Commission on Aging General Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 14, 2022  9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
Location: ZOOM Virtual Meeting Conducted due to COVID-19

Members present: JoAnne Arnos; Maria Elena Barr; Karen Coppock; Christina Dimas-Kahn; Joan Kilroe; Monika Lee; Marita Leth; Michael Mau; Scott McMullin; Cherie Querol Moreno; Kathy Uhl

Members excused: Walter Batara; Patty Clement; Angela Giannini; Jean Hastie; Liz Taylor

Staff: Anna Sawamura; Andrew Eng; Cristina Ugaitafa; Diane Madriz

Public: Alex Tan; Ana Lopez; Artemis Rong; Benjamin McMullan; Bernie Mellot; Beth Phipps; Bob Palacio; Christina Irving; Dao Do; Erin Malone; Hope Nakamura; Jeff Austin; Kelli Jo Cullinan; Kamilah Najieb; Laura Swartzel; Maria Orleman; Natalya Alazraie; Phillix Fong; Regina Neu; Ruth Cossey; Sandra Lang; Sandra Winters; Shanah Hawk; Susan Houston; Terue Shinohara; Tracey Weatherby; Wes Taoka

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| 1. Call to Order  
Pledge of Allegiance  
Roll Call | Meeting called to order at 9:01 a.m. by Chairperson Coppock. Commissioner Barr led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call followed. |
| 2. Action Item: Passage of resolution 10182021 | Commissioner Lee motioned to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Querol Moreno. Motion passed. |
| 3. Oral Communications | Chairperson Coppock led a moment of silence in recognition of the violence against Asian Americans and in particular older adults. Sandra Lang asked for an update of the status of the $500,000 discretionary funds that was allotted to Age Friendly. Chairperson Coppock announced that there are 2 seats open on the Commission. Beth Phipps asked other members to share what changes will be made based on the governor’s lifting of the mandates statewide. |
| 4. Approval of Today’s Agenda: February 14, 2022 | Commissioner Kilroe motioned to approve the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Uhl. Motion passed. |
| 5. Approval of January 10, 2022 minutes | Commissioner Mau motioned to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Barr. Commissioner Querol Moreno abstained. Motion passed. |
| 6. Committee and Ad Hoc Reports | **Executive Committee**
Chairperson Coppock thanked the committees for putting forward recommendations for speakers for the rest of the year. They will be able to start finalizing the calendar. Next month Cristina Ugaitafa will be presenting an update on the area plan. She recommends that everyone read the area plan ahead of time and bring any questions to the presentation.

In April there will be an Age Friendly discussion and update. In May there will be an annual report. Commissioner Coppock requested committee chairs send her a list of their accomplishments this past year to include in the report. She also looks forward to including highlights from the upcoming retreat. A list of scheduled presentations will be sent to all Commissioners by Anna.

Chairperson Coppock announced that it is Commissioner Kilroe’s last meeting today and there are 2 openings on the Commission. She would like to encourage people to get the word out to recruit to fill the vacancies and to encourage applicants that can represent the diversity of the County.

A letter was sent to the Board of Supervisors in support of advocating for additional resources for Age Friendly work in July. A second letter was drafted with suggestions on how the funds can be used. Two of the recommendations were to have someone from the County staff Age Friendly work and to provide post certification support.

**Action Item:** To support sending a letter to Supervisor Canepa and the Board of Supervisors thanking them for the $500,000 allocation to continue Age Friendly work.

Commissioner Lee motioned to approve the letter and Commissioner Kilroe seconded it. Motion passed.

**Resource Access Committee**
Commissioner Lee reported that they are working on finalizing the Help at Home guide. They are hoping to have that completed by the end of this month or early next month. In terms of going
forward, they are going to concentrate on establishing procedures for tabling and participating at community events. They will also be working on updating contacts in their building relationship effort.

**MISO (Middle Income Senior Opportunities) Committee**

Commissioner Dimas-Kahn reported that they are working on their workplan for 2022. They decided to keep the same goals from last year but expand them. Goal one is to map and identify opportunities to address food insecurities for older adults in San Mateo County. Goal two was to educate and prepare older adults for disaster preparedness and goal three was employment training for older adults who would like more financial security and more money to live on. They decided to change the phrasing of some of the goals to also include living safely at home, employment opportunities, the digital divide as well as other items. Their next meeting is the last Monday of the month at 8:30 am. They are also working with the Age Friendly movement in Half Moon Bay.

**Transportation Committee**

Commissioner Mau reported that they just had their meeting last Thursday. The main topic of discussion was to get a guest speaker for one of the future commission meetings. They would like to get a SamTrans representative to discuss changes to the transportation system and specific services that they offer to seniors.

7. Member Reports

Commissioner Kilroe reported that the Housing Community Development Committee assists in the development of housing, both public and senior housing buildings anywhere within the County. In their meetings, they are given reports and are able to question the details and then are able to vote on whether they agree with how much financial support the County is providing.

Commissioner McMullin would like to encourage someone from the Commission to consider joining the San Mateo County Housing and Community Development committee.

Commissioner Leth reports that the taskforce with age friendly communities in Half Moon Bay and the Coastside have completed the application process and it will be presented to the city council tomorrow and then they will submit to AARP by the end of the week.

Commissioner Querol Moreno reports that they have been able to connect with the Allies for Older Adults in East Palo Alto. Thankful
to have 2 of their representatives at the meeting to make sure the voices of their constituents are represented.

Commissioner Dimas-Kahn reports that the Half Moon Bay Age Friendly taskforce application includes creating a coalition to oversee and initiate all the objectives.

Commissioner McMullin reported that he got an opportunity to collaborate with several agencies on a used medical equipment loan program. They have collected a couple of hundred items in the last few months. The idea is to loan it out similar to a library system.

Chairperson Coppock reports that the retreat will be held on March 31st from 9am to 1pm and it will be virtual. The county will provide a moderator so everyone can fully participate and engage. Commissioner Clement will be scheduling a planning meeting in early March.

8. Staff Reports

Anna Sawamura reported that starting Wednesday, February 16, residents will be able to go mask less in most places as we prepare to relax state guidance placing rulemaking back in the hands of businesses. Chief of Health, Louise Rogers, has noted that mask requirements will not be lifted across the board so there will still be mandated mask requirements in certain settings such as public transportation, medical or correctional facilities, schools, congregate settings such as long-term care facilities and homeless shelters. Any unvaccinated individuals will still be required to wear masks when indoors. Establishments will be tasked with the responsibility to decide whether to request all who enter their business to wear a mask and to check for vaccination status or they can choose to abide by an honor system.

There are two vacancies on the Commission and the clerk of the Board of Supervisors has posted it on their site. They have requested that anyone who would like to apply go through their application process. The process has not changed. The Board of Supervisors will review all the applications and then decide upon who will be interviewed. There will be an interview process that would include a member of the Commission. Anna Sawamura is usually asked if she would like to attend as the staff liaison but the final decision will be made by the Board of Supervisors upon the recommendation of the CoA Commissioners who are also part of the process.

They are currently preparing to release a request for proposal for all programs and the release date will be February 23. The
There was a nine-minute stretch break.

Nutrition Services in San Mateo County: Pre and Post Pandemic presented by Tracey Weatherby and Anna Sawamura

Commissioner Kilroe made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Barr seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 10:48 am.