



TACC – TRIPLE-A COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
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TACC – TRIPLE-A COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Vagabond Inn, 909 3rd Street, Sacramento, CA
January 10-11, 2007
10:00 a.m.

1. Call to Order

President Wilder called meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Woods led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call – Establish a Quorum

A quorum was present. Those in attendance were:

PSA 4 – Jacque Brown	PSA 17 – Martin Tucker
PSA 5 – Roberta Romeo	PSA 18 – Don Hunt
PSA 6 – George Schofield	PSA 19 – Peter McGrath
PSA 6 – Bill Hollabaugh	PSA 20 – David Wilder
PSA 7 – Reva Clark	PSA 23 – Jonann Siders
PSA11 – Bunny Roufa	PSA 25 – Ed Woods
PSA 12 – Hav Staggs	PSA 33 – Marty Overfield
PSA 13 – George Winslow	

Staff: Carol Sewell

4. Introductions, Announcements

President Wilder introduced Neal Albritton, Deputy Director of the State Independent Living Council.

Sandra Fitzpatrick, Executive Director, California Commission on Aging, was present for the Executive Director's report.

5. Approve Agenda

The January 10-11, 2007 agenda was reviewed. Hunt asked that the Legislative Committee report be made an action item to allow adoption of support/opposition positions as appropriate. Staggs moved to approve the emergency amendment;

Hollabaugh seconded the motion to approve the January 10-11 agenda as amended. The measure was unanimously approved.

6. Approve Minutes of Nov 14, 2006 ACTION

Wilder asked for corrections to the November 14, 2006 minutes; none were offered. Hunt moved; Overfield seconded the motion to approve. The motion passed with one abstention from Hollabaugh.

7. Confirm Dates of March Meeting

Wilder proposed moving the March 7-8 meeting dates based on the dates of the April C4A meeting scheduled for April 16th. Discussion ensued regarding the value of attending the spring C4A meeting, with many expressing reservations about attending. Several expressed concern that meeting in March and April would preclude holding a May TACC meeting, when the opportunity for influencing legislation was greatest. The possibility of going to four meetings a year to cut costs was raised; most agreed that four meetings a year was acceptable and that the Executive Committee or chair could attend C4A. Hollabaugh commented that minutes from 2002 supported TACC attendance at both C4A conferences and two additional meetings annually in order to maintain a strong focus on state issues.

Wilder asked for a show of hands of those still supporting attendance at the C4A conferences; only two showed their support. Marti Overfield moved to meet March 28,29 and May 23,24; Martin Tucker seconded. Motion approved; Peter McGrath opposed.

Hollabaugh commented that TACC's bylaws call for 6 meetings per year; Staggs noted that a 2006 amendment calls for regular meetings of the board twice a year.

Wilder proposed that July 24,25 and September 25,26 be considered as the subsequent meeting dates. He recommended that the Executive Committee set the ongoing schedule.

8. Discussion of C4A conference

Schofield asked for observations of November's C4A conference, commenting that the event lacked integration and was not set up to promote interaction between various organizations. Hunt felt rescheduling for the Older Americans' Act reauthorization session was good, despite the impact on planning. McGrath had mixed feelings, but appreciated the networking opportunities and learning about area plans.

Discussion ensued about the value of participation in the C4A Coordinated Leadership Conference. The group agreed there was insufficient time to prepare an agenda for TACC, which should begin the preceding year. The group agreed to recommend that the next leadership of TACC to plan early for participation in the April conference.

9. State Independent Living Council – Neal Albritton

Albritton gave an overview of Internet accessibility for aging and persons with disabilities, describing the benefits to seniors of Internet access. Problems with web navigation, small print, search criteria and download times affect seniors and the disability community. He said that good webpage design contains alternative text to make it accessible by allowing blind and disabled users to “read” the screen. Without those features, screen reading programs are ineffective.

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 provides persons with disabilities with the right to program access and the Federal Rehabilitation Act (Section 508) establishes accessibility requirements and standards for federal websites. Albritton said the state required Section 508 compliance but had set its own more rigorous web accessibility standards.

Albritton demonstrated how accessibility software works for the consumer and described several programs to test for accessibility. He said state requires that all state and federally funded websites must be accessible. Benefits include greater independence for website users as well as higher returns and lower maintenance for compliant firms. Albritton invited TACC members to contact him with any future questions.

10. Treasurer’s Report – Tucker reported that the FTB Line 50 report through November 2006 shows \$5,513 over 2005 amounts. Due to a shortfall in the regular budget, September 2006 expenditures (\$3,457) and the \$1,000 payment for the Tax Check-off Campaign also came from Special Deposit, leaving a balance of \$2,833. Tucker said the Special Deposit Fund contained contributions made directly to TACC; Wilder asked for a report on the source of contributions. The Foundation balance was \$480 and \$1,414 remains in the scholarship account. Tucker reported TACC’s beginning budget was \$53,000; as of December 1, 2005, \$17,000 remained in the bank. Monthly average expenditures are over \$7,000.

Tucker reported that TACC’s Sacramento meetings run approximately \$3,500 each and the Workers’ Comp insurance annual cost is \$3,000. Wilder added that TACC’s Worker’s Compensation monthly premium is based on members’ actual hours in attendance at TACC meeting. Fitzpatrick commented that the current budget does not include recent budget revisions from increased staff salary and Workers Compensation expenses, and does not show the inclusion of TACC’s carryover funds. She said that an ongoing need to use carryover funds will create a problem for TACC.

Hollabaugh announced that TACC’s tax check-off was moved Line 50 of the California tax forms this year. Posters were made available to promote donations to TACC.

11. California Senior Legislature Report

Mack provided an update on the Senior Legislature, noting that a number of CSL bills would be picked up by the Legislature, including an urgency proposal on long term care

options (AP 28). Mack said the new legislators expressed interested in learning about CSL; Hollabaugh said that all CSL legislative text is posted on the Internet.

12. White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA) Update – Sandi Fitzpatrick, Executive Director, California Commission on Aging (CCoA)

Fitzpatrick outlined the purpose of the 2005 WHCoA as a grass roots gathering to advise President and Congress. The top 10 goals of the 2005 conference included reauthorization of the Older Americans Act, enhancing long term care, strengthening and improving Medicaid and Medicare, support for geriatric worker education, promotion of non-institutionalized care, among others. The final WHCoA report is available at www.whcoa.gov. Fitzpatrick said CCoA convened the November follow-up meeting with grant funding and the support of the Health and Human Service Agency. The forum attendees identified housing and transportation as their top two issues. A letter signed by the attendees in support of dedicating a portion of Proposition 1C funding to senior housing was sent to Governor Schwarzenegger and CCoA is participating in a coalition to promote legislation to codify the senior housing provision. The group also supported a recommendation for Congress to re-establish the House Select Committee on Aging. She said the final report on the forum is due this spring. TACC members who attended the forum offered comments and concerns about the selected priorities and the forum outcomes.

Staggs reported on the Tax Check-off publicity campaign. Daytime promotional radio spots will be purchased from a nonprofit organization that brokers radio time for service organizations. A website called “Check-off California” will also provide information on the various Tax Check-off beneficiaries. TACC will receive reports through the campaign and expressed hope that the result would be larger donations.

13. Committee Reports

SB910 Long Range Strategic Plan Monitoring Liaison Update – Hunt said the Consolidated Transportation Committee is working on guidelines for establishing Consolidated Transportation Service Agencies (CTSA) in each county. The Transportation Task Team (TTT) is working on electronic e-book for CTSA operations to identify best practices, expected outcomes, benefits and an overview of next-generation services. A TTT call-in conference call was scheduled Friday, January 19.

Legislative Committee – Hunt reported that the Legislative Committee recommended TACC support AJR 3 (Dymally), AB 18 (Blakeslee), HR 4 (Dingell) and HR 6258 (Sensenbrenner). The committee recommended all other bills be given “watch” status. The members concurred. The group agreed that TACC send a letter to House Speaker Pelosi supporting re-establishment of a House Select Committee on Aging. Wilder noted that the Legislative Committee was seeking new membership and would notify new members that all are welcome to serve.

14. PSA Reports

PSA 5 – Romeo reported that Marin County’s switch to new meal provider has gone well and a reverse mortgage forum was held on November 30. PSA 5’s aging commission is working to help the local adult day healthcare program with a funding deficit. Marin’s Elder Abuse Task Force had received \$500,000 grant to train law enforcement and prosecutors to handle/expedite cases.

PSA 7 – Clark said Contra Costa’s Annual Report was completed and had received compliments from CCoA.

PSA 19 – McGrath reported on LA County’s focal point study of the county’s unincorporated areas. An ad hoc committee has been convened to lobby for additional funding; still waiting for results of county “Needs Assessment” in relation to the area plan. The local senior outreach study group was reviewing senior centers.

PSA 17 –Tucker reported that PSA 17 has begun its 2007-2008 area plan, with public hearings to begin in January. Santa Barbara County has a different interpretation of the AB 1234 ethics requirement; in response the AAA will conduct a subsequent review to ensure compliance. The agency is working to convert used mobile homes that don’t sell into affordable housing; also developing a program to identify memory-impaired persons.

PSA 25 -- Woods said the LA City Executive Board provided ethics training for AAA officials. Planned events included the Older Americans Luncheon honoring all the city’s senior centers and the 54th annual Senior Art Exhibit in May. He reported on the Advisory Council’s 2006 committee revamp and said each committee now has a project that will take them into the 16 multipurpose centers. The council is working to improve communications with seniors about HIV and sexually transmitted diseases and healthy relationships.

PSA 12 -- Staggs reported that a new Area 12 Advisory Council chair was elected in December and will be attending TACC.

PSA 18 -- Hunt said his PSA’s nutrition program had received a national AAA award for innovation. The Advisory Council’s committees do site visits to assist grant application review and to identify uses. The council is working toward an idea exchange between aging commissions to promote improved program delivery. He said that ethics training was completed in December.

PSA 23 – Siders described her agency’s exchange program to trade in unsafe slippers for non-skid slippers and its fall-prevention program. PSA 23 was working to incentivize participation in meal programs; in January began a successful yoga and nutrition meal program at local library community rooms. A proposed program would give homebound caregivers a computer and instruction in order to help them maintain outside contacts. The council is working to enhance membership and is working to match county demographics.

PSA 33 – Overfield said Kern County held workshops on the bird flu pandemic. California City is doing YANA Box (You Are Not Alone), allowing emergency responders to access homebound seniors with a key placed in a locked box on the house. County Aging Commission has recommended new appointees be over 60, based on Older Americans Act requirements and the Commission's own requirement that only members over 50 can vote. Monthly meetings honor outstanding volunteers at different senior centers.

Thursday, Jan 11, 2007

President Wilder reconvened the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.
A quorum was present.

15. Public Comment

None.

16. California Commission on Aging Report – Sandi Fitzpatrick, Executive Director

Fitzpatrick reported that CCoA received 14 new appointees in 2006, and new officers were elected in December. Celia Esquivel of Sacramento is Chair and Jim Davis of Eureka is Vice Chair. CCoA's December meeting was in Pasadena, with the field hearing focus on the Mental Health Services Act. The February, 2007 meeting will be held in Napa.

Fitzpatrick reported on participating in a long term care stakeholder meeting convened by the California Healthcare Foundation to follow up on a recent Little Hoover Commission report on Long Term Care Reform. CCoA is recruiting for an Executive Secretary; Sharon Jenkins had taken a position with CSL. CCoA will be co-sponsoring legislation to dedicate a proportionate amount of Multifamily Housing Program dollars to affordable senior housing, and the Commission will be tracking the various healthcare reform proposals at the Legislature.

Fitzpatrick reported that the Governor's health insurance proposal had been released, but is not yet introduced as legislation. The program relies on significant federal funding and cost sharing with county governments. She had attended a Governor's Office briefing and reported that many senior programs would be funded at 2006 levels or greater.

17. Selection of 3rd Member of Nominating Committee

President Wilder announced that Staggs, Immediate Past President and Brown have agreed to remain on Nominating Committee and Roberta Romeo has been nominated to fill the vacant seat. With no other nominations from the floor, Hollabaugh moved and Tucker seconded the motion to close nominations. The motion was approved.

18. CDA Dietician – Barbara Estrada

Barbara Estrada described the Department of Aging Nutrition Services Program and her work as one of three dietitians overseeing that program. She discussed the nutritional and social benefits of the program, as well as the difficulties of funding the program with rising fuel costs and limited dollars. Estrada credited many senior programs for innovative fund-raising activities to support meal programs, as well as for promoting volunteerism and partnership efforts.

She said that State dietitians actually monitor sites in order to help resolve problems by visiting a program's kitchen, home delivered meal programs and meal sites. Nutrition monitoring is done every two years and dietitians also participate with whole CDA monitoring efforts every four years.

19. PSA Reports

PSA 4 – Jacque Brown said Area 4 was working to fill Advisory Council vacancies and planning a public hearing in Marysville on federal expenditures. The Advisory Council is working to identify focal points in each county. Area 4 is sending out disaster preparedness RFPs to providers and holding brown bag medical check-ups to enable patients to get free pharmacists' consultations.

PSA 13 – Bud Winslow said his Advisory Council would be meeting with the board in hopes of improving communications.

PSA 6 – George Schofield reported that San Francisco was noted for its best practices during recent CDA monitoring. Both the Advisory Council and local Aging Commission were invited to sit in on the monitoring; the results provided opportunities to follow up on recommendations. He was recently re-elected and hopes to recruit new members to both aging organizations. The council is reviewing a mandate to serve the disability community; also working to improve the delivery and funding of services.

Bill Hollabaugh (also PSA 6) reported on the broad purview of San Francisco's Office of Aging, which also addresses disabled community needs. He credited a new professional planning staff with making improvements to the Area Plan. The program has a Robert Wood Johnson grant for neighborhood partnership groups to address community issues. In particular, the LGBT partnership addresses the significant issues of older LGBT folk. The goal is to help each group identify solutions to their community's problems..

Wilder reported that TACC's participation in the November C4A Conference had cost the group as much as a Sacramento meeting, with TACC spending over \$2,000 for airfare and registration alone. He commented that TACC had not anticipated paying members' registration and the lack of PSA support or C4A scholarships added incentive for the group to not meet with C4A. He agreed to have C4A ask the AAAs for a commitment to cover future conference costs so TACC can revisit participation next year.

Hunt suggested that TACC recognize the services Sharon Jenkins provided to TACC, and Wilder directed him to draft a letter to that effect.

ADJOURN TO NEXT MEETING:

The meeting was adjourned until March 28 - 29, 2007 at Vagabond Inn, Sacramento.