Minutes from the Napa County
Commission on Aging
American Canyon City Hall
May 20, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Heather Stanton at 2pm.


Minutes were approved from April 22, 2019 meeting.

Heather Stanton announced the death of Commission member JoAnn Busenbark earlier this morning.

Christy Kling spoke movingly about JoAnn, her amazing career, and her long-term commitment to the disabled community and Seniors. This Commission will miss her wisdom, institutional memory and quiet humor. She was an inspiration to all.

Arnold Koenig spoke about the Elder Abuse Awareness Symposium on June 7, 2019, at Napa Valley College Performing Arts Center. It is scheduled from 9am-12:30pm, and is free to the public. The Keynote Speaker is Allison Haley, the Napa County District Attorney.

Mark Joseph, American Canyon City Council member, welcomed the Commission to American Canyon City Hall.

Belia Ramos, Napa County Board of Supervisors, District 5, was the speaker today. She gave warm thoughts on JoAnn Busenbark.

She announced the appointment to a new position in the County: Director of Housing and Homeless Services. The new Director is Molly Rattigan, a Deputy County Executive Officer for Napa County.

Ms. Ramos listed new housing developments. There are 34 housing units on Redwood considered affordable housing. Napa Courtyard is under construction. Call 707 598-3284 for applications. The former HHS campus is going up for sale for $7.5 million. 15% of any housing development must be affordable housing.

PG&E’s Community Wildfire Safety Program has put measures in place intended to reduce wildfire risks. Power will be shut off if you are in an area in trouble. Red Flag alert, humidity at 25% or lower, wind 25-40 mph, will be occasions when power will be shut off. The public is urged to sign up on the PG&E website to get notification of shutoffs and to register any medical conditions in the home that would be adversely affected by a power turn off.
There will be 4 Fairs throughout the County to explain procedures and help community members understand the warning system and how landscaping changes or improvements might help them avoid fire dangers. The first Fair is in St. Helena May 21st, next is June 4th, June 17th at Pacific Union College in Angwin, and the fourth sometime in June/July, location tbd.
The State needs to pass the budget for the in home support system. The Governor has proposed a $1.56 Billion proposal of which Napa County would get 245 million this year, ad an average of 1.56 million over the next four years.

Standing Reports
AAoA: nothing new
Comprehensive Services for Older Adults: no report, Joe Cherry had to leave early.
Napa Alliance on Aging: Yvonne Baginski had an event this morning which was well attended.
Information and Assistance: Tiffany Walker attended Yvonne’s event.
Report from Census Committee Attendees:
1. Marketing: Mary reported next meeting is Thursday, May 23rd.
2. Target Populations: Mary reported that they will do empathetic interviews with target populations to discern what approaches and methods will be most well received. Training for those interested in doing the interviews will be in early June, date not set yet.

Commission Business
The 2019/20 slate of Officers was presented to the Commission.
The slate: Heather Stanton, Chairperson, Naomi Deskin-Anderson, Vice-Chair, Interim Secretary, Mary Palmer, Treasurer, Thomas Kalbrener. The motion was moved, seconded and approved.
The By-Laws Committee has been activated to take a look at the by-laws and Mission Statement.
There is no report from Susie Altman on whether member can attend Meetings remotely.
Treasurer’s Report: Thomas K. reported that there is still $464.00 in the Fund.

Commission Reports
A. Standing Committees and Chairs
1. Legislative Committee: Thomas Kalbrener will take over for Terri.
2. Public Relations Committee: no report
3. Social Committee: Mary reported that the Committee met by email and shared ideas for fostering bonding among all the Commission members. Informal get togethers were favored. After meeting social hour at local establishments was suggested as well as get togethers at Commissioners homes. Locations will be announced by email before meetings.
4. Membership Committee: no report
B. Other Committee Reports

1. Report from Goal Committee Chairs
   a. Housing for the Vulnerable, Christy: no report
   b. Aging in Place, Betty: The first meeting was hosted by Betty Rhodes. The Committee decided to concentrate on present and past transportation options and availability of housing for the most vulnerable. The Committee will do research on Ombudsman position and reporting responsibility, take a closer look at care facilities and available and past needed beds. The next meeting will be the second week in June.
   c. Removal of Barriers to Mental Health, Terri: Assignments were made to collect data and see if Rocky is still on the Mental Health Stakeholder Advisory Committee. It was suggested that a second Commission member could join in order to share the involvement.
   d. Heather stated these are long term assignments and it might be some time before reports are ready to be issued.

2. Ageism Summit: A Summit hosted by HAPI and the Commission on Aging concerning housing, attitudes, discrimination will be coming up in the Fall.

3. Caregiver Permit Ordinance AdHoc Committee, Heather: we are waiting for a report from Susie Altman on the progress of fitting Napa’s ordinance to the Eldorado County ordinance which coordinates more fully with State regulations, so caregivers would not have to get two different licenses.

Next Meeting June 24, 2019
BOS Chambers

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Palmer