



Notes from Middle Income Senior Opportunities (MISO) Committee Meeting

Date: April 25, 2022

Commissioners present: Christina Dimas-Kahn, Kathy Uhl, Scott McMullin, Maria Barr

Staff Present: Anna Sawamura

Board of Supervisors Liaison: Sophia Brink

Public Comment: None

1. Chair Christina Dimas-Kahn welcomed committee members at 8:33AM
2. Commissioner Barr assigned to take notes
3. Approve Agenda with additional item – Discussion to change committee name. Commissioner Barr approved, seconded by Scott McMullin
4. March Minutes approved, after name correction: McMullin, Barr
5. MISO Committee Work plan for 2022 remains the same to continue to align itself to the Five Master Plan Goals and work to help middle-income seniors to afford aging with dignity and be able to remain at home. Chair requested committee members to read through the Master Plan on Aging again to determine whether there are strategies and/or goals to include in the MISO work plan. Please email her independently on thoughts and suggestions.
6. Commissioner McMullin suggested the other standing committees with the help of chairs can make sure that work plans are not duplicated. He is wondering whether some of the MISO's previous goals are better suited under the Transportation Committee. Chair Dimas-Kahn said that is a possibility because other CoA committees are considering to focus on more than one topic to emulate the MISO committee's efforts in the past three years. Commissioner McMullin continues to provide information to Sequoia Strong about the CoA and share information about their services.
7. While reviewing the draft work plan, committee members reiterated the importance of developing a stronger communication channel for the committee. Chair Dimas-Kahn will schedule a meeting with the RAC Chair to discuss MISO's plan and determine how both committees can collaborate together. Suggestion was to ask the Executive Committee to invite the new county communications director to speak at a CoA General meeting. Commissioner McMullin mentioned an excellent county resource guide that was developed by Orange County. It was designed to highlight Older



8. American Programs and developed to disseminate to the public. Chair Dimas-Kahn presented the Orange County resource guide twice to the RAC committee in the past five years. Commissioner Barr and Uhl said we need to develop a communication channel that focuses on disseminating information to middle-income older adults. Not agencies that only service low-income older adults.
9. Anna spoke about the program, Dignity at Home, a program that provides handrails for the home, and other service for fall prevention. Because of COVID the plan did not go forward, however, future plan repositioning of services and new ideas will be revised around July to provide adult services to help meet the growing need for safety at home for seniors.
10. Anna, suggest work with AAS Information Officer regarding correct protocol to compile important public information, and have a simple, One Stop resource, for easy access .
11. Commissioner, Uhl, suggested to include Middle Income Seniors in the distribution of information.
12. Commissioner Dimas-Kahn suggest, name change option to be discussed further. Committee members do not want to change the name at this time. They believe the MISO name is a good name and allows the committee to advocate for things that fall under the “hidden poor”. Chair Dimas-Kahn feels the success of the committee is based on the name because it allows the committee to research and advocate for items that pertain to middle-income seniors. It doesn’t lock the committee into one topic areas but several areas that are of a concern for the hidden poor. The other committees are starting to adopt more of a flexible approach by evaluating the current committee names to determine whether it needs to be changed to cover more areas of concern instead of one specific area. Since the MISO committee has included several Master Plan for Aging (MPA) domains in their work plan for years (before the MPA was released) committee members do not feel its necessary to change the committee name at this time. For now we continue our work on goals, I,II and III, discuss the merits of advocating for Universal Basic Income and continue research for the valid points aligned with the Master Plan, affording aging with dignity.
13. Adjournment: Motion: NA. Commissioner Barr lost Communication, 9:56 unable to rejoin Zoom