AGENDA

ADVISORY COMMISSION ON AGING
Monday, June 10, 2019
9:30am – 11:45am

Maxwell Park Conference Room
6955 Foothill Blvd. Suite 137
Oakland, California 94605

Public participation at Advisory Commission on Aging (ACA) meetings is encouraged. We request that individuals limit their comments on any single item on the agenda to three minutes. The chosen spokesperson for a group may speak for five minutes.

1. Call to Order 9:30 - 9:30

2. Consent Calendar 9:30 - 9:35
   a. Review/Approval of Agenda
   b. Approval of March 11, 2019 Minutes
   c. Approval of April 8, 2019 Minutes
   d. Approval of May 13, 2019 Minutes

3. Comments from the Public 9:35 - 9:40

4. Comments from ACA Chair Donna Ireland 9:40 - 9:45

5. Director’s Report: Jennifer Stephens-Pierre, AAA Director 9:45 - 10:00

6. Health & Safety Committee Whistle Project: Commissioner John Miller 10:00 - 10:15

7. Stepping Out And Reconnecting (S.O.A.R.) 10:15 – 10:30
   Robert Taylor, Executive Director, Senior Support Program/Tri-Valley

8. Council on Age-Friendly Communities (AFC) Update 10:30 – 10:40

9. Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program (LTCOP) Update 10:40 – 10:50
   William Fasanya, LTCOP Regional Coordinator

    a. Executive Committee
    b. Legislative Advocacy 10:55 - 11:00
    c. Public Relations/Senior Update 11:00 - 11:05
    d. Health & Safety 11:05 - 11:10
    e. 2021-2024 Countywide Area Plan Ad hoc Planning Committee 11:10 - 11:30

11. Oral Communications/Announcements 11:30 - 11:45
    a. Commissioners
    b. Staff
    c. Public
MINUTES

ADVISORY COMMISSION ON AGING
Monday, May 13, 2019
9:30am – 12:00pm

Maxwell Park Conference Room
6955 Foothill Blvd. Suite 137
Oakland, California 94605

Commissioners Present: Donna Ireland-Chair, John Miller-Vice-Chair, Dom Filardo, Sarah Kim-Lee, Royce Johnson, Helen Buckholz, Eric Eisenberg, Christine Sevier, Sylvia Stadmire, Carlos Londono

Commissioners Absent (Excused): Raj Paul Singh, Sue Taylor

Staff Present: Senior Planner Delbert Walker, Mary Louise Zernicke, Jose Villaflor, William Fasanya, Lisa Ho, Maaza Michael, Joel Ginsburg, Hema Patel, Maureen Schulz, Martha Evans

Guest:
Public participation at Advisory Commission on Aging (ACA) meetings is encouraged. We request that individuals limit their comments on any single item on the agenda to three minutes. The chosen spokesperson for a group may speak for five minutes.

1. Call to Order

2. Consent Calendar
   d. Review of Agenda – Motion to approve the agenda as presented
      (M) D. Filardo
      (S) S. Kim-Lee
      Carried

   b. Approval of Minutes – Chair Ireland tabled Approval of March 11, 2019 Minutes and April 8, 2019 Minutes, which are deferred to the next Advisory Commission Meeting on June 10, 2019 to allow time for all Commissioners to review the minutes.

March 11, 2019 Minutes – Commissioner Filardo corrected his remarks in Item 12, Oral Communications and Announcements, which should read, “Commissioner Filardo: He was invited to visit Casa Sandoval, a low-income facility of older adults in Hayward. This housing facility is near to a transportation facility. Commissioner Filardo stated in the chance there is no chair or vice-chair present that he would step in to facilitate the Advisory Commissioner Meeting.”[corrected from original distribution of March 11, 2019 minutes.]

3. Comments from the Public

No comments.

4. Comments from ACA Chair Donna Ireland
Chair Ireland announced the passing of Bern Nillo, who was ACA Commissioner from July 8, 2009 - July 1, 2017 and was ACA Chairperson, October 13, 2014 - July 1, 2017. Commissioners are invited to send condolences to his family.

Chair Ireland welcomed new Commissioners Carlos Londono and Sylvia Stadmire. Carlos gave a brief summary of his background, coming from Columbia and working in public health and outreach in Hayward and Union City, especially with at-risk groups. He is interested in age-friendly communities and environments, especially for those in his community “with no voice.” Commissioner Stadmire has been reappointed by Supervisor Chan to a third term. Commissioner Stadmire spoke briefly about previous terms on the ACA Commission. She currently serves on the Mayor’s Commission on Aging, the Mayors’ Commission on Disability, and is also a member of the California Senior Legislature.

Regarding the Elder Abuse Awareness-themed goodie bag given to all Commissioners, Chair Ireland commented on the severity and under-reporting of elder abuse in America. The conservative estimate is only one in four incidents of abuse comes to the attention of officials. This means in Alameda County 70,000 cases have not been reported, prompting the Division of Aging and Adult Protection (DAAP) to launch the June Elder Abuse Awareness campaign in a collaborative and innovative way.

The ACA Commission will be at County Fair June 14th and June 15th to hand out surveys and help people with them. A sign-up sheet for the fair was passed around – goal is to get three commissioners at each time slot. Commissioners are encouraged to work more than one shift.

ACA at the County Fair: There will be “swag” bags in our booth for first 2,000 visitors. Senior Planner Walker described the set up: there will be three tables in the booth, one for the survey, one for Adult Protective Services material, and one for Long-Term Care Ombudsman. There is a large tree providing shade by the ACA booth. There will be chairs under the tree for patrons to fill out surveys in the shade, and there will also be iPads for people to do it online. There will be more information at the next meeting.

Helen Buckholz and Pam Gumbs spoke about how wonderful Senior Rally Day May 7th at the State Capitol was.

5. Cal Fresh Expansion, Mary L. Zernicke, AAA Senior Nutritionist.

Senior Nutritionist Zernicke spoke about the CalFresh Expansion to SSI recipients. It is the first time they can receive these benefits and is an historic event for poor people in our state. There will be three methods of application starting mid-May: online, by telephone, and in-person. They have thirty days to verify income for eligibility. 70% of Alameda County SSI/SSP recipients are estimated to be older adults. A key message is that there will be no loss/reduction in CalFresh Benefits and no change in SSI status if the recipient is living in a group household. June 2019 is the effective date, but applicants can start to apply in May 2019. Every single SSI recipient in CA will be mailed a postcard this month with announcement.

Commissioner Filardo asked about income verification. Mary Louise explained that expenses and assets will vary from person to person. If a person is in a mixed household with other income it will not affect the person’s benefit. Benefit amount is determined by assets and expenses. They will need proof of medical expenses and have thirty days to get this information in.

Outreach: there are multiple avenues to help get word out. Outreach events include May 31st at Mercy Retirement and Care on Foothill Boulevard and the Alameda County Healthy Living Festival in September. There will be a state-run 800 number that will go to each county. Food banks will also help promote the expansion. Commissioner Kim-Lee said Social Security offices will also take applications for
CalFresh expansion. The ACA will help start getting the word out by messaging to let people know this benefit is available to them this summer. Every person on SSI is not eligible as it is a balance between income, assets and expenses, and each person is different.

Senior Nutritionist Zernicke said it is a challenge for Alameda County to get enough eligibility workers – the state has allocated funds for hiring more.

6. Older American’s Month 2019: Connect, Create, Contribute (C4A) AAA Program Financial Specialist Lisa Ho.

AAA Program Financial Specialist Lisa Ho spoke about Older American’s Month 2019: Connect, Create, Contribute. In April 1963, President John F. Kennedy and members of the National Council of Senior Citizens met collaboratively and agreed to designate May as “Senior Citizens Month. Two years later, in July 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Older Americans Act into law and formally declared May as Older Americans Month. Since President Kennedy, each sitting President of the United States has issued a formal proclamation each May asking the nation as a whole and its individual citizens to recognize, honor, and pay tribute to older persons in their communities. Commission members reflect these values.

Specialist Ho wanted to make it more reflective and asked members of the community to speak. Hopefully they will strengthen what Commission is doing already. Community groups represented at meeting included Miley Gardens and the Senior Services Coalition, among others. Volunteers talked about volunteering. Julia, volunteer for SOS Meals on Wheels, spoke of her historical connection - she volunteered as a kid in Ohio because her grandmother was a program coordinator for Meals on Wheels. She spoke of how volunteering helps her feel connected to community and county.

Survey Volunteers are needed from the Commission and the community.

7. Director’s Report: Delbert Walker, AAA Supervising Program Specialist/Senior Planner.

Senior Planner Walker said that director Stephens-Pierre ask him to distribute the survey to the Commissioners and walk them through it so they can help participants complete the survey at the County Fair June 14th and 15th.

Senior Planner Walker: The program unit is completing its mid-year funding adjustment. There was also an increase in baseline funding. Right now, AAA is negotiating contracts for 2019-20 Fiscal Year. Chair Ireland said this will be a topic at retreat.

4th Quarter annual data collection/validation is also going on. Alameda County Social Services is creating a new database, bringing all contractors into this system of data reporting.

Commissioner Buckholz asked about the OTO amount and Senior Planner Walker explained it is one-time allocation of funds but will not carry over to next fiscal year. There was discussion about funding cycle and allocation. Senior Planner Walker reported that every four years the AAA goes through and RFP and the Commission has a role in developing funding recommendations. Chair Ireland said this is also an issue with the Age-Friendly Council. Commissioners expressed desire for more information on funding. Senior Planner Walker agreed to provide current contract funding information.

Alameda County is officially part the network of Age-Friendly communities, among 3,000 communities across the United States. The Board of Supervisors will make a June declaration to help get word out.
The Age-Friendly Council is working on its website-launch and promotion - also doing photoshoots at Fremont Senior Center.

- Berkeley just launched its Age-Friendly website featuring backgrounder (in-depth data and recommendations), which has four topics: social isolation, suicide, housing and homelessness.

- June is Elder-Abuse Awareness Month and the Council will be meeting to talk about getting the word out.

- The Healthy Brain Initiative - a framework of which the Alzheimer’s Association is a big mover. It examines all the factors behind dementia and ways to support a healthy brain.

- Housing Recommendations – Council working group made a set of recommendations that look at a range of needs of people that are housed but under stress, under-house, couch surfing, and experiencing homelessness. Recommendations included a just cause eviction ordinance, relief from tax liens, respite housing – make it age-friendly, improving shelters, making winter shelters year-round, and rapid-response intensive case-management, piecing things together. Council requests Commission advocacy on this issue as staff can’t advocate the way the Commission can.

9. Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program (LTCOP)  
Ombudsman Program Coordinator William Fasanya. Coordinator Fasanya was in Sacramento for the Spring Training for Program Coordinators. Tuesday was Capitol Day for Legislative Advocacy, and he attended the Senior Rally and met with counterparts from Contra Costa County. Advocating for funding for facility coverage – the state mandates Ombudsman programs go to every facility in the county, but no county has been able to do so because of lack of personnel. He is advocating for more money so they can meet the state requirements. They are looking to increase the PFA - personal fund allowance - from $35 to $150 for people in nursing homes on SSI or Social Security. On May 16th Coordinator Fasanya has a meeting with the California Department of Public Health to collaborate on best care for those in long-term care facilities. CDPH is the licensing agency. On May 17th, the first meeting between will be held between Ombudsman and Adult Protective Services to officially create a reporting protocol mutually beneficial to both programs. Commissioner Filardo asked if he could participate in training for Ombudsman and was told he cannot because it poses a conflict.

10. Commission Subcommittee Reports

a. Executive Committee

No report as Director was out of town.

b. Legislative Advocacy:

As Commissioner Gumbs will be leaving the Commission, the Committee will need a Chair – ACA Chair Ireland asked for volunteers – Commissioner Buckholz is Vice-Chair and will now preside over next LAC meeting. Federal House Appropriations Committee is recommending a $1 Billion increase in funding for the Older Americans Act next year. Strong advocacy is needed.

c. Public Relations/Senior Update

Preparing for the July-Aug-Sept Senior Update Newsletter.

d. Health & Safety
Commissioner Miller said there’s they are working on the Swag bag - and did get the approval for the whistle finally. There is another phase to distribution.

e. 2021-2024 Countywide Area Plan Ad hoc Planning Committee

Senior Planner Walker provided the update. The Committee is working to guide the Needs Assessment community outreach, public forums, and focus groups to work in concert with the Age-Friendly process. Sr Planner Walker explained that focus groups are smaller body, audience-specific e.g. men, LGBTQ, etc. Public Forums are larger bodies. Twenty-seven forums are scheduled with twenty-two confirmed dates. Nine Focus groups are scheduled, about half have confirmed dates. The Committee is addressing the difficulty around housing facilities and getting housing managers to help facilitate distributing surveys – in some instances encountering actual resistance. The Committee is developing an outreach template for housing managers, taking a public relations approach to help them see the benefit to them of having their residents included in the data.

Currently, 907 surveys have been completed online. Senior Planner Walker said the goal is 10,000 completed surveys. The concern is that higher income people are online more so the need to push out further to get low and middle-income adults responding. Commissioner Sevier asked about incentivizing housing managers to distribute the survey and Chair Ireland suggested maybe put in newsletter.

May is Older Americans Month – will be celebrating at the I&A Roundtable Friday May 17th 9:30 am.

Survey Volunteers are needed from the Commission and the community

11. Oral Communications/Announcements

a. Commissioners

Commissioner and CSL Senior Senator Stadmire attended two conferences: the Zip Conference and Older Americans Month. She reported that CSL Assembly Member George Tucker is improving from a stroke he had last March and would appreciate receiving a card.

Commissioner Kim-Lee commented on the Social Security Report that the trust fund will run out in 2035 instead of 2034 as reported last year and advised people to look at the Social Security website. Commissioner Eisenberg asked about retreat date and Senior Planner Walker said prospective dates are June 18th or June 28th. Will send out a survey to find preferences.

Commissioner Gumbs received an education grant from Supervisor Miley’s office, which is directly in conflict with Commission service, so she is resigning.

Commissioner Filardo suggested that for Commission meetings, if we don’t have speaker, have staff reports. Others discussion limit to three minutes.

Commissioner Buckholz said certain apartment complexes will not let seniors have the survey, and she got the city involved to help.

ACA Chair Ireland mentioned the Board of Supervisors’ Older Americans Month Proclamation on May 21st. She asked Commissioners to please respond to retreat survey and also indicate what topics/ideas they would like to see discussed. She visited Hayward Senior Center and they were happy to see the Commission there. She commended Lorena Briseno, who provides information
to the Legislative subcommittee of the Commission. She encouraged Commissioners to participate in next 4-Year RFP process.

Alameda County Fair volunteer sign-up sheet - no more than three Commissioners at a time in booth at Alameda County Fair. The booth needs to be staffed from 11 am to 11 pm, opening day June 14th and June 15th. Introduced new staff person Martha Evans.

b. Staff
Senior Planner Walker: AAA is celebrating Older Americans Month at the Information and Assistance Roundtable May 17th, 2019. Three presentations: “Climate Change and Older Adults: Alameda County Impacts and Opportunities”; “Covia: Senior Center without Walls,” and “Justice in Aging”.

c. Public
Joanna Kim-Selby of East Bay Koreans spoke about mainstream news media collecting data about Korean elder care in California. She was one of several who presented on eldercare spoke about need for support for Korean elder care.

The Senior Services Coalition will be sending requests to the governor, asking the CA Department of Aging to increase funding. Currently, funding is the same as 2008. We are trying to serve 3 million more people in the state with funding that is less than it was a decade ago. Chair Ireland and Commissioner Buckholz mentioned it is an equity issue.

Meeting adjourned.

The next meeting of the Advisory Commission on Aging will be held on Monday, June 10th, 2019 in the Maxwell Park Conference Room, 6955 Foothill Blvd. First Floor, Suite 137 Oakland, CA 94605.
12. Call to Order

13. Consent Calendar
   a. Review of Agenda
      (M) D. Filardo
      (S) H. Buckholz
      Carried
   b. Approval of Minutes
      Approval of March 11, 2019 Minutes was deferred to the next Advisory Commission
      Meeting on May 13, 2019 to allow time for the Commissioners to review.

14. Comments from the Public
   No comments.

15. Comments from ACA Chair Donna Ireland
Chair Ireland had a meeting with the AAA Director Stephens-Pierre. Refer to Section 9. Director’s Report on what was discussed. Chair Ireland requested two Commissioners to serve on the Ad Hoc Planning Committee. Commissioner Buckholz and Commissioner Johnson volunteered to participate.

16. Welcome Commissioner Eric Eisenberg

Commissioner Eisenberg retired four years ago from the corporate world and after retirement, he wanted to give back to the community and thus created BrightStar Care in Dublin. BrightStar Care provides various homecare services to older adults. His passion to give back to the community led him to his new role as an Alameda County Advisory Commissioner.

17. Fiscal Year 19-20 Area Plan Update, Delbert Walker, AAA SPS/Senior Planner

The information for Item #6 & Item #7 will be combined due their similarities. The Area Plan as a requirement of the Older Americans Act encompasses a 4-year span. Within this span, an annual update of the plan is required. The plan update for Fiscal Year 19-20 is due May 1, 2019. A draft of this report was distributed at the meeting, in which SPS/Senior Planner Walker did a quick walkthrough of the report.

SPS/Senior Planner Walker requested the Commissioners for a motion to approve the AAA to move forward and submit the Fiscal Year 19-20 Annual Update Report by the May 1, 2019 deadline.

(M) R. Johnson  
(S) H. Buckholz  
Carried

18. 2021-2024 Area Plan Update: Delbert Walker, AAA SPS/Senior Planner

Refer to Item #6.

19. Climate Change and Older Adults: Alameda County Impacts/Opportunities

Presenters: Emily Sadigh and Sarah Church, AC GSA Sustainability Office

A PowerPoint presentation was displayed on the topic. Emily started off the presentation by giving a brief background of her department, General Services Agency (GSA). Both Emily and Sarah provided information that reflected the correlation of climate change and the impact on older adults, the projects in progress for addressing the increased heat and the wildfire smoke in the Alameda County, and additional resources that maybe available for older adults. The information provided also reflected alignment with key frameworks of Alameda County’s Board of Supervisor’s Vision 2026 and the Age-Friendly Communities criteria.

A copy of the presentation will be available in the May 2019 Advisory Packet, as well as by request.

20. Director’s Report: Jennifer Stephens-Pierre, AAA Director

a. Countywide Area Plan for Older Adults
Three launches were conducted for awareness: Media, Advisory Commission, and a Provider launch. Approximately 435 responses were received on Survey Money. The goal of total surveys received is 10,000, compared to 3,275 responses total were received from the previous launch.

b. Meetings

Director Stephens-Pierre attended the recent California Association of Area Agencies on Aging (C4A) Board Meeting in Sacramento and met with a few Assembly members. Assembly Member Aguiar spoke about the AB-1382 Master Plan for Aging. Wendy Peterson, Senior Services Coalition, added briefly regarding advocacy on the awareness of the budget needs for older adults and supportive services and stated funding for these types of services are just not funded well on the State level.

c. Budget

AAA, on the program level, has received the Fiscal Year 19-20 CDA funding allotment. Director Stephens-Pierre and AAA SPS/Senior Planner Walker will be meeting to discuss the budget displays.

d. Legislation Priorities

C4A Priority A Assembly Bills (AB) and Senate Bills (SB):

- AB-480, AB-797, AB-1136, AB-1137, AB-1287, AB-1382
- SB-228, SB-453, SB-611

The information on the Priority A Legislation will be sent to the Legislative Committee for their review and is available to anyone upon request.

e. Older American’s Month

Staff Ho will take the lead for this event. A cake with the Older American’s Month logo will be provided at the next Advisory Commission Meeting. Fliers of the event will be posted at staff areas for awareness of this event. Goodies and informational materials will be given to the Commissioners at next month’s meeting for acknowledge of Older American’s Month.

f. CalFresh Expansion

The title for the “SSI Cash Out” has been revised to the “CalFresh Expansion.” As mentioned in last month’s meeting, the AAA will receive additional funding for outreach from CDA. A budget display was provided to the AAA. The outreach process is still under development. The outreach launch is scheduled for July 1, 2019.

g. CSL Rally

A flier was distributed about the Senior Rally Day, which is scheduled on May 7, 2019, from 10:00am-3:00pm in Sacramento, to celebrate Older Americans Month and to demonstrate to the State that older adults count. This event is being sponsored by the Seniors Count Coalition.

21. Age-Friendly Council Update
Wendy Peterson, Senior Services Coalition, provided a brief update of the activities of the Age-Friendly Council, which included but not limited to the Age-Friendly Application to the Board of Supervisors and a meeting to address housing and homelessness in older adults.

22. Ombudsman Program Update

Newly appointed Ombudsman Coordinator/Adult Protective Services Supervisor, William Fasanya, provided a brief introduction and information about his future vision for the Social Services Agency Ombudsman Program.

23. Commission Subcommittee Reports

a. Executive Committee
   Refer to Director’s Report, Item #9.

b. Legislative Advocacy
   Commissioner Gumbs spoke on the importance of mental health education. Alzheimer’s disease is often confused for dementia and vice versa. There are people walking around not knowing who they are and not knowing what medications they are to be on. These people would go to a doctor and then are diagnosed with depression. Support and more information is needed. More signage and fliers about Alzheimer’s and Dementia should be posted. Bills 1716, 388, AB480, should be supported as they are pertinent to the subject matter.

c. Public Relations/Senior Update
   Staff Villaflor stated the current Senior Update Newsletter for April-June 2019 is now available and the next Commissioner Site Visit will be on May 9, 2019, at the Hayward Senior Center at 10:30am.

d. Health & Safety
   No update was provided.

24. Oral Communications/Announcements

a. Commissioners
   Vice-Chair Miller: Commissioner Miller met with Senator Bob Wieckowski (Senate District 10) at the San Leandro Library. The Commissioner shared information about the consumer survey for the 2021-2024 Countywide Area Plan for Older Adults. Senator Wiechowski offered to help spread the word of AC AAA’s efforts. Commissioner Miller distributed 25-30 surveys and of date received two back. He provided feedback that he’s seeing that language as a barrier for older adults to complete the survey. Commissioner Miller also thanked Commissioner Gumbs for mentoring one of his students that had been academically declining and due in part of Commissioner Gumbs efforts, the student’s grades have improved.

   Commissioner Kim-Lee: Commissioner Kim-Lee informed about another Social Security Scam that involves texts informing a client that their SSN has been suspended. Commissioner Kim-Lee stated that SSA will never call/text a client unless a client initiates or
approves such communications, which can only be initiated by the client by signing up online at https://www.ssa.gov/site/signin/en/, and clicking onto “my Social Security” to create your account. Create an account to help prevent someone else from using your SSN to create a fraudulent account. Commissioner Kim-Lee provided examples when a SSN would be reissued, such as in a serious case of domestic violence. April is also My Social Security Month. A flier will be provided as requested by Director Stephens-Pierre.

Commissioner Filardo: Commissioner Filardo congratulated Will for his new appointment as OMSBUD Coordinator/Adult Protective Services Supervisor. Commissioner Filardo also stated he distributed surveys to his contact at the Union City Senior Center. The Fremont Resource Center appointed a new Tri-City Coalition appointee and Commissioner Filardo will inquire about his availability to join in the May 2019 meeting.

Commissioner Buckholz: Commissioner Buckholz shared a trend of older adults in the Tri-Valley area relinquishing their prescribed medications for cannabis. Representatives for cannabis are visiting various senior housing sites to inform older adults of the purpose and benefits of cannabis. There is a doctor in San Ramon that oversees the program and provides lectures of the history, type, and breakdown of cannabis. Commissioner Gumbs added that education is needed as there is a difference between medical marijuana, cannabis, hemp and CBD that does not have psychoactive effects. Director Stephens-Pierre has requested that Commissioner Buckholz inquire if this doctor would attend as a speaker at a future Advisory Commission Meeting.

b. Staff

Staff Mary Louise: Provide information via George Tucker’s wife, that he had a stroke and is currently in a skilled nursing facility and that he is improving every day.

c. Public

Wendy Peterson, Senior Services Coalition, provided information that the City of Oakland is having their Older Americans Month Celebration on May 1, 2019, at the Frank Ogawa Plaza. The Mayor of Oakland will be present. Wendy also provided information that the Senior Services Coalition is working on getting a bus to attend a rally in Sacramento on May 17, 2019. Anyone interested in attending and are in need of transportation please contact Wendy.

Joanna Kim-Selby, East Bay Korean American Senior Center, shared that she has assisted in completing 40 consumer surveys as they are not available in Korean and that more should be on their way. Joanna stated that Contra Costa County has a senior resource guide and asked if Alameda County had a similar resource. Joanna also shared that her center has survived 9-months without AAA funding. Her building is rich, but cash poor and is pondering on her next move to continued viability. Director Stephens-Pierre responded to Joanna’s statement regarding the AC resource guide and requested staff Piggué to send a copy to Joanna. Director Stephens-Pierre also thanked Joanna for her continued advocacy.

The next meeting of the Advisory Commission on Aging will be held on Monday, May 13, 2019 in the Maxwell Park Conference Room, 6955 Foothill Blvd. First Floor, Suite 137 Oakland, CA 94605.
MINUTES

ADVISORY COMMISSION ON AGING
Monday, March 11, 2019
9:30am – 12:00pm

Commissioners Present: Donna Ireland-Chair, Sue Taylor, Christine Sevier, Dom Filardo, Sarah Kim-Lee, Miller, Pam Gumbs, Sue Taylor

Commissioners Absent (Excused): Royce Johnson, Helen Buckholz, Raj Paul Singh

Staff Present: Director Jennifer Stephens-Pierre, Delbert Walker, Mary Louise Zernicke, Ramil Rivera, Jose Villaflor, Diarra Pigguè, William Fasanya, Lisa Ho, Maaza Michael

Guest:
Carol Powers – EMS/SIPP
Joanna Kim-Selby – Korean Senior Center
Sylvia Soublet – Director, Public Affairs & Community Relations
Robert Taylor – Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley
Lorena Briseno – SSA OPEP
Coco Ramirez – The United Seniors of Oakland and Alameda County
Emma Ishi – Office of Board of Supervisor Carson
Karen Grimsich – Aging & Family Services at the City of Fremont
Joel Devalcourt – Covia

25. Call to Order

26. Consent Calendar
   a. Review of Agenda – Motion to approve the agenda as presented
      (M) D. Filardo
      (S) C. Sevier
      Carried
   b. Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve the minutes as presented
      (M) C. Sevier
      (S) D. Filardo
      Carried

27. Comments from the Public
   No comments.

28. Comments from ACA Chair Donna Ireland
Chair Ireland recently attended an Alameda County Board of Supervisor (BOS) meeting to provide a presentation and to advocate to the BOS for prospective members for the Advisory Commission. She also had the opportunity to meet for the first time with Alameda County Social Services Agency Director, Lori Cox.

29. **Age-Friendly Council: Age-Friendly Application, Karen Grimsich**

Karen provided background on the Age-Friendly World Health Organization efforts which started in Geneva in 2007 to help cities with aging populations. In the USA, AARP is a partner. Currently there are 10 States making efforts to be Age-Friendly. In California, Los Angeles, San Diego, Santa Clara, San Francisco and Marin Counties are currently making efforts to achieve Age Friendly County designation. On February 25, 2019, a joint committee comprised of the Board of Supervisors, Social Services and Public Health Committee convened to encourage the full Board of Supervisors to join the Age-Friendly efforts. The process involves a five-year commitment that ties in with the 8 Domains of Livability. The first two years involve listening to the community and conducting a needs assessment. This is followed by an action plan such as making outdoor spaces accessible. The City of Fremont and City of Berkeley have already submitted applications to be Age-Friendly cities. The three overarching goals are to support looking at the 8 Domains of Livability, support cities to join, and to look across all the different work being done in the County.

30. **Nominations and Election for ACA Vice-Chair**

   a. Nominating Committee Nominations: Commissioner Taylor spoke on the process of contacting the commissioners for interest as Vice-Chair. Recommendations were presented to the Commissioners.

   b. Open Nominations: There were no nominations from the floor.

   c. Election of ACA Vice Chair: Majority of the Commissioners voted for Commissioner Miller as Vice-Chair.

31. **Presentation: Climate Change and Impacts on the Coast**

   Presenters: Amy Hutzel, Deputy Executive Officer, State Coastal Conservancy

   A power point presentation was given by Amy that outlined 1) Access to the Coast in California, 2) Climate Changes & Impacts, and 3) Living Shorelines in California. Emphasis was for accessing the coastal spaces and trails for all by designing walkways that are accessible, new signage and information that informs patrons of the facilities as well as trail information. The projects that the State Coastal Conservancy takes on focus on accessibility. Climate change was mentioned as an umbrella under which all of the other work of the State Coastal Conservancy falls. Amy’s department falls under the National Resource Agency (NRA).

32. **SSI Cash Out Update: Mary L. Zernicke, AAA Senior Nutritionist**

   A handout pertaining to the SSI Cash Out was provided during the meeting and will also be included in the Senior Update Newsletter in April. The “SSI Cash Out” is in the process of being renamed. Approximately 360,000 SSI/SSP recipients are potentially eligible in California; of which an estimated 50,000 are Alameda County residents. Of Alameda County SSI/SSP recipients, 70% are estimated to be older adults. A key message is that there will be no loss/reduction in CalFresh Benefits and no change in status in SSI if the recipient is living in a group household. June 2019 is the effective date, but applicants can start to apply in May 2019.

   Staff Zernicke also added that there is a proposal at the State level to increase the benefits for nutrition services through the Older Californians’ Act. This and the SSI Cash Out are critical
as food insecurity in older adults has gone up over 40% in the last decade. This finding was confirmed from Customer Surveys that Meals on Wheels receive.

33. **2021-2024 Area Plan Update: Delbert Walker, AAA SPS/Senior Planner**

Area Agency on Aging (AAA) SPS/Senior Planner Walker provided a brief update of the AAA planning requirements and process as mandated by the Older Americans Act (OAA), California Department on Aging (CDA), and the Alameda County Board of Supervisors. SPS/Senior Planner Walker provided various statistics on “Why Aging Matters.” This tied into the launch of the Community Assessment Phase of the Comprehensive Countywide Area Plan for Older Adults. This phase involves the Consumer Survey which was reviewed. Hard copies of the survey were provided during the meeting. The survey contained elements of the 8 Domains of Livability. The survey will be available online via Survey Monkey and in hard copy form. Both options will be available in different languages such as Spanish, Tagalog, Farsi, and simplified Chinese to name a few. Attendees of the meeting who are 55 years of age or older and are Alameda County residents were asked to complete the survey. Additional outreach will be conducted for isolated adults. The survey phase is currently open and goes through September 30, 2019. Feedback from the surveys will assist in developing the pending public forums and focus groups. Additional hard copies of the survey were made available for anyone who wishes to assist with the distribution of the Consumer Surveys.

AAA Director Stephens-Pierre added a request to the group to go to Alameda County SSA’s Facebook page and to like and share the AAA’s Countywide Area Plan Launch Announcement. She also asked the Commission members if they know anyone age 55 and older and are Alameda County residents, if they would ask those individuals to complete the survey. The intent is to make sure all Alameda County Older Adults have their voices heard.

34. **Director’s Report: Jennifer Stephens-Pierre, AAA Director**

a. Elder Abuse Awareness: The Aging Commission will partner with Adult Protective Services on Saturday, June 15, 2019 to bring Elder Abuse Awareness to the Alameda County Fair in Pleasanton. The location of the tent will be across from the offices of Supervisor Valle and Supervisor Miley. Supervisor Valle and Supervisor Miley will be asked to participate. The Consumer Survey will also be distributed at this event. AAA will be at the County Fair additionally on the opening day, Friday, June 14, 2019. Those who wish to volunteer for either days will receive parking and ticket for entry to the fair.

b. Older American’s Month: May is designated Older Americans Month. Discussion with the Commission on how to highlight this event is forthcoming.

c. SSA Ombudsman Coordinator, Denise McGowan, retired February 21, 2019. A replacement is in progress. On April 5, 2019, AAA will host an Ombudsman Appreciation event.

d. Social Isolation in the Area Plan: Efforts are in progress to address this targeted group and to address their issues and include their voices in the plan. Transportation issues were mentioned as a reason for isolation. Director Stephens-Pierre stated that in the next funding cycle, this would be looked into.

35. **Commission Subcommittee Reports**
a. Executive Committee

Chair Ireland stated the committee met and the discussion of the meeting was shared from Directors Report in Section 10 above. Chair Ireland shared that the Commissioners would be contacted for their availability for the Commission Retreat.

b. Legislative Advocacy:

Commissioner Gumbs shared that May 23, 2019 is Legislative Day in Sacramento.

c. Public Relations/Senior Update

Staff Villaflor provided dates and locations for the upcoming Fiscal Year 18-19 Commissioner Site Visits:

1. May 9, 2019, Hayward Senior Center, at 10:30am
2. August 20, 2019, Vietnamese American Community Center (Oakland), at 10:00am
3. November 5, 2019, Fremont Senior Center, at 10:00am

Next month the Senior Newsletter for April-June 2019 will be available.

d. Health & Safety

Commissioner Miller stated a meeting would be held after this meeting.

36. Oral Communications/Announcements

a. Commissioners

Vice-Chair Miller: Staff Villaflor contacted Commissioner Miller’s supervisor at the Fremont Library about hosting a public forum at that location.

Commissioner Taylor: On April 25, 2019, the annual Senior Wellness Fair will be held at the South Berkeley Senior Center. Commissioner Taylor conveyed on behalf of Commissioner Buckholz and Commissioner Johnson that they did not know who to contact regarding their absence from this morning’s meeting. Director Stephens-Pierre stated that she or SPS/Senior Planner Walker can be contacted. Commissioner Taylor ended with thanking the Commissioners for their commitment regarding filling the Vice-Chair seat.

Commissioner Filardo: He was invited to visit Casa Sandoval, a low-income facility of older adults in Hayward. This housing facility close to transportation. Commissioner Filardo stated in the chance there is no chair or vice-chair present that he would step in to facilitate the Advisory Commissioner Meeting.

Chair Ireland: Provided two handouts on behalf of Wendy Peterson of Senior Services Coalition. The first handout was for advocacy at a hearing on SSI issues and the struggle to afford food and housing in Sacramento. There will be transportation available and are listed on the handout. The second handout involved advocacy to invest in Aging Services. The event will be on March 14, 20, and 27, 2019 in Sacramento to encourage Legislators to invest in Aging Services. Chair Ireland also shared that she would be at her local farmers
market to provide information regarding the work of the Advisory Commission and to request older adults to complete the Consumer Survey.

b. Staff

Staff Piggue provided information of the next Round Table Meeting that will be on Friday, March 15, 2019 in Suite 143 (First Floor) in the Sobrante Park Conference Room from 9:00am – 12:00pm. The information provided will be about the Countywide Area Plan for Older Adults Provider’s Launch. A special catered breakfast will be served.

c. Public

Joanna Kim-Selby, East Bay Korean American Senior Center, shared information of an article from the Korean Times on the topic of suicide. A statistical report conducted by Michigan State reports Korean immigrant suicides are the highest compared to any other ethnic group. Joanna was not aware of this issue as she has operated the East Bay Korean Senior Center for the past 11 years. Joanna requested of AAA and the Commission to help with resources to help spread this issue via Korean media.

Carol Powers, Emergency Medical Services, provided a flier for the 19th Annual California Senior Injury Prevention Educational Forum on April 18, 2019, from 8:00am-4:00pm. The event will be held at the Ascension Cathedral, 4700 Lincoln Ave, Oakland. Registration is required. Carol emphasized the food should be pretty good.

Robert Taylor, Senior Support of the Tri-Valley, volunteered his agency for the Transportation Impact on Isolation work.

The next meeting of the Advisory Commission on Aging will be held on Monday, April 8, 2019 in the Maxwell Park Conference Room, 6955 Foothill Blvd. First Floor, Suite 137 Oakland, CA 94605.
AGENDA

ADVISORY COMMISSION ON AGING

HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE
Monday, June 10, 2019
IMMEDIATELY AFTER COMMISSION MEETING

1. Call to order.

2. Roll Call (Sign in sheet)

3. Consent Calendar
   A. Review of Agenda
   B. Approval of Minutes

4. Update on “Whistle Project”

5. Other

Adjournment
 Commissioners Present: Committee Chair John Miller and Vice Chair Royce Johnson  
 Staff Present: Carol Powers and Maaza Michael  

1. The meeting was called to order at 12:12 PM, those present were asked to sign in.  

2. Minutes from March 11, 2019 meeting were approved.  
   (M) J. Miller  
   (S) R. Johnson  
   Carried  

3. Staff member Maaza gave an update on the ordering and purchasing of the whistles, lanyards and magnets:  
   - The whistle and the lanyards are delivered.  
   - The magnets were not the correct size; therefore, sent back for reprinting.  

4. The Committee discussed:  
   - Design improvement of the survey questions.  
   - On writing instructions for the survey.  
   - Inserting a reminder in the packet on business card size paper with County logo that that states “Follow-up Forth Coming”.  

5. Action plan for the next meeting:  
   - Staff member, Maaza Michael will design the insert and will do the design improvement of the survey.  
   - Staff member Carol Powers will write the instruction for the survey.  

Meeting was adjourned at 12:35 PM.  

The next meeting of the Health & Safety Committee will be held immediately after the Commission Meeting on Monday, June 10, 2019 in the Maxwell Park Conference Room, 6955 Foothill Blvd. First Floor, Suite 137 Oakland, CA 94605.
Commissioners Present: Helen Buckholz, Committee Chair Dr. Pam Gumbs, Commission Chair Donna Ireland, CSL Senior Senator Sylvia Stadmire.

Members Present: Lorena Briseno and Joel Ginsberg

Staff Present: Lisa Ho and Mary Louise Zernicke

1. Called to Order: The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Dr. Gumbs at 12:10 PM.

2. Approve the minutes of Legislative Advocacy Committee – April 8, 2019.
   Motion to approve the minutes.
   (M) Zernicke
   (S) Ireland
   Carried

3. Legislative Bills Discussion
   a. CSL proposed bills update
      - Sylvia Stadmire reported that she is keeping tabs on AB50 and AB797.
   
      - Lorena Briseno reported the importance of the following dates for the legislative process:
        May 30- Deadline to introduce bills for this two-year legislative cycle.
        September 13- Last day to pass any proposed bills by both houses in order to move to Governor’s desk to be signed.
        October 13- Governor either signs or vetos the proposed bills.
      - Lorena Briseno reported OPEP is not pleased with the Governor’s May Budget Revision so OPEP is putting a summary for advocacy.

   C. Other proposed bills
      - No new updates

4. Council for Age-Friendly Communities Updates by Joel Ginsberg
- Reports provided at the Alameda County Commission on Aging meeting (ACA).

5. **Senior Services Coalition Updates by Wendy Peterson, Director**
   - Wendy Peterson reported working with Assemblyman Chiu on the budget increase bill. However, the bill needs a Senator as an advocate when it moves to the Senate side. Currently, there is no strong committed support.

6. **Other Federal, State and Local Issues and Updates**
   - Mary Louise provided update regarding Cal Fresh being accepting applications starting May 15 at the ACA.
   - Mary Louise also reiterated about Older American’s Act being reauthorized with 10% federal funds increase. She calls for individual advocacy at the federal level.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:15 pm

**The June 2019 meeting of the Legislative Advocacy Committee will be CANCELED.**