



AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL

778 W. State St., El Centro, CA 92243
800.510.2020 | 442.265.7030 | www.aaa24.org

Meeting Minutes: Thursday, February 15, 2024

Proceedings: The Imperial County Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Advisory Council met for a regular meeting on Thursday, February 15, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the Imperial County Department of Social Services – Classroom A, located at 2895 S. Fourth Street, El Centro, CA 92243.

Voting Attendees:

Cynthia Alba
Cheryl V. Walker
AJ Gaddis
John Hernandez
Virginia Ward
Manuel Sanchez**
Patricia Thompson
Helen Lopez
Oreda Chin
Raquel V. Camacho
Sedalia Sanders*
Patricia Burnworth
Supervisor John Hawk

Representing Sector:

District 1
District 2
District 3
District 4
League of Cities
Senior Advocate
Service Provider
Senior Legislature
Senior Organization
HICAP
At-Large
At-Large
Alternate At-Large

*Member attended by phone. ** Member arrived after roll call

Non-Voting Attendees/Providers:

Monica V. De Leon ICAAA Manager
Joanna D. Zepeda ICAAA Administrative Analyst I
Karla Flores ICAAA LTC Ombudsman Coordinator
Daniel Flores ICAAA I & A Coordinator
Andrew Briseño County of Imperial Counsel
Shawn Angulo AAA Volunteer
Diego Torres Imperial County Public Health Department/Community Service
Yolanda Barrios Imperial County Public Health Department/Community Service
Alyssa Reyna Imperial County Public Health Department/Coordinator
Frank Espinoza Alz Care Inc./Program Manager
Karina Leon Access to Independence/Program Manager
Polo Salazar Catholic charities/Program Manager

Absent:

Benjamin J. Horton District 5
Supervisor Mike Kelley County of Imperial
Paul R. Monarrez Disabled Interests
Mike Lara Senior Advocate
Daniel Romero Senior Legislature
Javier Moreno Law Enforcement
Ismael Lopez Alternate At-Large
Lucy M. Hendry Alternate At-Large



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Agenda Item / Action Taken:

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

Chair Oreda Chin called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Cheryl Walker led the Advisory Council in the Flag Salute. Roll call was completed.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Ward/Walker (M/S/C) to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2024, Advisory Council meeting as presented. Members H. Lopez and J. Hernandez abstained.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Monica De Leon reminded the Council that the Senior-U-Pick event is on February 21st, 2024. Helen Lopez informed the Council that AARP started their FREE tax preparation and to please share this information.

IV. PRESENTATION:

a) Life Cycle of Legislation – Helen Lopez, Senior Senator, California Senior Legislature

Presentation tabled by presenter as she requested a projector. Lopez gave a brief update on legislation and reported that Assembly Member (A.S.M) Wallace picked up the proposal on increasing the personal needs allowance, written by H. Lopez.

b) AlzCare, Inc. – Respite Services

Frank Espinoza, Program Manager, provided an overview of respite services, including client eligibility. AlzCare faces barriers in finding qualified volunteers to be able to keep up with families and provide a great safe working environment for caregivers and families. Referrals are made through Area Agency on Aging, Catholic Charities, or by calling AlzCare. Turnaround time varies depending on family needs and volunteer availability. Espinoza reported that families are qualified to receive about 12 hours of service. Espinoza mentioned that Title III B and Title III E funds, provided by Area Agency on Aging, are how the program is funded. Espinoza finished the presentation by mentioning that volunteers are a crucial part of the success of this program. Currently the program is serving 16 families, but they would like to see this grow.

V. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS:

a) Request For Proposals Evaluation Panel

Chair Oreda Chin asked for volunteers for the panel and asked for two experienced members to join. The following members volunteered and were appointed: John Hernandez, Patricia Thompson, Virginia Ward, and Cheryl Walker, Patricia Burnworth, as alternate.

b) Council to sign up to host 2023-2024 Public Hearings

The council filled up all spots for Public Hearings. Email and flyer attachment was sent. Following is the schedule:

Holtville Gardens	950 Holt Avenue Holtville, CA 92250	Tuesday, March 19 11:00 am	Lucy Hendry Patricia Burnworth
Niland Fire Station	8071 Luxor Ave, Niland, CA 92257.	Wednesday, March 20 11:00 am	Patricia Thompson Oreda Chin John Hernandez
El Centro Desert Villas	1755 W. Main Street	Wednesday, March 20	Paul R. Monarrez



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	El Centro, CA 92243	11:00 am	Oreda Chin
Ocotillo Senior Nutrition	1165 SW Imperial Highway Ocotillo, CA 92259	Friday, March 22 11:00 am	Patricia Thompson Manuel Sanchez
Calexico Senior Center	707 Dool Avenue Calexico, CA 92231	Monday, March 25 11:00 am	Patricia Thompson Oreda Chin Cindy Alba
El Centro Post-Acute	1700 Imperial Avenue El Centro, CA 92243	Tuesday, March 26 10:00 am	Ombudsman
Brawley Adult Center	575 J Street Brawley, CA 92243	Tuesday, March 26 11:00 am	Oreda Chin John Hernandez
Heber Community Center	1132 Heber Avenue Heber, CA 92250	Wednesday, March 27 11:00 am	Cindy Alba Oreda Chin
Westmorland Senior Center	298 W. 3rd Street Westmorland, CA 92281	Wednesday, March 27 11:00 am	Patricia Thompson
West Shores Senior Citizens Club	13755 Borrego Salton Sea Way Salton City, CA 92274	Thursday, March 28 11:00 am	Patricia Thompson Patricia Burnworth
El Centro Adult Center	385 S. First Street El Centro, CA 92243	Thursday, March 28 11:00 am	Helen Lopez AJ Gaddis

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee: Chair Chin is working with staff to schedule an Executive Committee meeting for the start of the month.

Legislative Committee: Helen Lopez reminded us that the Legislative Report is included in the agenda.

Nutrition Committee: Oread Chin reported on the recent visit to Holtville Gardens Congregate site, very friendly environment. The committee requested a schedule from Annie Huber the Nutritionist for educational congregate visits. AJ Gaddis mentioned that the finding for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 was reviewed during the Nutrition Committee Meeting.

Transportation Committee: AJ Gaddis has nothing to report.

Social & Health Committee: Chair Sanchez reported that a meeting is scheduled for the end of the month to discuss the Senior event.

VII. INFORMATION:

Chair Chin reminded members to review informational items: Member Attendance Roster, and Information & Assistance Coordinator Report. Monica De Leon also announced that information was provided to them on California Department of Aging’s 50 year Anniversary.

VIII. AREA AGENCY ON AGING DIRECTOR’S REPORT: None Provided

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MEMBERS:

Chair Chin opened the floor for announcements. Helen Lopez reminded council that a request was made last year that committee reports be submitted in writing so that they can be reviewed in advance, and members can ask appropriate questions. Monica De Leon provided an update on Sarah Enz, Director. Supervisor John Hawk commented that the Carrot Festival in Holtville was a great success. John Hernandez discussed a successful event at Brawley Site.

X. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:



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Chair Chin opened the floor for member requests. Helen Lopez requested the creation of an Ad-hoc By-laws Policies and Procedures Committee be placed on the agenda for May or June.

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Chin adjourned the Advisory Council meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Monica V. De Leon
AAA Manager

Daniel Flores
Recording Clerk