



TACC – TRIPLE-A COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

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GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Sacramento, CA

February 6-7, 2013

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2013

- **Call to Order – Antonio Rodella, TACC President**

President Rodella called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

- **Pledge of Allegiance**

Wilder led the Pledge of Allegiance.

- **Presentation #1: Senior Issues at the Capitol (Women's Summit Older Women's Panel and AB 40; Senate Aging Committee status)**

Presenter: Robert MacLaughlin, Principal Consultant, Assembly Aging & Long-Term Care Committee

Robert MacLaughlin provided a summary of AB 40 and reported on the important policy proposals that came out of the Women's Summit resulting in the following four issue papers: 1) Issue of Long-Term Care Financing; 2) Recommendations on Family Caregivers; 3) Recommendations on Elder Justice (Security and Justice); 4) Legislative Engagement.

- **Welcome to new TACC members**

President Rodella welcomed new TACC member Gloria Plasencia, PSA 4, and returning TACC member Gerald Richards, PSA 7.

- **Introductions and Establish a Quorum**

TACC Members introduced themselves.

Present:

Judith Eisen	PSA 27	Marti Overfield	PSA 33
Amos Fried	PSA 25	Gerald Richards	PSA 7
Marilyn Fried	PSA 19	Antonio Rodella	PSA 22
Erwin Fromm	PSA 21	Cathy Russo	PSA 6
Pat Grabham	PSA 26	Terry Sonnefeld	PSA 11
Jeri Johnson	PSA 30	Martin Tucker	PSA 17
Vicki Ludwig	PSA 29	Marge Warner	PSA 12
Alan Masden	PSA 2	David Wilder	PSA 20
Sharon Monck	PSA 28	Gloria Plasencia	PSA 4

Staff: Sandi Fitzpatrick, Marcella Lopez, Carol Sewell

Guests: Robert MacLaughlin, Gary Passmore, Joyce Cram, Joe Rodrigues, Suzanne Anderson

A quorum was established

- **Approve Agenda**

The February 6-7, 2013 General Meeting Agenda was approved as circulated.

M/S/C (Wilder/Tucker)

APPROVED

- **Approve Minutes of November 14-15, 2012 TACC Meeting**

The November 14-15, 2012 meeting minutes were approved as circulated.

M/S/C (Warner/Ludwig)

APPROVED

- **Public Comment**

Warner invited TACC members to meet for dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Rodella provided the Executive Committee meeting report. The California Department of Aging (CDA) will be holding three State Plan on Aging hearings; one will be held the first week of May.

Proposed TACC meeting dates are as follows:

- Week of May 20 in Sacramento (possibly in conjunction with CDA's State Plan on Aging hearing)
- August 14-15, 2013 in Sacramento at the Vagabond Inn
- December 3-4, 2013 in Sacramento at the Vagabond Inn
- February 12-13, 2014 in Sacramento at the Vagabond Inn

A majority of TACC members agreed to have the meeting in December.

- **CCoA Report**

Fitzpatrick provided the CCoA report. The next CCoA meeting is February 28-March 1st in Palm Springs with the focus on the LGBT community. Subsequent CCoA meetings will be in April and June. Fitzpatrick attended the Inland Empire Disability Collaborative and presented at David Wilder's Area Agency on Aging. We are still waiting for Lora Connolly's confirmation. Fitzpatrick suggested TACC members follow SB 60 by Senator Wright out of Los Angeles. SB 60 would add financial crimes against elders and dependent adults to the definition of crimes covered under the Victim's Compensation Fund. Sequestration is still a concern; there still could be a 10% cut on the Older Americans Act funds by March 1st.

- **Presentation #2: Update on the Dual Eligible Pilot**

Presenter: Gary Passmore, Vice President Congress of California Seniors

Mr. Passmore discussed the implementation status of the Duals Integration Project and related budget matters. Mr. Passmore briefly reviewed the state's balanced budget pointing out that 10% of Medi-Cal funding and a 20% reduction for IHSS clients is already in place (but has not yet taken effect).

Roundtable: PSA Report Discussion

TACC members discussed the purpose and protocol for PSA reports.

Suggested topics for discussion are as follows:

- Time limits for the reports 5 minutes
- Time keeper
- Donate time if no report is made

- **Lunch**

Meeting recessed for lunch at 12:23 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 1:35 p.m.

- **PSA Reports**

Amos Fried – PSA 25 announced the AAA office will be relocating due to budget cuts. City of L.A. is moving into service technology with “infonar” – which provides free teleconference for providers. The Council on Aging sent a resolution to the L.A. City Council in support of the reauthorization of the Older American’s Act.

Marilyn Fried – PSA 19 Met with a USDA representative and asked for help with dissemination of CalFresh information to seniors; have resources that aren’t being used. LACCOA has been handing out CalFresh brochures to senior centers, housing, synagogues and churches encouraging those in need to apply. L.A. Seniors Walk Initiative encourages seniors to walk, will take place in July. Advisory Commission is working with AAA on hosting senior center knowledge fair.

Marty Overfield – PSA 30 reported the Commission is strictly Advisory to county. There was a recent proposal by the county to merge the Department of Aging, the VA Association, and Child Support services into one. A presentation was made to the County Supervisors, convincing the Board to not follow through with the merger. Commission along with a separate foundation raised over \$1000 for the Christmas for Seniors Program, providing gifts to over 1500 low-income seniors. AARP has been invited to provide tax preparation to seniors at the Department of Aging and Adult Services office.

Judith Eisen – PSA 27 “Hanging up the Keys” program for older drivers is very successful. It is an AARP program tailored to Sonoma County. A total of six presentations between May and October will be held in various senior centers. There will also be a project consisting of support groups for those who are giving up or have given up their keys that will be held in senior centers immediately before or after the congregate lunch. Council members are offering the training.

Jeri Johnson – PSA 30 Stanislaus Senior Foundation was successful in raising funding for seniors with emergency needs. 120 seniors were provided grocery gift cards for the holiday. Fall Prevention Coalition of Stanislaus has changed its name to Senior Coalition of Stanislaus County with receipt of new grant and is promoting quality LTSS for seniors along with fall prevention.

Pat Grabham – PSA 26 Advisory Council received a grant for non-emergency medical transportation; recently received a new bus to transport elders from outlying areas for congregate meals. Janice Hubble is new director of the AAA.

Marge Warner – PSA 12 Due to decreased funding, the Advisory Council will be meeting six times a year instead of twelve. Warner described the process for using one-time-only funds. Meals-on-wheels delivery trucks have been purchased for providers.

Alan Masden – PSA 2 AAA recently lost their director; JPA is re-organizing and considering ways of managing other than as a non-profit.

Cathy Russo – PSA 6 Many non-profits have made staffing cuts with some making voluntarily salary cuts in hopes to avoid layoffs. The County has agreed to provide cost of living adjustments (COLA) to assist non-profits.

Erwin Fromm – PSA 21 Michelle Wilham is the new director for the Office on Aging. Advisory Council members attended the Clinton Health Initiative to address regional health concerns; also participated in several health reform events. In December participated in a senior nutrition food-give-away in which \$20 of fresh produce was provided to 309 seniors at senior centers in various communities.

Martin Tucker – PSA 17 The County has a “closed circuit TV” system which connects Advisory Council meetings held in two different locations, allowing for members to attend the location closest to them.

Terry Sonnefeld – PSA 11 There is a concern regarding the county’s use of APS dollars from the realignment.

Gerald Richards – PSA 7 The Health Work Group reviewed the emergency service contracts for the county regarding reports of seniors being charged for ambulance services due to the company classifying the service as “not medically necessary.” Seniors were not made aware of payment options for low-income seniors. Advisory Council has helped to draft a brochure to explain the options. There will be input in the new contract with a proposal to include an appeal process.

David Wilder – PSA 20 Nutrition Committee is voluntarily reviewing all nutrition sites; reporting back to AAA. There is a concern that cancer centers are wait listing cancer patients with Medicare; addressing through HICAP as a systemic problem within the hospitals.

Gloria Plasencia – PSA 4 Currently there is only one farmer’s market in Placer County that honors the Food and Agriculture coupons for farmer’s market foods.

Vicky Ludwig – PSA 29 Reported on the county Housing Element in the General Plan, showing support for high-density housing, accessible, aging-friendly housing for the aging population. Pointed to the value of the “gray dollar” in the county and the need for housing to help seniors age in place.

Tony Rodella – PSA 22 “Go Direct” is an electronic federal benefits payment system. Those receiving federal benefits such as Social Security, SSI, VA, etc. are required to switch to electronic payment system. Additional time has been allowed for persons without checking accounts to get signed up.

- **Presentation #3: Elder Courts**

Presenter: Judge Joyce Cram, Contra Costa County Elder Court

Judge Cram discussed the success of the Contra Costa County Elder Court system and its importance to seniors. Many senior victims are vulnerable to financial abuse and scams, often times with family members and/or caregivers being the culprits. Victims of all forms of elder abuse are three times as likely to die as their peers. A loss of income, resources and housing, all affect their health well-being. The Elder court model has since been taken to cities across the country encouraging courts to use Contra Costa model. Elder courts in Buffalo New York, Atlanta, and Chicago have opened up elder court.

- **Recess**

Meeting recessed at 4:10 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2013

Meeting reconvened at 8:37 a.m.

- **PSA Reports**

Fitzpatrick reviewed the process for the use of one-time-only (OTO) funds in response to PSA report discussion from the preceding day. Fitzpatrick suggested inviting CDA to review the funding formula at a future meeting. Issues for CDA to address: OTO timelines/turnaround at CDA/speed of allocation/Federal rules vs. State rules vs. Local approach to allocating OTO funds.

- **Presentation #4: Abuse Reporting Requirements:**

Changes under AB 40

Speaker: Joe Rodrigues, State Long-Term Care Ombudsman

Mr. Rodrigues reviewed elder abuse reporting requirements and changes under AB 40.

- **Presentation #5: Food Insecurity: Tracking Food Deserts in California**

Speaker: Suzanne Anderson, Winters Healthcare Foundation Board and Graduate Gerontology Student, CSU Sacramento

Ms. Anderson provided an overview of food deserts in California and state and federal initiatives to address the problem.

- **Presentation #6: 2013 Technology and Senior Services**

Speaker: Scott Peifer, Age Tech West

Speaker unable to attend due to family emergency.

- **PSA Reports**

PSA reports were completed yesterday.

- **Next Meeting Announcement**

Next TACC meeting will be the week of May 20th in conjunction with CDA's State Plan on Aging hearing. TACC members will be notified of the exact date by the end of March.

- **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.