



**COMMISSION ON AGING  
GENERAL MEETING  
MINUTES**

Monday, June 9, 2025 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.  
500 County Center Manzanita Hall; Redwood City, CA 94063

**Members present:** JoAnne Arnos, Maria Elena Barr, Patty Clement, Angela Giannini, Monika Lee, Marita Leth, Irene Liana; David Linnell; Deborah Owdom; Liz Taylor; Kathy Uhl

**Members excused:** Karen Coppock, Eileen Barsi, Daniela Jonguitud, Martin Nakai, Ophelie Vico

**Public Attendance (in-person):** Michelle Silva, Michael Barber

**Public Attendance (virtual):** Adeline Jones, Amber Shong, Christina Irving, Dao Do, Elyse Brummer, Erin Malone, Jonathan He/Him, Maya Baltinester, Sandra Winter, Twila Dependahl (Commissioner who joined virtually and participated as member of the public), Virginia Kroger, Wesley Taoka

**Staff Attendance:** Lee Pullen, Anna Sawamura, Diane Madriz, Shawne O'Connell, Anna Dyer

ITEM	DISCUSSION
1. Call to Order 2. Pledge of Allegiance 3. Roll Call	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Meeting called to order at 9:01 a.m. by Chair Lee followed by reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance led by Director Pullen.</li><li>Roll call conducted and quorum was established.</li><li>Chair Lee highlighted that June is Pride month – Commission on Aging will be present at the Pride event on June 14th and invites commissioners to attend.</li></ul>
4. Introductions of Members of the Public	Chair Lee welcomed all in attendance both in person and virtually.
5. Oral Communications	There were no oral communications from members of the public.
6. Approval of today's agenda, 6.9.2025	Commissioner Linnel motioned to approve; Commissioner Arnos seconded the motion. Motion passed.
7. Approval of minutes from 5.12. 2025	Commissioner Arnos motioned to approve; Commissioner Linnell seconded the motion. Motion passed.
8. Update on Board of Supervisor activities	<p>Update on Board of Supervisor (BoS) activities regarding items concerning older adults.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>BoS representative was not available to attend.</li><li>Chair Lee met with Supervisor Canepa's staff, Tony Bayudan 2-3 months ago, but has not had further contact.</li><li>Discussion held about approaching Supervisor Canepa for increased support to the CoA and specifically engagement with the community enrichment project.</li></ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Commissioner Uhl noted that support from the BoS to provide information to older adults about what's going on with the government and if resources or services are being cut would be important.</li><li>• Director Pullen asked that if Chair Lee is not successful in additional efforts to reach Supervisor Canepa's office, to follow up with him.</li><li>• Chair Lee and Director Pullen made a presentation about the CoA to the Board of Supervisors on 5.20.2025; it was well received. Supervisor Speier commented that it would be good to expand work with the Villages; other Supervisors commented favorably about seeing Commissioners at various events in the community.</li></ul>
9. Committee Ad Hoc reports	<p><b>Executive Committee</b> – Chair Lee reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Margaret Baggerly attended the last Executive Committee meeting. The Transportation Showcase is being postponed until 2026. Ms. Baggerly provided a document stating the reasons for the postponement and shared it with the committee.</li><li>• Committee workplans have been made.</li><li>• The Committee is considering presentations to the CoA from various Commissions, such as Commission on the Status of Women, Commission on Disabilities, Veterans Affairs, the Youth Commission, to learn more about their work and how CoA can connect/collaborate/partner with them.</li></ul> <p><b>Information, Resources, and Community Engagement Committee</b> – Chair Lee reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Next event is the Pride event on 6.14.2025.</li><li>• Committee would like assistance from Commissioners to identify contacts working on Age Friendly initiatives in various cities.</li><li>• The Guidelines for representing the Commission are now finalized and available.</li></ul> <p><b>Aging Readiness and Family Caregiver Support Committee</b> – Commissioner Clement reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Commissioner Uhl will be stepping down as co-chair.</li><li>• Commissioners Clement and Jonguitud were selected to be co-chairs.</li><li>• The committee has submitted an updated workplan. They removed a component about advocacy since the Ad-Hoc advocacy workgroup has been established. New wording includes: Independence and autonomy across generations; Increase awareness for older adults on planning and support from family, friends, and community.</li></ul>



	<p><b>Social Isolation and Transportation Committee</b> – Commissioner Liana reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SamTrans: RediWheels guide has been updated and is ready for distribution; Commissioner Liana attended the SamTrans Board meeting to accept their proclamation for Older Americans' Month.</li><li>• Adele Ryono of the Youth Commission presented her findings from surveys with students at five high schools. The next step in the project is to connect a young person with an older adult they know already and to record and archive conversations. Another update on her work is expected in September.</li><li>• Four Commissioners (Linnell, Liana, Uhl, Taylor) attended the Youth Commission Showcase and learned about their extensive and impressive initiatives; Supervisor Canepa and students' families were present.</li></ul> <p><b>Ad Hoc Help@Home Update Committee</b> – Commissioner Owdom reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Committee has lost members and remaining workgroup members, Commissioners Owdom and Linnell, will discuss how to move forward. They invite other Commissioners to join this effort.</li><li>• All Commissioners will be asked to assist with updates to the guide.</li><li>• Commissioner Barr would like to help with the financial assistance section of the guide.</li></ul> <p><b>Ad Hoc Advocacy Committee</b> – Commissioner Clement reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Commissioner Clement spoke with Director Pullen to convey the workgroup's desire to have more education about legal parameters for effective, efficient advocacy and will set up a specific meeting for this.</li><li>• The workgroup will meet again on Friday 6.13.2025, 1:00-2:00pm at 2000 Alameda.</li></ul>
10. CoA Outreach Update	<p>Commissioner Owdom reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• She has a sign-up sheet for outreach event coverage.</li><li>• There are two people signed up for the Pride event; more would be helpful.</li><li>• San Carlos adult activity center event has been added for July 25<sup>th</sup>, Commissioners will be invited to table.</li><li>• Commissioner Taylor will table for the Commission at the Colma resource fair on July 12<sup>th</sup>.</li><li>• Commissioner Giannini announced that Fair Oaks Health</li></ul>



	<p>clinic has an event, Community Day, on August 5<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am – 12:00noon.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• National Night out is August 5<sup>th</sup>. Commissioners may wish to see what is going on in their neighborhoods and to see if there are opportunities for the Commission to participate.</li><li>• Commissioners are asked to alert Commissioner Owdom if there are tabling event opportunities and to put the events on the official Commission outreach calendar.</li><li>• Commissioners provided updates about their outreach experiences. Commission Arnos (Doelger, Alzheimer's events); Commissioner Clement (SM County Fair).</li><li>• Discussion on outreach took place and the following suggestions were made: Engage with people before or in conjunction with providing materials; consider not changing color of Help at Home book as people think it's new information; distribute healthy snacks to attract people.</li></ul>
11. Staff Report	<p>Lee Pullen, Director, Aging and Disability Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Director Pullen was on panel for Channel 7 live and livestreamed "ABCs of Aging Town Hall" on Tuesday 6.3.2025 with important information and resources shared. Channel 7/ABC is interested in doing more promotion to support older adults.</li><li>• Federal update:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Administration for Community Living has been dissolved, and aging and disabled services will be moved to the Administration for Families, Children and Communities.</li><li>○ Most funding eliminations and reductions to Ombudsman and Adult Protective Services are not taking place as was feared earlier in the year.</li></ul></li><li>• Advocacy has made a difference.</li><li>• BoS has approved RDA as the consultant for its community enrichment project. The first advisory committee meeting is being scheduled. RDA will present to CoA when they have some content to share.</li></ul>
12. Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Michael Barber, San Mateo County staff member working for inter-government public affairs, and which provides oversight to boards and commissions work announced the demographic survey which has been sent to Commissioners. Please complete it if you haven't already done so. He shared his email: <a href="mailto:Mbarber@smcgov.org">Mbarber@smcgov.org</a>.</li><li>• Commissioner Barr announced that San Bruno Senior Center is having a letter writing day to advocate and write congresspeople and there are many people who need advocacy support.</li><li>• Commissioner Giannini announced the San Carlos Rotary Club is having a health and aging awareness conference on June 27<sup>th</sup>, including lunch and Dr. Ayatti from Stanford and a</li></ul>



	<p>coach who works with people who have Parkinson's. It will be held at the Alexandria building.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Commissioner Giannini announced the new Medical Equipment Loan Program (MELP) opened in South San Francisco, like MELP in San Carlos. Commissioner Giannini noted that the County closed their MELP and donated the equipment to San Carlos MELP.</li><li>• Villages of San Mateo County had a well-attended community presentation and Commissioner Clement presented.</li><li>• Pacifica is forming a Villages with a partnership with Half Moon Bay.</li></ul>
13. Stretch Break	There was a 5-minute stretch break
14. Presentation on Buddy Assignments of Commissioners	<p>Presenters: Commissioners Marita Leth, JoAnne Arnos, Eileen Barsi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chair Lee provided an overview of the Commission on Aging Buddy System project including its history and purpose.</li><li>• Commissioner Leth presented about her work with building a buddy relationship with Senior Coastsiders and Age Friendly representatives in Half Moon Bay. Buddy work has included advocacy on transportation improvements and housing.</li><li>• Commissioner Arnos spoke of her work to build the buddy relationship with and learn about resources offered by the Pacifica Senior Center and Parks and Rec Department. She also shared successful strategies that she did on the coast as a commissioner, including developing outreach materials, creating a play about elder financial abuse; each Commissioner can develop varied approaches for their regions and partners.</li><li>• Chair Lee presented on behalf of Commissioner Barsi regarding her buddy work in Daly City where she participated in quarterly meetings where updates on senior services and programming were provided by city staff and she attended public and outreach events regularly.</li><li>• Discussion held about how to start establishing a relationship with buddies.</li><li>• Recognition was provided to Commissioner Arnos who completed her third full term of service and is leaving the Commission. She was presented with flowers, a certificate of appreciation and a card from the CoA.</li></ul>
15. Adjourn	<p>Commissioner Clement moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Linnell. Motion passed.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.</p>



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH  
**AGING & DISABILITY  
SERVICES**



**Commission on Aging**

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**Health System Chief** Colleen Chawla

**Board of Supervisors** • Jackie Speier • David Canepa • Noelia Corzo • Ray Mueller • Lisa Gauthier