Notes from Middle Income Senior Opportunities (MISO) Committee Meeting

Date November 27, 2023 at 9:15 AM

Commissioners Present: Chair, Jeff Austin, Maria Barr, Irene Liana, Joyce Porter, Kathy Uhl, absent

Public: Sandra Lang

Staff: Anna Sawamura, Diane Madriz

1. Chair Jeff Austin began meeting at 9:16

2. Public Comment: Sandra Lang, glad that Miso Committee work plan continues to look for gaps, for middle income seniors due to the rising cost of living, especially Long Term Care

3. Commissioner Barr volunteered to take notes

4. Approve agenda for today

5. Approved September’s meeting notes, Commissioner Liana abstained, Commissioners, Barr moved to approve, Commissioner Austin 2nd.

6. Commissioner Irene Liana, requested a moment of silence for former San Mateo County Supervisor, Don Horsley.

7. Miso Chair Austin, started the discussion of the Work Plan,

8. Goal I: Continue work on Communication as shown in the existing plan. Working on developing a list of faith leaders to follow or adapt a program similar to the one in East Palo Alto. The goal will be to develop a video, with the help of the existing eleven members, to raise the level of awareness on the growing problem of homelessness, gaps in the Middle Income Seniors needing Long Term Care and other needs particular to seniors in San Mateo County.

   Goal II: Follow up on the work started by commissioner Kathy Uhl on Disaster Preparedness. Continue to research Emergency Preparedness in San Mateo county and help to expand the use of SMART911. Sandra Lang brought out the devastation of the recent massive wildfires that is still affecting many people.

   Goal III: Continue to identify agencies that provide employment and or training for older adults. We will consider deleting the goal to work on Fall Prevention from the work plan. As Commissioner Joyce Porter pointed out, Fall Prevention is a universal problem. Commissioner Liana, brought out the benefits of an intergenerational group to share awareness of the needs of seniors and vice versa. Sandra Lang, mentioned that other churches are also focussing on the homeless problem, to give hope where there seems to be no hope. Anna Sawamura mentioned that some funding from Measure K is still available and looking for worthy applicants. Sandra Lang suggested Mission Hospice.

9. MISO continues working to streamline and finalize the work plan for 2023-24 goals. Any revisions or new action items will be shared with the Executive and Rac Committees.

10. Meeting adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

11. Next MISO meeting is scheduled for January 27, at 9:15, in person 2000 Alameda de las Pulgas, Rm. 209.