committee – Donald Hunt, Chair** - Hunt reported that TACC members had received the CSL proposals, TACC's bill list and status updates, and the California Department of Aging legislative summary of senior and disability issues. The Committee recommended that TACC urge the Area Agencies to review past bills' impacts on seniors to achieve user-friendly implementation.

Hunt moved; Overfield seconded the recommendation.

**SB 910 LRSPA Monitoring Liaison Update** - Don Hunt reported that the Transportation Task Team (TTT) hopes to release a draft mobility action plan in January. The TTT is also preparing e-book to guide localities to provide consolidated transportation services on a regional basis.

## **13. PSA Reports**

PSA 25 – Woods reported on the "Bus Buddies," program, where older adults are bused to a train station and given training on ticket purchase/riding trains. The agency is working on protection or oversight at stations; also working on HIV in seniors.

PSA 17 -- Tucker said his PSA had received only one application for respite care grant funding, so was working to get more.

PSA 12 – Staggs reported on a California Commission on Aging (CCoA) meeting in Amador County. He said the public hearing on rural health held in Jackson was enlightening to many commissioners, many of whom had no idea about the challenges. Wilder announced Staggs' appointment to the CCoA.

PSA 11 – Sonnefeld announced his local transportation commission had proposed to buy buses without handicap transport capacity, but protests had stopped the plan.

PSA 4 – Brown said her Advisory Commission was discussing rural health delivery issues in response to White House Conference on Aging recommendations.

PSA 26 – Jauregui-Darland reported that re-appointment of Advisory Council members was underway due to a change in the AAA administration.

PSA 30 -- Van Loon reported her area just lost sales a tax that provided senior transportation support.

PSA 21 – Maiden said her council was disbursing “Smart Cards” to Riverside senior centers to help prevent over-medication.

#### **14. Public Comment**

None offered.

**15. California Commission on Aging Report** – Sandi Fitzpatrick reported on plans for a post-White House Conference on Aging forum called “Turning Ideas Into Action,” set for November 29 and 30, 2006. She announced two new CCoA appointments and the commission’s next field hearing, set for December 7, 2006, on the Mental Health Services Act. She noted the recent release of Assembly Member Patty Berg’s third part of her master plan on aging. Fitzpatrick and Wilder had attended a Senior Roundtable in Governor’s Office; Wilder reported the meeting covered program support and that he had questioned a transportation requirement that senior programs pay for senior transport when, instead, Caltrans should enforce Government Code Sec. 11135.

Fitzpatrick said CCoA will be tracking member’s actual meeting attendance in order to calculate TACC’s monthly Workers’ Compensation (WC) premium. She asked all members to let CCoA know if their AAAs are covered under county WC policy.

Fitzpatrick informed the group that the AB 1234 ethics training affects all organizations represented at TACC. AAAs are responsible for providing training – information is available from CCoA and evidence of completion is due in the CCoA office by January 1, 2007.

#### **16. PSA Reports**

PSA 7 – Kim-Selby reported that the Stroke Education Campaign was a big effort of her County Agency on Aging and IHSS, as noted the community’s involvement in the Aging Commission’s Long-term care strategy.

PSA 22 – Erman reported that the election of three new county supervisors in Orange County may result in changes on the Advisory Commission, which has 10 vacancies. She noted that all Advisory members had completed ethics training.

PSA 33 - Overfield reported her PSA had lost its director. She noted that Kern County Counsel had provided AB ethics training for the group.

PSA 19 – McGrath reported that LA County AAA had developed a Needs Assessment survey for 100,000 persons, but was unsure as to how to distribute and get back. He said the Advisory

Council was forming a Bylaws committee to re-align the council's committee structure with area plan.

PSA 6 –Schofield reported his AAA had undergone California Department of Aging site monitoring recently, in which the agency was noted for a number of best practices.

PSA 18 –Hunt said his Advisory Council was working with the local Housing Authority on senior housing issues. Ventura County was studying transportation needs of disabled and grants evaluations were underway.

**Public Comment**

Cireena Scheffield, Riverside County IHSS Advisory Committee announced that the Board of Supervisors had established "Care Provider Month," which included a recognition event at the Public Authority. She chairs the legislative subcommittee on care advisory board. Scheffield came to see how TACC conducts meetings and how it deals with issues; she thanked the TACC members for their work.

Mike Collins, Executive Director of the SILC, said he had heard about TACC members' emergency preparedness efforts. He suggested that those efforts include the disability community in training and coordination efforts. He urged the group to advocate for everyone in county efforts, noting that all should be prepared to be trapped at home for three days.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m. The next meeting is January 10 and 11, 2007, at the Vagabond Inn in Sacramento.