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 June 10, 2019 Minutes 9:35 - 9:40

3. Comments from ACA Chair Donna Ireland 9:45 - 9:55


5. Presentation: Kathleen Kelly, Executive Director, Family Caregiver Alliance, National Center on Caregiving 10:10 - 10:40


7. Age-Friendly Council Update 10:55 - 11:10

8. Ombudsman Program Update 11:10 - 11:15

   a. Executive Committee
   b. Legislative Advocacy 11:20 - 11:30
   c. Public Relations/Senior Update 11:30 - 11:35
   d. Health & Safety 11:35 - 11:45

10. Oral Communications/Announcements 11:45 - 11:50
    a. Commissioners
    b. Staff

11. Comments from the Public 11:50 - 12:00
MINUTES
ADVISORY COMMISSION ON AGING
Monday, June 10, 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, Sue Taylor, Eric Eisenberg, Christine Sevier, Carlos Londono, Howard Kirsch

Commissioners Absent (Excused): Sylvia Stadmire, Helen Buckholz

Staff Present: Jennifer Stephens-Pierre, Senior Planner Delbert Walker, Jose Villaflor, Maaza Michael, Hema Patel, Diarra Piggue, Maureen Schulz, Malikah Taylor, Martha Evans

1. Call to Order

2. Consent Calendar
   a. Review of Agenda – Motion to approve the agenda as presented
      a. (M) Dom Filardo
      b. (S) Royce Johnson
         Motion Carried
   b. Approval of Minutes – Chair Ireland called for a motion approving March 11, 2019 Minutes, April 8, 2019 Minutes, and May 13, 2019 Minutes.
      a. (m) Donna Ireland
      b. (s) Royce Johnson
         Motion Carried.

3. Comments from the Public. Chair Ireland proposed moving to last agenda item, 11c.

4. Comments from ACA Chair Donna Ireland: On June 4th, 2019, Chair Ireland and Agency Director Randy Morris received a proclamation for Older Americans Month from Board of Supervisor’s President Valle. Chair Ireland introduced new Commissioner Howard Kirsch, who mentioned his work with Ashby Village, he is a volunteer with Meals on Wheels, has worked with Alzheimer’s Association and still volunteers on the help line. Chair Ireland discussed the role of the Advisory Commission at the County Fair on Friday and Saturday, June 14th and 15th. Signup sheet reminder was passed around as coverage is still needed Saturday afternoon and evening. Tickets and parking passes are available after the meeting for those who signed up. Chair Ireland reported on the Commission retreat on June 18th.

5. Director’s Report: AAA Director Jennifer Stephens-Pierre discussed AAA’s involvement in the CalFresh Expansion – building on what Nutritionist Zernicke had presented at earlier meetings, the Director explained that AAA is receiving money to do outreach to let older people on SSI know they are eligible for this benefit. AAA has accepted the budget from the State of California and is waiting for the contracts in order to implement the program. AAA staff will
provide outreach and application assistance and Nutritionist Zernicke will provide regular
updates. Commissioner Filardo asked if this involves a cut to income. Director Stephens-Pierre
said that her understanding is that it does not.

The Director then spoke about Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) bridging
disabled services with older adult services. It is part of the California Department of Aging
Master Plan on Aging initiative to move these services together. Alameda County is one of only
eight counties to be certified by ADRC. C4A (California Association of Area Agencies on Aging)
is on board with it but Director Stephens-Pierre is not sure how the disability community feels.
She then passed around a list updates of bills that support integrating aging and disability
services and asked Commissioners keep an eye on this legislation, including AB 1200. It aligns
with what AAA is already doing and hopefully, AAA will be able to work with Centers for
Independent Living (CIL) (North Alameda County) and Community Resources for Independent
Living (CRIL) (South Alameda County) to figure out how this works for the entire county. C4A is
advocating for them and AAA will provide updates. Wendy Peterson of the Senior Services
Coalition reported that some funding for ADRC has made it out of conference committee.

Other updates: Intern Program - AAA will have summer interns who will attend the next
Commission meeting and will support all AAA programs, including CalFresh Expansion, the
Ombudsman Program, and outreach through the needs-assessment survey.

ACA Presence at the County Fair: The Director said that 100,000 people per day are expected
to visit the Fair, so it is a great opportunity to raise awareness. ACA will share a tent which will
have an Elder Abuse Awareness theme involving collaboration of Adult Protective Services
(APS), the Ombudsman Program, the Public Defender’s Office, the District Attorney’s office
and Legal Assistance for Seniors. Director Stephens-Pierre thanked Commissioners who
volunteered for the County Fair to promote Commission, and Ombudsman, volunteer
recruitment, and to support the survey and answer questions from the public. She also thanked
Chair Ireland for taking time to go to the Board of Supervisors meeting to accept the
proclamation for Older Americans Month. Sue Taylor asked if there would be T-Shirts to
identify Commission members at the Fair – there will be nametags this year but not shirts.

Director Stephens-Pierre called on Senior Planner Walker to describe how the Older
Americans Act requires that every four years AAA’s develop a comprehensive plan for services
and funding that requires a needs assessment of older adults. The Director introduced Jim
Cunniff to give an update on the 2021-2024 Countywide Area Plan needs assessment survey.
Jim has come out of retirement to analyze the data from the four-year needs-assessment
survey of older adults that is part of the countywide plan. The next plan is due to the State of
California May 1, 2020.

The needs assessment has three different phases: first is the community survey, which started
going out in March 2019. In July focus groups and public forums will be held, and September
30, 2019 these phases will end, and analysis of data begins for input to the four-year plan. The
goal is 10,000 responses. Jim Cunniff provided preliminary survey results of 1456 responses
so far. Table 1 divides up what percentage of respondents are from which cities: 10% are from
city of Alameda whose seniors are 5.8% of the county so it skew towards certain cities right
now. Hayward, Livermore, and Union City have low responses. He is presenting this data also
to Age-Friendly Council to try to get more responses. Number one priority in all responses is
being able to stay in their own homes. You can drill down in data to see populations – this is a
preliminary look at data. From the survey data so far, the top resources that people listed are
information about news and events in a language they understand, health services that are
culturally appropriate, opportunities to volunteer, and places to socialize that are both
welcoming and affordable. Resources that are not available include job opportunities,
affordable housing clean well-kept sidewalks, safe well-light streets, and housing that suits their
needs. Need more outreach to Black, Chinese, and Hispanic seniors so survey participants
match their representation in community. Over-representation of females (58% of respondents right now). Mostly higher incomes represented – need to reach out more to lower-income people. Median age on survey so far is 71. 54% live in houses – correlates with income. Only 5 listed their status as homeless. Jim will come to Commission meetings periodically to provide updates. Joanna Kim-Selby of East Bay Korean-American Senior Center spoke about in her senior center the age range goes upward - at least twenty people are 80 to 90. Trying to get all languages represented online in survey monkey to increase diversity of responses. Will send all electronic versions to all Commissioners. (Note: these were emailed June 12, 2019 to all Commissioners.) Commissioner Sevier asked if hard copy or electronic at the fair. Senior Planner Walker confirmed there will be both paper and iPad versions, and links sent to local papers. There was discussion of publicizing the surveys in small, local community newspapers including unincorporated areas, and including The Post, an African American paper which has issues for several East Bay cities, as well as using social media. The Social Services Agency has been posting it bi-weekly. Jim Cunniff pointed out that ACA won’t reach the goal of 10,000 unless there is extraordinary outreach. The Director emphasized getting the word out and convincing people how important the survey is, since survey completion equates to dollars invested in communities.

6. **Health & Safety Committee Whistle Project**: Commissioner John Miller provided an update on the Whistle Project. The idea is to get whistles for safety and emergencies for older adults. It has been a long time coming, but the whistles and magnets are here, so everything is complete. There is a one-page survey to evaluate the program. Commissioner Taylor commented that Life Long Medical Center could help distribute whistles. SOS Meals on Wheels will help distribute them.

7. **Stepping Out and Reconnecting (S.O.A.R.)**. Presenter: Robert Taylor, Executive Director, Senior Support Program/Tri-Valley. This program helps address the growing issue of isolation in the older population. Executive Director Taylor said Isolation for older adults is the equivalent of smoking fifteen cigarettes per day and a 64% increased risk of developing dementia. S.O.A.R helps older adults build relationship skills and end isolation, especially as social networks decrease as people move or pass away. S.O.A.R. meets once a month, connects with people and then has social activities. Right now, there are 32 participants – some referred by family members or other organizations, often with transportation or ambulatory issues. The program addresses matters of physical fitness, nutrition, medical information, music, pet therapy, and special interest classes. As older adults become more active, they need more support. 95% get in touch via phone calls, not email. The average age of participants is 79 and most are single and low-income. S.O.A.R. connects older adults to Pleasanton Senior Center and relies heavily on volunteer services.

8. **Council on Age-Friendly Communities (AFC) Update: Wendy Peterson**. She described the Alameda County Council of Age-Friendly Communities. It is an Interdisciplinary county inter-connected body which meets monthly. She highlighted its recent work with Alameda Area Agency on Aging on Focus Groups and Surveys to get the needed data. Also working on a Healthy Brain Initiative – hoping for state funding for this and making recommendations to the county on housing/homelessness.

9. **Commission Subcommittee Reports**
   a. **Executive Committee** - met with Director and spoke about membership and new Commissioners. There are also three or four pending applications. Dr. Gumbs resigned to serve on another program. The Executive Committee discussed the Area Plan and the Ad hoc Planning Committee outreach letters, and questions about financial planning and independent living. Discussed June is Elder Abuse Awareness Month. Need more signups for Fair. Asked Commissioners to send ideas for retreat. Have a QR code/link for surveys. Senior Planner Walker said we also need outreach to people who don’t have access to computers or smart phones. Ad hoc
Planning Committee next meeting is Tuesday July 2. Commissioner Eisenberg asked if AAA could send email to Commissioners about subcommittee meetings.

b. **Legislative Advocacy** No meeting

c. **Public Relations/Senior Update** No report

d. **Health & Safety** Minutes attached

10. **Oral Communications/Announcements**

   a. **Commissioners**
   
   Commissioner Eisenberg asked about libraries having surveys and asked if AAA could send email to Commissioners about subcommittee meetings.
   
   Commissioner Miller spoke about adult literacy in the county and the challenges and value of persistence with each population, and the multiple languages spoken in the county.
   
   Commissioner Kirsch suggested working with cultural/athletic groups like the Oakland A’s and the Symphony to get word out about the surveys.
   
   Commissioner Londono spoke about the low representation of Spanish-speaking on the survey, especially in his District 2. Senior Planner Walker suggested Commissioner Londono come to Ad hoc Planning Committee meeting.
   
   Commissioner Kim-Lee passed out a flyer from Social Security warning of phone scams and asked people to spread the word.
   
   Commissioner Filardo - regarding the legislative Update wondered where legislators stand on bills. Chair Ireland suggested he join the Legislative Committee.
   
   Commissioner Johnson spoke about increasing survey outreach and suggested a survey link or link code – not a URL – so it takes less space in a newspaper and is less expensive. Have a QRC code/link for surveys. Senior Planner Walker said we also need outreach to people who don’t have access to computers or smart phones. Ad hoc Planning Committee’s next meeting is Tuesday July 2.

b. **Staff**

   Staff member Diarra Piggue mentioned that Social Services Agency is sponsoring Boomer Fridays at Alameda County Fair and free Boomer days on the June 14th, 21st, 28th and July 5th. Free for Boomers up to 5pm and after that half-off.

c. **Public**

   Joanna Kim-Selby of the East Bay Korean-American Senior Center spoke about the PGE letter sent to everyone warning of power outages and also pointed to an AARP Bulletin article that said in 2020 Social Security will outstrip its annual income. She also warned of scams regarding gift cards targeting older adults.

Meeting adjourned 11:58 am.

The next meeting of the Advisory Commission on Aging will be held on Monday, July 8th, 2019 in the Maxwell Park Conference Room, 6955 Foothill Blvd. First Floor, Suite 137 Oakland, CA 94605.
ADVISORY COMMISSION ON AGING
HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

June 10, 2019

Commissioners Present: Committee Chair John Miller and Vice Chair Royce Johnson
Staff Present: Diarra Piggue and Maaza Michael

1. The meeting was called to order at 11:40 AM, those present were asked to sign in.

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

3. The group approved the evaluation survey questions and the wording of the insert.

4. Action plan for the next meeting:

   ➢ The distribution list will be developed by staff member, Maaza Michael.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:50 AM.

The next meeting of the Health & Safety Committee will be held immediately after the Commission Meeting on Monday, July 8, 2019 in the Maxwell Park Conference Room, 6955 Foothill Blvd. First Floor, Suite 137 Oakland, CA 94605.
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