

Tuolumne County Commission on Aging
Minutes of Meeting on Monday, March 8, 2021, 1:30 pm
**** Meeting held via Zoom and/or phone conferencing ****

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 1:33 pm by Chair Rex Whisnand.
2. **Introductions: Commissioners Present:** Malcolm Carden, Kristi Conforti, Cathie Peacock, Syd Robenseifner, Carleton Penwell, Ted Michaud, Laurie Sylwester, Charlotte Frazier, Catherine Driver, Matthew Rose and Rex Whisnand. **Absent:** Torie Carlson (LOA), Sally Dios (LOA), John Featherstone, Jim Grinnell, Melody Brotby, Viktoria Martinez.
BOS/County Staff Representatives: David Goldemberg, District 1 Supervisor, Tuolumne County, Dore Bietz, Tuolumne County OES, Tyler Summerset, TCTC, Liz Peterson, County Administrator's Office, Shannon Thaggard. TCTC.
Guests: Kristin Milhoff, Executive Director, Area 12 Agency on Aging.
3. **Public Comments:** Non-Commissioners are welcome to speak about senior-related issues NOT listed on this agenda (2 minutes maximum per speaker) – no discussion, please. None.
4. **Minutes:** Minutes of the February 8 , 2021 meeting were approved as submitted.
5. **Chair's Report:** The presentation to the Board of Supervisors went well. They were very appreciative of our efforts, and look forward to a good relationship going forward. Tyler Summersett will be rejoining the Commission, and will serve as Chair of the Transportation Committee. Laurie Sylwester and Viktoria Martinez have been approved as Commissioners by the BOS. Ted mentioned that County Counsel has confirmed that we do need to fill out Form 700s, the Statement of Financial Interest form, and that it needs to be submitted to Debi Bautista at the County by April 1.
6. **Treasurer's Report:** Cathie Peacock – no activity during February, 2021.
7. **Corresponding Secretary's Report:** Centenarian project is progressing.
8. **BOS Report:** Supervisor Goldemberg congratulated Rex on his presentation to the BOS. Covid vaccinations are going well, and the new case rate is dropping. We should be in red zone shortly. A new Fire Safety Committee is being put together for public input. Dore Bietz introduced herself as County Office of Emergency Services Coordinator, and mentioned that MyTurn.ca is coming shortly, which will coordinate all vaccine activity in the County. Kristin mentioned that the State Master Plan for Aging is coming along. It is a 10 year plan with 5 major goals and 120 initiatives. It is available online, and funds are being sought to execute them in this year's State Budget.
9. **Guest Speaker:** None.
10. **Committee Reports on 2021 Goals:**

Transportation Committee: Tyler Summersett will Chair this committee. It is hoped that Cathy Salsedo, County Mobility Coordinator, will also join the Committee, as Vice Chair.

1. **Report unmet needs in Senior Transportation to SSTAC (Social Services Transportation Advisory Council) and County.**
2. **Review a program of driver assistance to Seniors utilizing taxi and public transportation services.**

Community Relations Committee: No report.

3. **Continue to review viability of Senior Volunteer Event.**
4. **Continue to review viability of Centenarian Luncheon.**
5. **Have a Commissioner attend BOS (Board of Supervisors) meetings as needed and speak on Senior topics during Public Comment or on Agenda.**
6. **Attend Senior community meetings & events and publicize COA (Commission on Aging). Report back to COA as part of regular Agenda item.**
7. **Investigate establishment of County-wide network to provide services to seniors via phone, online, newspapers, etc.**

Legislative Committee: Jim Grinnell will be Vice Chair of this Committee.

8. **Continue to monitor State and Federal Legislation as it impacts Seniors, and report to BOS as needed.**
9. **Report periodically on the status of Senior Legislature proposals, and highlight items which will directly impact the County.**
10. **Study California Master Plan for Aging and make recommendations to BOS and other agencies.** May 4 is Senior Legislature Rally Day in Sacramento for the MPA. The Rally will be broadcast on Zoom. Numerous organizations will be taking part, plus sponsors.

Governance Committee: No meeting as yet, Carleton went over thought processes for Committee goals.

11. **Continue to recruit new members to fill openings and maintain a “bench strength”.**
12. **Develop an ongoing succession process for the COA.**
13. **Review COA ByLaws and present recommended changes to COA.**

Education Committee: Malcolm reviewed the minutes of the Committee’s first meeting.

14. Review information from applicable organizations and agencies on Senior homelessness, and report concerns to BOS. Ted will head up this objective. Carleton suggested that someone on the Commission should join the County Homeless Task Force.

15. Investigate impact of Homeowners Insurance situation on Senior homeowners and renters. Laurie will head up this goal. She asked Supervisor Goldemberg if anyone from the County had been appointed to look into this. DG replied no, but it may be part of the new Fire Safety Committee's brief.

16. Review current County plans for emergency evacuation of Seniors and make recommendations as appropriate. Malcolm will head up this goal.

17. Develop list of relevant speakers for March – November meetings, to include all Supervisors. Carleton will head up this effort.

18. Monitor and report on Covid-19 vaccination situation in County as it applies to Seniors. Matthew will head up this initiative, since he is best placed to do so. We discussed when the Commission might move back to face-to-face meetings, but did not reach a consensus. Still too many unknowns.

Senior Expo Task Force:

19. Investigate putting on 10th Senior Expo later in year. Still in Limbo.

11. Unfinished Business:

Annual Report to BOS – see Chair's remarks above.

Status of Commission Membership – We have added two new members, Laurie and Viktoria. We still have several vacancies, the number depending on the status of the two members who are on Leave of Absence.

Status of Committee Chairs and Members – see Committee reports above.

Status of Centenarian recognition effort – ongoing.

12. New Business:

Appearances by Supervisors at Meetings. Will be discussed further at next Education Committee meeting.

Form 700 – see Chair's Report above.

Brown Act and Ethics Training – no dates as yet.

13. Public Comment: Liz Peterson mentioned the new County-wide Fire Authority JPA and the proposed Parcel Tax to fund fire-related expenditures, which will be on the ballot in June.

14. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2.42 pm.

Next COA Executive Committee Meeting – Monday, April 5, 2021, 2 pm.

Next COA Meeting – Monday, April 12, 2021, 1.30 pm. Both by Zoom.

In accordance with Government Section 54954.3(a), the public may comment on any item on the agenda. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance (i.e. auxiliary aids or services) in order to participate in this public meeting, please contact the Commission on Aging Chair, **Rex Whisnand (209) 785-8166**. Notification 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting will enable staff to make reasonable accommodations to ensure accessibility to this public meeting. Agenda packet materials are available for public inspection at the office of the Tuolumne County Administrator, 2 S. Green St., Sonora CA 95370.