



AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL

Area Agency on Aging • 778 W. State St. • El Centro, CA 92243

Meeting Minutes: Thursday, April 27, 2017

Proceedings:

The Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council met on April 27, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at the Department of Social Services, 2895 S. 4th St., in El Centro, CA.

| Present: | Voting Attendees: | Representing Sector: |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Sedalia Sanders (Chair) | At-Large |
| | John Hernandez (Vice Chair) | District 4/Senior Legislature |
| | Lourdes Ramirez (Secretary) | HICAP |
| | Elizabeth Gonzalez (Past Chair) | Law Enforcement |
| | Yolanda Cordero | District 1 |
| | Patsy Becerra | District 2 |
| | Terry Swing | Senior Organization |
| | Rosalie Avila | Service Provider |
| | Albert Newton | At-Large |
| | Bertha Morris | Senior Advocate |
| | Virginia Ward | League of Cities |
| | Manuel Sanchez | Disabled Interest (Alternate) |
| | Tim Blankenship | At-Large (Alternate) |

Non-Voting Attendees/Providers:

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Rosalina Blankenship | Assistant Public Administrator |
| Sofia Gonzalez | AAA Fiscal Manager |
| Gil Rebolgar | AAA I&A Coordinator |
| Karla Flores | AAA LTC Ombudsman |
| Layla Sarwari | County Counsel |
| Gracie Rodriguez | Catholic Charities |
| Laurie Edwards | Catholic Charities |
| Steven Solis | ICPHD |
| Karrah Caldwell | ICPHD |
| Magdalena Lopez | ICPHD |
| Debbie Garcia | Public Authority |
| Ed Snively | IID Candidate |

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Absent: | Ray Castillo | County of Imperial |
| | Mike Kelley | County of Imperial (Alternate) |
| | Margaret Sauza | Senior Legislature |
| | Rosyo Ramirez | Service Provider |



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Agenda Item / Action Taken

1. FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL (MEMBERS), AND INTRODUCTIONS (GUESTS):

The regular meeting of the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Sedalia Sanders, Chair. Albert Newton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Discussion was open by Sedalia Sanders to approve the March 23, 2017 Minutes. Albert Newton motioned to approve the Minutes. **(M/S/C) (Newton/Morris)**

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ed Snively, candidate for the Imperial Irrigation District, introduced himself to the AAA Advisory Council and public and shared that he is open to take any questions regarding his campaign after the meeting.

4. PRESENTATIONS:

Maribel Mendez of AlzCare presented on the organization and services provided. Liz Machado was out of town and unable to attend the meeting. AlzCare does work with Catholic Charities in their Senior Companion Program. The amount of respite hours AlzCare is currently able to provide may be impacted by the national budget. There are currently 5 families on the waiting list to receive services. There is a lack of volunteers on the North end of the County.

Title IIIB goals: To provide 755 respite hours. They have provided 1,046 hours to 27 families (4 in Calexico, 2 in Imperial, 8 in El Centro, 10 in Brawley, 1 in Holtville and 2 in Calipat)

Title III E goals: To provide 6,500 respite hours. They have provided 7,204 hours and served 51 families (14 in Brawley, 17 in El Centro, 12 in Calexico, 2 in Heber, 1 in Imperial, 2 in Holtville, and 3 in Niland)

Alzcare regularly attends health fairs, community events, and other ways to inform the public of their services. They noticed a drop in attendance of their support group meetings when they began asking for more information and after the presidential election.

A current dilemma in the senior population is that the adult children of senior citizens are beginning to experience dementia and Alzheimer's. Rosie Blankenship shared that they are advancing legislation to address Alzheimer's. Although there is not an Alzheimer's Association office locally, they do provide webinars and phone calls to assist those affected by Alzheimer's in the Imperial County.



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Hernandez reiterated the importance of following up on legislation due to the growing number of people developing dementia and Alzheimer's in the Imperial Valley.

Mendez stated that out of the 119 seniors at the DayOut center, 78 have dementia or Alzheimer's

Rosa Diaz, CEO/Director of the Imperial Valley LGBT Resource Center, introduced herself to the AAA Advisory Council. Before the opening of the resource center, Diaz would hold support group meetings for the LGBT community. She touched on transgender, sexual orientation and other LGBT issues that the LGBT Resource Center address through counseling and in providing a "Safe Space." The LGBT community is growing locally and nationally and there are not enough resources being provided. Diaz said the intention of the LGBT Resource Center is not for the LGBT community to "take over," but to help and inform the community.

Hernandez stated he hopes that the AAA can continue to reach out to the LGBT community.

Blankenship stated that the AAA has made a presentation at the LGBT Resource Center and also distributed and collected surveys with the center.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive- Committee Chair Sanders distributed a copy of her letter sent to Chairman of the Federal Policy Committee, Bob Petty, regarding the proposed federal budget and the Affordable Care Act. She urged each Council member to read the letter.

Nutrition- Chairperson Ward shared about the most recent visit to West Shores Senior Center. The Committee has visited each congregate site and scheduled a meeting for May 1, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at the AAA Offices (778 W. State St., El Centro, CA) to review the findings of the most recent visits.

Planning & Finance- Committee had nothing to report.

Legislative- Committee had nothing to report.

Social & Health Committee- Committee Chair Cordero shared about the discussion held when the Committee met in January. The committee wants to identify issues in the senior population and get involved in the upcoming census. A meeting was scheduled for May 22, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at the New York Life Insurance office on 780 W. Olive Ave., El Centro, CA.

Transportation- Committee had nothing to report.



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Prior to discussion/action on Action Item 6A, Conflict of Interest Disclosure forms were collected from each Council member and Council member/Secretary Lourdes Ramirez abstained from discussion/action on Action Item 6A due to potential conflict of interest

6. ACTION ITEM(S):

State of California Department of Aging Standard Agreement, Budget Display, and Provider Allocations for FY 17-18

Rosie Blankenship stated that AAA received budget proposal for upcoming year from the California Department of Aging. In the proposal, the AAA will be receiving \$853,926 for FY 17-18 which is a decrease of over \$17,000. All programs will be impacted, especially the Senior Nutrition and Respite Care Programs. There is a continuing Resolution in Congress that will expire on April 28, 2017. Although services under the Older Americans Act are protected, the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging shared with the AAA's that every AAA should inform their service providers that April may be the last budget cycle. Negotiations are underway to extend the Resolution. A spreadsheet of the budget was in the agenda backup for Council review.

Hernandez asked on how additional funding (Senior Event and Directory) are incorporated into the budget.

Cordero added that she would like to see an effort to request additional funding from each city. Sanders shared that the City of El Centro does contribute a significant amount to the Senior Nutrition Program.

Blankenship shared that Ralph Cordova, Imperial County CEO, informed local city managers about funding for the Senior Nutrition Program. Brawley and Calexico were unable to contribute any funding. She also explained that additional funding from the Senior Event and Directory go towards office supplies and the Brown Bag Food Distribution for the Needs Assessment Survey. John Hernandez made a motion for approval. **(M/S/C) (Hernandez/Cordero). (Lourdes Ramirez abstained)**

7. INFORMATION:

AAA Staff

The informational items included: the attendance roster, meal report, and update on the Prop 64 workshops.

Blankenship shared that the Imperial County is neither for nor against the implementation of Prop 64, the recreational use of adult marijuana. On April 20, 2017, the AAA attended the first of three workshops put on by the County of Imperial to obtain feedback from the community regarding Prop 64. The AAA made a request that if the cultivation and sale of recreational marijuana is permitted in the Imperial County,



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that an additional tax be levied on the product. The revenue from this proposed tax would go towards services for senior citizens.

AREA AGENCY ON AGING DIRECTORS'S REPORT:

Blankenship

a) Heffernan Grant

On March 30 2017, the Calexico Heffernan Memorial Healthcare District delivered a check for \$12,684.80 to Imperial County Area Agency on Aging for Title IIIC2 Home Delivered Meals to feed twenty Calexico Seniors from April 1 through June 30, 2017, that were on the Home Delivered Wait List.

b) Unmet Transit Needs for Fiscal Year 2017-2018

On April 5, 2017, SSTAC monthly meeting was held. FY2017-2018 UTN "Findings" Letter of Response was one of the action items. AAA advocated for SSTAC to send a letter to the Commission (ICTC) to include our needs as priority number one in the Budget if funding becomes available. Action was taken and more should be known on the funding the first or second week in May.

c) Senior Nutrition Meal Breakdown for March 2017

Congregate Meals: 4,779 senior meals. Contract amount 51,450 senior meals. Avg. senior meals served per day 208.

Home Delivered Meals: 2,564 senior meals delivered. Contract amount 30,250. Avg. Meals served per day 111.

d) Ombudsman Coordinator Report for March 2017

Facilities Inspected: 9-Vintage Village 1, Vintage Village 2, Casa Elite, Blossom Valley Manor, Heart & Hand, Imperial Manor, Imperial Heights, Valley Convalescent, AA & Cottage View Assisted Living

Number of Complaints Received: 26

Number of Complaints Resolved: 19

Total Number of Volunteer Time: 17.18 hours

e) Information & Assistance Coordinator Report for March 2017

Outreach: 3 Activities: Presentation to Christ Community Church in El Centro. Participated in Calexico Housing Authority Senior Resource Fair at Mario Esquer Senior Apartments and conducted presentation at Heber Community Center with Elder Law & Advocacy.

Number of Referrals: 28

Number of Follow-ups: 17, the remaining 11 either chose not to provide contact information or simply requested information on services in the Imperial County.

f) Area Plan Update



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The Area Plan Update is due to the State by May 1, 2017. On April 18, 2017, the Board of Supervisor approved the 2016-2020 Four Year Area Plan update –Second Year July 1, 2017- June 30, 2018 and authorized the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to sign the Letter of Transmittal.

g) Provider Claims

March claims have been processed for payment. Please submit your claims with back-up by the 15th of every month.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Sedalia Sanders shared that Rosie Blankenship was featured in Valley Women Magazine.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No future agenda items were requested by Council.

11. ADJOURNMENT

With no future items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m. **(Motion carried unanimously)**

Norma Saikhon
Public Administrator/AAA Director

Gilbert Rebollar
Recording Clerk