

**Minutes from the Napa County
Commission on Aging January 27, 2020
Board of Supervisors Chambers**

Vice Chairperson Naomi Dreskin-Anderson called the meeting to order at 2 p.m.

Roll Call. Present: Naomi Dreskin-Anderson, Terri Restelli-Deits, Betty Labastida, Angela Peatman, Beverly Saxon Leonard, Thomas Gill, Thomas Kalbrener, Kristi Lesnewich, Mary Palmer and Cynthia Kee. Excused: Heather Stanton and Harriet Lehman. Absent: Betty Rhodes.

Beverly Saxon Leonard and Thomas Gill approved the agenda.

Cynthia Kee and Mary Palmer approved the minutes of November 25, 2019.

Public Comment

Bob Nations (of Senior Helpers) discussed the shortage of caregiver workers. To address the shortage, he announced a CNA training program. The program is a collaboration between The Meadows and Napa Adult School. It will be at 1100 Trancas Street in Napa. The first class will be on February 10 and is now full. An evening class on February 24 is almost full. The class usually costs about \$1,400, but through this program, it will be \$500.

He also said Teepa Snow is coming to Napa Valley College Performing Arts Center on Friday, February 14 from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. She will discuss "Cognitive Challenges in a care environment. The event is free.

Frank Nelson (program manager of HICAP in Napa) announced that they now have a Medicare counselor at the Napa Senior Center. There is also a counselor at the Queen of the Valley Medical Center, Rianda House, Valley Family Center and at Puertas Abiertas. The counselors are certified through the California Department of Aging. Assistance is by appointment only, (707-526-4108).

Speakers and Presenters

Supervisor Brad Wagenknecht announced the deadline for the process for the Arts and Cultural grants is March 2, 2020.

He discussed the annual grant the county receives from "large tobacco" (the Master Settlement Agreement). Yearly, it is given to a health organization in the valley. This year, they are looking to give it to Mental Health/Behavioral Health organizations.

He also discussed housing projects. He said that as of January, \$6.3 million has been spent in the county on affordable housing. He said 149 units have opened up. The Redwood Road project will have a groundbreaking from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on February 1. He said it was a \$1.6 million project by Burbank Housing.

He announced that a card about the Census would be mailed out to residents on March 12, 2020. The Census' final numbers will be available in March 2021. In September 2021, based on the Census numbers, new districts could be carved out. He said getting an accurate count of seniors is important.

Standing Reports

AAA Update: Kris Brown (Comprehensive Services for Older Adults) addressed this

There was a discussion on the recent award of funding for Napa County via Area Aging on Aging. Kris Brown (deputy director of CSOA) gave a few comments regarding Area on Aging funding. The funding is divided between the counties based on the ratio of residents age 60+. Kris said Solano County is aging faster than Napa County, so the funds available for Napa County are declining. She said her counterparts in Solano County were being responsive to communication.

Comprehensive Services for Older Adults (Kris Brown)

CSOA recently filled vacant Adult Protective Services (APS) mental-health counselor and APS social worker positions, so the APS team is once again fully staffed. Kris said that Napa County would likely enter into negotiations for the provider contract for IHSS program. She added that provider pay is currently \$13 per hour (minimum wage).

CSL, STC, Napa Alliance on Aging: Yvonne Baginski

Yvonne said that Share the Care received a \$15,000 grant for the “Stop Falls” program.

She also shared that from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. on February 23 there will be a workshop called “Don’t Slip and Break a Hip.” The event will be at Temple Beth Shalom in Napa. The workshop will focus on “how to make your home safe.”

Yvonne discussed that Share the Care had a bill (AB1853, introduced by Assembly member Jim Frazier) regarding the reuse and redistribution of medical equipment. It would establish a 3-year pilot program for the counties of Napa, Solano and Contra Costa. The bill goes to committee on February 7.

She added that a second bill (AB1855, introduced by Assembly member Jim Frazier) regards online emergency and disaster plans for people in residential care facilities. It would create an online emergency database accessible for emergency personnel. Yvonne said a database could be in iCloud.

Yvonne asked the Commission on Aging to send a letter in support of the bills to Assembly member Jim Frazier.

Yvonne said she was trying to move her organization from her home to a more public domain in 2020. Yvonne gave a quick overview of Share the Care for last year and gave a synopsis of that her organization does.

- She said there is a \$100,000 annual budget.
- She recently received a Jefferson Award for Public Service
- 201 in-home assessments were performed
- 1,200 phone contacts were made
- 1,500 phone calls were received

Information and Assistance: Tiffanie Walker

Tiffanie gave a year-end review of the I&A program:

- She received 2,745 calls of which 30% were duplicate
- July 1 – Dec. 31, 2019, there was 350 hours of case management
- 95 new people on the caregiver registry
- Partnering with the American Canyon Senior Center
- In 2019, outreach contacted 1,537 with 120 hours of service

Tiffanie shared that she plans more work with the LGBTQ community.

Report from Census Committee attendees

Marketing: Mary

Mary said fliers are designed. Plans are in place on “what and how things should be covered.” She said the next meeting is February 5 and they will discuss how to divide responsibilities.

Target Populations: Beverly, Mary

Many Census questions have to do with trust. Census workers must sign contracts and can be severely punished for violating that trust. She said it can be hard to convince families that it’s okay to participate in the Census. Beverly said the last meeting was December 9. There were recruitment fairs for Census workers in January. She said there is a follow-up meeting scheduled for February. Mary said she went to a training session for Census workers on January 10 in Calistoga and 22 people attended.

Congregate Populations: Terri and Heather

No report

Other Community Reports

No reports

Commission Business:

Treasurer Report: Thomas K.

No report

Discussion and possible action regarding policy and programs of AAA:

The question was posed “Was the Commission on Aging interested in taking any action on the process/procedure/ramifications of the funding process of AAA?”

Naomi put a motion forward to form a Focus Group to find the best method of presentation to give to supervisors and ask County Counsel to research the law to understand the parameters of the Commission’s request. Angela Peatman seconded the motion. All were in favor. Beverly will be chairperson of the Focus Group. The group will consist of Kristi, Mary P., Angela Peatman and Naomi. Beverly will get in touch with Susie Altman to set up a meeting as soon as possible.

Commission Reports

Standing Committees & Chairs

Legislative Committee: Thomas K.

No report

Public Relations Committee: Mary

No report

Membership Committee: Naomi

No report

Nominating Committee: Naomi

No report

By Laws Committee: Beverly

Approval of Mission Statement

Beverly stated that she drafted the mission statement for the pamphlet to say “Napa County Commission on Aging specific to senior concerns.” There was discussion on whether to take out the word “seniors” and put in “older adults.” Some of the board members wanted to see the statement in writing before approving. Kristi made a motion to table the discussion and Thomas seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous. The approval of the Mission Statement will be on February’s agenda.

Other Committee Reports

Report from Goal Committee Chairs:

Aging in Place/Housing Vulnerable: Betty L./Beverly

No report

Removal of Barriers to Mental Health: Terri

Terri said St. Helena Hospital’s psychiatric/gero-psychiatric units are closing. She said no one knew about this until it was reported in the Napa Register newspaper. She said there was “lots to discuss” and will bring a report back to the next meeting.

Report on progress of Ageism Summit: Naomi D.

Naomi said the summit is postponed until May.

Caregiver Permit Ordinance Ad Hoc Committee: Naomi

Naomi said the first reading of the ordinance was approved. There will be a second reading on February 11. The ordinance will be effective 30 days after that. She said logistics are being worked out.

Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC): Harriet

No report

Healthy Aging Population Initiative-Naomi**Continuum of Care: Heather**

No report

Housing/Homeless Summit: Heather/Joseph Cherry

The summit is postponed to February or March.

Commissioner Comments/Updates

Meeting adjourned at 4:02 p.m. The next meeting will be on Monday, February 24 at the Board of Supervisors Chambers.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Adams