



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

CoA General Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2026, 9:00AM–11:00AM
500 County Center, Manzanita Hall
Redwood City, CA

Members Present: David Linnell, Maria Elena Barr, Twila Dependahl, Angela Giannini, Martin Nakai, Kathy Uhl, Deborah Owdom, Brittany Barron Saleem, Liz Taylor, Monika Lee, Daniela Jonguitud, Ophelie Vico, Lauren Dai, Ellen Tafeen.

Members Excused: Irene Liana, Bill Lock, Patty Clement

Members of the Public (Remote): Johnathan, Virginia Kroger, Wesley Taoka, Lisa Wilson, Sandra Winter, Elyse Brummer, Stephanie Figuera, Vicki Avila

Members of the Public (In-Person): Mike Richardson, Alhad Dighe

Staff Present: Lee Pullen, Anna Sawamura, Andrew Eng, Diane Madriz, Harry Guan

1. Call To Order

- 1st Vice Chair David Linnell chaired this meeting in Chair Liana's excused absence.

2. Pledge Of Allegiance

- Pledge of Allegiance led by 1st Vice chair Linnell

3. Introduction of New Commissioners

- Commissioners Saleem and Dai were introduced and spoke on their background and motivations for joining the Commission.

4. Roll Call – Anna Sawamura

- Roll call conducted and quorum established.

5. Introduction of Members of the Public

- Mike Richardson as a representative from Supervisor David Canepa's office.
- Alhad Dighe with the County of San Mateo Sustainability Department spoke about EASE with Bayren, a program to assist low to middle income County residents with home upgrades for energy. More information can be found through www.sustainsmc.org/EASE.

6. Oral Communications

- No additional communications.

7. Approval of Agenda – February 9, 2026

- Motion to approve by Commissioner Lee, second by Commissioner Uhl.
- Motion passed.

8. Approval of Minutes – January 12, 2026

- Motion to approve by Commissioner Giannini, Second by Commissioner Taylor.
- Abstentions: Commissioners Jonguitud, Dependahl, Vico, Dai, and Saleem.

9. Update on Board of Supervisors (BoS) activities concerning older adults – Supervisor Canepa’s Office

Mike Richardson and Commissioner Lee provided an update on behalf of Supervisor Canepa’s office:

- Meeting on January 27th was held between Commissioners, SamTrans and Supervisor Canepa’s Office.
- They spoke on transportation resources in the community for seniors; the Go Card program is a \$200 voucher that is available for eligible participants and can be used for different types of transportation.
- Discussed conducting outreach to share information on benefits for SamTrans riders, including discounts and subsidies for riders.
- Next meeting will be on February 24th.
- Request was made to have a flyer with information on these benefits available to share with the public.

10. Committee and Ad Hoc Reports

- Executive Committee
 - i. Senate Bill 707 Discussion
 1. Allowing full remote participation for board members is being considered by the SMC Board of Supervisors at the February 10th Board of Supervisors meeting.
 2. If approved, the Board will allow Boards and Commissions to set their own policies for remote/hybrid meetings in 6-month increments, after which the Board of Supervisors will consider extending or ending this.
 3. Boards/Commissions can decide if/how many meetings should be remote or hybrid for members, including any sub-committee meetings.
 4. Even though the Governor has signed this bill into law, the language ultimately leaves the decision to local jurisdictions to enforce.
 - ii. California Senior Legislature 2026 Elections
 1. Elections for the CSL will be held in the Summer of 2026.
 2. Commissioner Owdom’s current 4-year term as Senator representing San Mateo County in the CSL will be ending.

3. There are also two Assembly seats currently open for San Mateo County.
 4. All are encouraged to consider running.
- Information, Resources, and Community Engagement Committee
 - i. Committee is finalizing the Help at Home Guide, and it will be submitted to staff for submission to the printer.
 - ii. Millbrae event was held where CoA tabled.
 - iii. Committee will also be reshuffling buddy assignments for local Senior Centers/CBOs
 - Aging Readiness and Family Caregiver Support Committee
 - i. The Aging Readiness list is ready for review by Executive Committee.
 - ii. The County Attorney is also reviewing the list.
 - iii. List covers financial, physical, spiritual, and mental resources to be posted online and shared at tabling events.
 - Social Isolation and Transportation Committee
 - i. Nothing additional to report.
 - Legislative Advocacy Committee
 - i. Committee discussed what they will be focusing on, one area is prioritizing the CSL's initiatives.
 - ii. Commissioners Owdom, Clement and Dependahl are current members, and are asking for others to join.
 - Ad Hoc Help@Home Update Committee
 - i. Commissioner Lee is working on the formatting to have the guide ready for submission to staff.
 - Current members are Commissioners Owdom and Lee.

11. Member Reports

- Commissioner Barr discussed tabling in Millbrae. The Community is looking forward to the new Help at Home booklet.
- Commissioner Giannini discussed her outreach to a local Italian Women's Club and their concerns in the community.
- Commissioner Jonguitud is a member of the County's Charter Review Committee and welcomes input from the community to bring forward to the charter review.

12. CoA Outreach Update – Commissioner Owdom

- Daily Journal event in Belmont will be held on March 20th from 10-2PM, and the CoA will be tabling at the event. Volunteers are needed.
- Volunteers are needed for the Daily Journal Senior Showcase which will be at the end of May.

- Volunteers are needed for tabling at a May 15th event to be held at SSF Library from 9am-noon.

13. Staff Report

- Lee Pullen, Director, Aging and Disability Services
 - i. Director Pullen welcomed the new commissioners.
 - ii. A recap of a tabling event on January 24th was provided.
 - iii. A reminder was given that Commissioners can receive reimbursement for their mileage when related to CoA business.
 - iv. Director Pullen discussed the County's work on Community Enrichment to address social isolation:
 1. A needs assessment was conducted to determine possible areas of focus/need.
 2. Advisory meetings are held where Commissioner Lee represents the CoA.
 3. Updates are regularly provided to Supervisor Canepa and the County Executive Office.
 4. Supportive Services such as Legal Services, Ombudsman, Adult Day Care/Health, Transportation, Information and Assistance are areas of need that the County is discussing further supporting to address Community Enrichment.
 5. Discussions are also being held by County leadership to further support nutrition needs of the community.
 6. Recap was given on the funding currently available for nutrition programs, including an additional \$900,000 to be released in the upcoming RFP for March. Once released the RFP will be open for 5 weeks

14. Announcements

- Anna Sawamura recapped the Boards and Commissions event.
- Extra printed handbooks will be available for any Commissioners that need them.

15. Stretch Break (5 minutes)

16. Presentations: Loneliness to Light Activities Update by Sophia Brink, Elder Abuse Presentation by Cassie Villar

- Sophia Brink discussed the challenges older adults face such as transportation and digital literacy.
- Cassie Villar presented on current scams and other trends concerning older and dependent adults.

17. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Gianini

- Second by Commissioner Barr
- Adjourned at 10:59 am



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Phone (650) 573-3900 • **Fax** (650) 837-9713 • **CA Relay** 711 • **Website**

<http://smchealth.org/CoA>

24-hour line to report abuse (800) 675-TIES (8437)

Health System Chief • Colleen Chawla

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