

**Commission on Aging General Meeting
Minutes
January 12, 2015**

Present: JoAnne Arnos, Walter Batara, Sandra Cooperman, Lisa Costello, Patricia Erickson, Christina Kahn, Sandra Lang, Mary Larenas, Melodie Lew, Scott McMullin, Cherie Querol-Moreno, May Ratiu, Marisa Robles, Francine Serafin-Dickson

Excused: Aurea Cruz, Katie Eiseman, Alex Melendrez

Staff: Marsha Fong, Craig McCulloh

Public: Chris Rodriquez, *Adult Protective Services*; Deborah Owdom, *RSVP*; Sheila Sandow; Evelyn Tom, *CSL Representative*; Elna Tymes, *CoA Santa Clara County*

Item	DISCUSSION	ACTION/DECISION
Call to Order	9:00 am Pledge of Allegiance Call to Order	
Correspondence	None	
Oral Communications	None	
Approval of Today's Agenda	Approved	Motion: May Ratiu Second: Sandra Lang
Approval of Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> September 8, 2014 - With the following changes, minutes were approved: add the name of Melodie Lew to the list of members present at the meeting; approval of agenda moved and seconded by Dennis O'Sullivan and Aurea Cruz, respectively; approval of minutes of June 9, 2014, Dennis O'Sullivan and Sandra Lang; July 14, 2014, Aurea Cruz and Dennis O'Sullivan. Comment: Sandra Lang inquired if there were any action taken on the issue presented 	Motion: Sandra Cooperman Second: Melodie Lew

	<p>by several residents of the Villa senior apartment complex at the September 8 general meeting; Scott McMullin responded that it was taken up at the Executive Committee meeting and was decided it was out of the Commission's purview to make any recommendation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> November 10, 2014 - With change to add the names of Sandra Cooperman, Cherie Querol-Moreno and Marisa Robles as CoA attendees to the October Seniors on the Move Conference, minutes were approved. 	<p>Motion: Sandra Cooperman Second: May Ratiu</p>
Presentation	<p>Topic: <i>Adult Abuse Prevention</i> - Adult Protective Services (APS) is the official program in San Mateo County designated to receive and investigate reports of suspected abuse (neglect, abandonment, isolation, abduction, physical, sexual, mental and/or financial exploitation) and develop care plans for, seniors or dependent adults. The past couple of years have seen a spike of cases being investigated and abuse allegations. Back in the 90's, the group was investigating only 20+ cases a month; with no outreach as there was only one social worker. Presently, with mandated reporting (and may be due to increase in aging group population and people getting savvier), 8 social workers and a deputy public guardian are investigating about 100 a month (with 130 in January!). Interestingly, 30% of the cases involve financial abuse, as well as a high percentage of self-neglect. As of June 2013, reported misappropriated amount (cumulative) is \$3MM. The impact to the county is being analyzed and will be in a report shortly. The grand jury review of 2013 recommended increase in outreach and for a more robust operation. Anyone (not just mandated reporters) can make a referral to APS at any time to 1-800-675-8437; for abuse in care facilities, call 650-780-5707.</p> <p>The Q&A was very informative, particularly reiterating the significance of estate planning and (limited) power of attorney, evaluated every 5-7 years.</p>	<p>Presenter: Chris Rodriguez, Manager, APS</p>

Chair Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Committee decided to streamline agenda (see related Discussions Items) • Jay Sekhon has resigned due to medical reasons 	
Staff/Liaison Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marsha Fong's retirement has been postponed; will notify final date soon • State budget was announced last Friday; analysis of actual impact on aging programs will be reported shortly. Federal budget for Older Americans Act programs, is mostly frozen. – The one exception is the funding for a White House Conference on Aging that was cut. A conference may still occur but the event was not funded. The overtime and travel time that was to be instituted for IHSS providers is on hold based till January 15th per a court decision. There will be a court hearing on Jan. 14th to decide if implementation will occur. There is a new timesheet based on hours worked (previous timesheet was based on decimals). Training is being provided on the new timesheet as the change will be confusing initially. There is also a new form for mileage reimbursement (copy distributed); on line form is automated. Mileage to be charged is for full attendance to committee and standing committees only. Rate went up to \$0.575. Submission is time-sensitive; no retroactive reimbursements after 3 months, however, monthly submission is strongly encouraged. To avoid delay, clarify any questions with Marsha Fong before submitting. • Material for CoA meetings (agenda and minutes, plus any minutes from subcommittees) should be sent to Elizabeth Schlieff (cc Marsha Fong) ideally by Wednesday afternoon if they are to be e-mailed to members for review prior to the meeting. If materials are to be provided at the meeting, they should be submitted no later than Friday morning before the Monday meeting. • Committee sign-up sheets for 2015 were distributed and members 	

	<p>were asked to sign up for the committees they are intending to participate in.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IHSS liaison position is Board appointed for CoA, and only a consumer of personal care assistance for self or someone under one's care (a person who has previously used the services) may apply (see related Discussion Item). • Reminder: Ethics training should be completed every two years, particularly by new members (see Orientation binder). • Announcements: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. May Nicols, previous Chair, passed away on January 3. Celebration of life will be held on Saturday, the 24th, from 2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the San Mateo Senior Center (2645 Alameda de las Pulgas). Memorial donation to Hip Housing or Peninsula Humane Society. 2. John Sorenson informed Marsha Fong that his spouse Dorothy has lung cancer and is scheduled for surgery and that it was okay to share this info with others. • Reminder: RSVP (at http://tinyurl.com/kvvuqee) to the County Board of Supervisors' <i>Thank You</i> reception on January 22, from 5:30 p.m., at the History Museum in Redwood City. 	
Action Items	None	
Discussion Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AAPC - JoAnne Arnos will present to the next AAPC meeting • Recruiting - An info blast on CoA has been put out through EPA Today (also has a weekly show in East Palo Alto). • IHSS liaison - Christina Kahn may be interested in the position; will discuss with Marsha Fong. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership - Sandra Cooperman will be Chair, and Walter Batara, Co-Chair. • Reminder: ExCom meetings, to which all subcommittee chairs are required to attend, are first Tuesdays of the month, 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. • General Meetings - The following are recommended for implementation: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Focus on Standing Committee Reports 2. Streamline Liaison Committee Reports 3. Christina Kahn and Sandra Lang will serve as ad hoc to analyze alternative ways to handle liaison positions (Nutrition, Ombudsman, HIV Council, Legal Aid Senior Advocate, etc.) henceforth; i.e., whether there is a need to eliminate some. 4. May Ratiu will provide the liaison report for both New Beginnings Coalition and New Beginnings Steering Committee. 	
Standing Committee Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislative/Advocacy – Will meet on the 26th; Lisa Costello to Chair • Procedural Rules – No report • Adult Abuse Prevention – Members are encouraged to support the group's initiative by attending the performances at the upcoming season, which have been great successes in the past year, and to invite others. For ideas and suggestions, and other options for promotion, contact Melodie; may be a topic at February retreat. • Isolated Seniors Outreach – Updates to <i>Help at Home</i> booklet due by the 16th. Will also draft a flyer on access to services. • Communications – Group has ongoing activities; e.g., use of social media • Membership – Recruitment (5 openings to date) ongoing; interviews 	

	of 4 applicants scheduled 1/13/15	
Liaison Committees (Monthly Meetings)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Para-transit Coordination Council – SamTrans has a new vendor providing Redi-Wheels; mobility management ongoing (see copy of report) • PRIDE Initiative – JoAnne Arnos shared that <i>Gender Spectrum</i> has sensitivity presentation available on AB1266, which recommends students to be in safe place in schools (Measure AB1266 is an act to amend an Education Code relating to student rights to participate in sex-segregated school programs and activities irrespective of the pupils' gender); and a workshop, <i>Intimate Partner in Violence-Free Community</i>, in Silicon Valley in the afternoon of the 22nd. Contact JoAnne Arnos for more info. • Commission on Disabilities – Marisa Robles recommended that CoD's video, <i>There Is No Need to be Awkward</i>, be presented at a future meeting as a sensitivity training tool. (Also, in an e-mail notification Craig McCulloh sent out soon after the meeting, he enjoined everyone to attend a Disabilities Community Networking Social on the 27th, from 3:00 p.m., in Room 100.) • Ombudsman – Craig McCulloh announced that there will be a volunteer brunch in February; call Craig for further info. • HIV Council – No report • New Beginning Coalition & New Beginning Coalition Steering Committee (Area Plan Workshop) – Panelists from different Bay Area coalitions focused on aging will present at the general meeting in the morning of the 27th. • Cultural Competence – See PRIDE Initiative; JoAnne Arnos again encouraged all to attend or peruse sensitivity tools available. Also prompted the group to work on time on projects for grant 	

	<p>applications for funds available for older seniors. Measure A, for example, CoA has to plan on submitting a LOI for funding for the next two years. (Timeframe was tight this year.) There is stringent criteria to adhere to, and previously-approved projects have priority. (Measure A is a 10-year half-cent general sales tax approved by the County "to maintain the quality of life for all residents by providing essential services and maintaining and/or replacing critical facilities".)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-Home Supportive Services Advisory – Finding a quorum has been a challenge; still looking for new members; last meeting focused on Fair Labor Standards Act. 	
Liaison (Quarterly Meetings)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal Aid Senior Advocate – No report • Triple-A Council of California – No report • Nutrition – No report 	
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Plan Update – Health Plan of San Mateo transitioning to Care Advantage CMC; now will have a "deeming period," where if someone loses medical coverage, it is not automatically terminated. • Sunshine Update – The group congratulated Christina Kahn who is a January celebrant. Aurea Cruz will be requested to send cards to May Nicol's family, and to Mr. and Mrs. Sorenson. • Housing and Community Development – Scott McMullin attended December and January meetings, where four housing projects were subsequently approved for funding: Habitat for Humanity (\$.5MM), Veterans Village in Colma (\$.5MM), an apartment complex in DalyCity (\$2.5MM), and a senior apartment project in East Palo Alto (\$1MM). 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HICAP – Cherie Querol-Moreno invited the group and everyone interested to a series of free (unbiased) workshops, <i>New to Medicare</i>, which HICAP (hicapsanmateocounty.org) will sponsor at the San Mateo Main Library, from 6:00 p.m., on February 12, April 9, August 13, and November 12, to learn about the 4 parts of Medicare, prescription coverage, Medicare Advantage, Medicare supplement policies, and how the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) can help. • Meeting Minutes - Scott McMullin and Lisa Costello graciously volunteered to take the February and March minutes, respectively, in Marisa Robles' absence. 	
Announcements	Reminder: Retreat, February 27; venue tbc; bring ideas.	

Next Meeting: Monday, February 9, 2015