



AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL

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

Meeting Minutes: Thursday, February 23, 2017

Proceedings:

The Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council met on February 23, 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	Law Enforcement
	Margaret Sauza (Excused at 9:57 a.m.)	Senior Legislature
	Rosalie Avila	Senior Advocate
	Terry Swing	Senior Organization
	Manuel Sanchez	Disabled Interest (Alternate)
	Tim Blankenship	At-Large (Alternate)

Non-Voting Attendees/Providers:

Norma Saikhon	Public Administrator/AAA Director
Rosalina Blankenship	Assistant Public Administrator
Sofia Gonzalez	AAA Fiscal Manager
Gil Rebollar	AAA I&A Coordinator
Karla Flores	AAA LTC Ombudsman
Gracie Rodriguez	Catholic Charities
Jovana Araujo	ICPHD
Karrah Caldwell	ICPHD
Rosanna Kendrick	Elder Law & Advocacy

Absent:	Ray Castillo	County of Imperial
	Mike Kelley	County of Imperial (Alternate)
	Albert Newton	At-Large
	Yolanda Cordero (Excused)	District 1
	Patsy Becerra	District 2
	Bertha Morris (Excused)	Senior Advocate
	Virginia Ward (Excused)	League of Cities
	Rosyo Ramirez (Excused)	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. John Hernandez, Vice Chair, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Discussion was open by Sedalia Sanders to approve the January 26, 2017 Minutes. John Hernandez motioned to approve Minutes. **(M/S/C) (Hernandez/Ramirez)**

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

No public comments made.

4. **PRESENTATIONS:**

Attorney Rosanna Kendrick and HICAP Counselor Lourdes Ramirez of Elder Law & Advocacy shared on the services provided by their agency. They provide senior legal services for any Imperial County resident over the age of 60. The main services provided have to do with basic estate planning, power of attorney, and healthcare directives. Kendrick also provides advice on any issue a senior may have and provides referrals to any agency that provide further assistance. They also have a program called Caregiver Legal Services to provide legal assistance for caregivers caring for someone over the age of 60. Manuel Sanchez asked if there is a charge and Kendrick reiterated that there is no charge for those over the age of 60. Margaret Sauza stated that SURE Helpline Crisis Center provides many referrals to Elder Law & Advocacy. Kendrick shared that they have been approved for some grants that may provide them a summer intern and funds to address fraud. John Hernandez asked what are the biggest challenges that local seniors face and, other than funds from the AAA, what other avenues of funding are available to the organization. Kendrick stated she is not involved in funding and budget issues and that the Executive Director manages those items. She shared that one of the biggest challenges is that there are limited resources available locally for seniors and that a very common problem with seniors is that they wait too long to seek legal services. Hernandez went on to ask AAA staff what amount or percentage of resources is provided for elder abuse. Rosalina Blankenship shared that the amount received to address elder abuse is minimal and is only \$2,400 per year.

Lourdes Ramirez shared on the Health Insurance and Counseling Advocacy Program, or HICAP. She provides counseling regarding Medicare for seniors. She screens the clients, checks on enrollment, and to assess what benefits they may qualify for. She also shared about the outreach conducted by the organization and noted that she has counseled 52 clients. She does not enroll clients in Medicare, they must go to Social Security to enroll.



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Sanders requested a chart of Medicare and supplemental insurance plans. Ramirez agreed to provide a copy at the next meeting. Saikhon shared that she, along with the Imperial County CEO and other administrative officials, have met with Molina Healthcare on the insurance needs in the Imperial County.

Blankenship shared that the weekly, Justice in Brief, articles she sends to the Council provide updates on the status of the Affordable Care Act and proposed American Healthcare Act.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive- Committee had nothing to report

Planning & Finance- Committee had nothing to report

Legislative- Margaret Sauza shared that Bill AB 1150, Survivor Bill of Rights, has been approved to move forward in legislation.

Social & Health Committee- Committee had nothing to report

Transportation- Hernandez asked if the AAA had presence at the recent Imperial County Transportation Commission's Public Hearing regarding unmet needs. Sofia Gonzalez shared that she attended the meeting and advocated for transportation to be provided for Heber residents. Any action or information on the item will not be provided until March 9, 2017. Hernandez also asked the AAA's participation in the ICTC and Blankenship stated the Sofia attends the monthly meetings held the first Wednesday of every month. She also shared that the AAA is also advocating to provide curb-to-curb inter-city transportation.

Margaret Sauza was excused at 9:57 a.m.

Nutrition- Committee had nothing to report

6. ACTION ITEM(S):

a) Councilmember Vacancies

Saikhon shared that there are three vacancies, but no applications have been received. Recommendation was made to table item until applications are received.

b) Nutrition Committee's congregate site visit findings

Blankenship stated that information requested by Hernandez and Gonzalez was included in the findings report. Number of meals served, site visit reviewers, and address of congregate site location were all added to the report. Clarification was made that report presented was for site visits conducted from July 2016 to December 2016. **(M/S/C) (Hernandez/Sanchez)**



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c) Chair appointments to the Senior Event Ad-Hoc Committee

Sedalia Sanders appointed John Hernandez and Tim Blankenship to the Senior Event Ad-Hoc Committee. **(M/S/C) (Sanchez/Swing)**

d) Needs Assessment Survey

Blankenship explained that Area Plan hearings will be conducted at more locations than required by the CDA, but will need the assistance of the Advisory Council as per the Older Americans Act. Council members were designated to lead Area Plan Hearings and at specified congregate sites. Training was scheduled for February 28, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at the AAA office. **(M/S/C) (Swing/Sanchez)**

7. INFORMATION:

AAA Staff

A. Attendance Roster

An attendance roster was attached to the agenda packet for Council review.

B. Meal Count

Meal count report for Senior Nutrition Program was included in agenda packet.

C. Proclamation for Molina and Supreme Health Services

Proclamation for Molina and Supreme Health Services for their sponsorship of the Senior Event was scheduled for March 7, 2017 at the Imperial County Board of Supervisors Board Chambers.

8. AREA AGENCY ON AGING DIRECTORS'S REPORT:

Blankenship

a) CDA Monitoring Review for FY 2015-2016 held In October 2015

The Monitoring Report response to CDA was submitted by the deadline of January 31, 2017. Response from CDA pending.

b) Program and Fiscal Monitoring for fiscal year 2016-2017

Started yesterday with Elder Law and Alz-Care. We will continue with the remainder of the service providers next week.

c) Senior Nutrition Meal Breakdown for January 2017

Congregate Meals: 3,744 senior meals. Contract amount 45,500 senior meals. Avg. senior meals served per day 187.

Home Delivered Meals: 2,516 senior meals delivered. Contract amount 20,300. Avg. Meals served per day 114.



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New meal site in Salton City: Westshores Senior Citizens Club (Site Coordinator: Ruby Ward); will see an increase in meals served. Program started at the new site on 02/18/2017 and its operating successfully.

d) Ombudsman Coordinator Report for January 2017

Facilities Inspected: 8-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: 9

Number of Complaints Resolved: 9

e) Information & Assistance Coordinator Report for January 2017

Outreach: 3 Activities: Presentation to Beth Jacobs Congregation in El Centro. Participated in Calexico Housing Authority Senior Resource Fair at Villa Sur Apartments and our Annual Senior Appreciation Day.

Number of Referrals: 32

f) Number of Follow-ups: 16, the remaining 16 either chose not to provide contact information or simply requested information on services in the Imperial County.

g) Provider Claims

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

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Hernandez invited the Council to attend the senior activities that will be taking place at the Plaza de Cultura from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm on Friday, March 3, 2017 at the Imperial Valley Mid-Winter Fair & Fiesta.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Council requested to view the California Department of Aging's audit report, Corrective Action Plan and health insurance chart from Lourdes Ramirez of Elder Law & Advocacy.

11. ADJOURNMENT

With no future items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:31 a.m.

Norma Saikhon
Public Administrator/AAA Director

Gilbert Rebollar
Recording Clerk