



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, March 21, 2024

Proceedings: The Imperial County Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Advisory Council met for a regular meeting on Thursday, March 21, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the Imperial County Department of Social Services – Classroom D, located at 2895 S. Fourth Street, El Centro, CA 92243.

Voting Attendees:

Cheryl V. Walker
John Hernandez
Benjamin J. Horton
Paul R. Monarrez
Virginia Ward
Mike Lara
Manuel Sanchez
Patricia Thompson**
Helen Lopez**
Oreda Chin
Raquel V. Camacho
Javier Moreno
Sedalia Sanders*
Patricia Burnworth
Ismael Lopez
Lucy M. Hendry

Representing Sector:

District 2
District 4
District 5
Disabled Interests
League of Cities
Senior Advocate
Senior Advocate
Service Provider
Senior Legislature
Senior Organization
HICAP
Law Enforcement
At-Large
At-Large
Alternate At-Large
Alternate At-Large

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

Non-Voting Attendees/Providers:

Sarah M. Enz Public Administrator/AAA Director
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
Polo Salazar Catholic Charities/Program Manager
Lupe Rodriguez Catholic Charities/Director of Outreach
Ivan Romero Catholic Charities/Quality Assurance Case Manager
Annie Huber HLT Nutrition Co. Inc.
Bunie McKinney Desert Pharmacy/CPhT

Absent:

Cynthia Alba District 1
AJ Gaddis District 3
Supervisor Mike Kelley County of Imperial
Daniel Romero Senior Legislature
Supervisor John Hawk 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. Benjamin Horton led the Advisory Council in the Flag Salute. Roll call was completed.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Sanchez/Helen Lopez (M/S/C) to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2024, Advisory Council meeting with one correction. John Hernandez requested that his representative sector title be corrected. Member Paul Monarrez abstained.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No public Comments.

IV. PRESENTATION:

a) Catholic Charities – Senior Nutrition Program Updates

Polo Salazar, Program Manager, provided an update and overview on the Congregate sites. He went over the location, times, and menus. He also mentioned that seniors gather around to play table games while waiting for food.

Ivan Romero, Quality Assurance Case Manager, provided an update on Home Delivered Meals. Ivan went over the process enrollment and eligibility. He explained what to expect during the application process and once senior receives service. Polo Salazar reported that from July 2019 to June 2023 Catholic Charities provided 530,00 Congregate Meals and 318,764 Home Delivered Meals, with the assistance of Area Agency on Aging and other agencies. Cheryl Walker asked what was the waiting list? Polo Salazar answered that 10 people are on the waiting list. Walker also mentioned that there should be a meeting about what can be done to get all cities involved in helping the senior population. Sarah Enz mentioned that Stephen Lobstein, Fleet Services Manager, shared that his staff received a few left-over meals, and they were delicious. Paul Monarrez thanked Ivan and Polo for the presentation.

b) HLT Nutrition Co. Inc. – Senior Nutrition Program Updates

Annie Huber, Nutritionist, provided an update on Quarters 1,2, and 3. She provided an overview of how the menus are developed using the State of California guidelines. Huber also mentioned that she does inspections and provides recommendations to Catholic Charities on how to improve the kitchen and menu items. John Hernandez mentioned how much he appreciates what Catholic Charities and HLT Nutrition Co Inc. do and continue to do for our seniors.

V. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS:

a) Chair to appoint Ad-hoc Nominating Committee of not less than three (3) Advisory Council members to select the slate of officer nominations.

Chair Oreda Chin requested volunteers to be part of the Nominating Committee. The volunteers are Helen Lopez, Manuel Sanchez, and Cheryl Walker. Tuesday April 16th is the date set for the Ad-Hoc Nominating Committee to meet.



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VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee: Chair Chin reported that the Executive Committee met this past Monday. Monica De Leon reminded committee members of their upcoming meeting on March 28, 2024.

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

Nutrition Committee: Oreda Chin reported that she will coordinate a meeting to discuss some of the issues brought up today.

Transportation Committee: AJ Gaddis was not present to provide a report.

Social & Health Committee: Manuel Sanchez updated Advisory Council that Committee met and asked staff for additional information on the event. Patricia Burnworth mentioned that they wanted to revisit if AAA staff could participate.

VII. INFORMATION:

Chair Chin reminded members to review informational items: Member Attendance Roster, Information & Assistance Coordinator Report, Ombudsman Report, Schedule of Public Hearings, and Area Agency on Aging CSL update-March 2024. Updates were provided on the Public Hearings held in Niland, El Centro, and Holtville.

VIII. AREA AGENCY ON AGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Sarah M. Enz reported that she attended the California State Association of Counties in Palm Springs and had a tour of Lithium Valley. On the way back, Enz stopped in Indio for a Public Hearing on AT&T's proposal to no longer provide landlines. Enz voiced her opinion on how this will impact Imperial County residents. Enz then discussed SB 1249, a new legislative proposal, which is part of the CA2030 initiative to prepare for the upcoming generation of seniors. Enz discussed how this bill could affect the Imperial County Area Agency on Aging.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MEMBERS:

Chair Chin opened the floor for announcements. Virginia Ward announced that Holtville will have a Farmer's Market. Sarah M. Enz announced that the State of the County is later today, and Imperial Market Nights would be held this weekend.

X. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Chair Chin opened the floor for member requests. No future agenda items requested.

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Chin adjourned the Advisory Council meeting at 10:34 a.m.

Monica V. De Leon
AAA Manager

Daniel Flores
Recording