



TACC – Triple-A Council of California
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GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Hilton Hotel, Concord, CA
April 24, 2006

- I. Call to Order: The general meeting of the Triple-A Council of California (TACC) was called to order by President Havard Staggs at 10:15 am, April 24, 2006
- II. Pledge of Allegiance: Havard Staggs.
- III. Roll Call: A quorum was established. Those present were:

PSA 1 Thea Gast	PSA 12 Havard Staggs, Alternate
PSA 4 Jacque Brown	PSA 13 George "Bud" Winslow
PSA 5 Roberta H. Romeo	PSA 15 Leonard Smith
PSA 6 George H. Schofield	PSA 17 Martin Tucker, Alternate
PSA 6 Bill Hollabaugh, Alternate	PSA 18 Don Hunt, Alternate
PSA 7 Vernon Jones	PSA 20 David Wilder
PSA 7 Joanna K. Kim-Selby, Alternate	PSA 22 Dee Erman
PSA 8 Arline Elliott	PSA 23 Bob Prath
PSA 10 Anne M. Mack	PSA 28 Rich Broaddus
PSA 11 Terry Sonnefeld	PSA 31 Joseph A. Cox
PSA 12 Marnelle White	PSA 33 Margaret A. Mooney

Guests present during the meeting included Reva Clark (Contra Costa Advisory Council on Aging), Sandi Fitzpatrick (Executive Director, California Commission on Aging), Bob Jaffee (Senior Senator from PSA 10), Bob Sessler (Director, PSA 7 AAA), Sharon Jenkins (California Commission on Aging staff) and David Mandel (Manager of Senior Legal Hotline).
- IV. Introductions, Announcements

Mack: May is California Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness Month. June 15 is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day.

Wilder: announced a grant writing conference in Ontario May 22.
- V. Approve Agenda: Moved by Wilder, seconded by Tucker: unanimous.
- VI. Approve Minutes of January 25-26, 2006: Motion to accept as presented by Romeo, seconded by Smith; three abstentions.
- VII. Correspondence: None.
- VIII. CSL Update

Elections are significant to TACC because most of the elections are now carried out in the Advisory Councils of the area agencies on aging. Staggs, Tucker, Sonnefeld, Erman, Romero, Gast, Jones, Mooney, Mack, and Wilder reported results for their areas. It was noted that reporting of the results of the elections should be by sending them to

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along with supporting documentation for each winner: application for candidacy, ballot petition, signed code of ethics, and signed statement of commitment. [Note: these results are reported on the CSL web site, www.4csl.org, as they are made available to staff.]

Staggs wondered why the change to 4 year terms. The answer provided is that it was to save

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money. While this has made it more difficult to find candidates, it was pointed out that a member can resign before his term is over and be replaced. The four-year term was an issue in several AAA's.

IX. Discussion of "Hot Topics" – focus on future agendas

Erman suggested that Medicare may become means tested, and suggested a presentation from Social Security. Prath suggested that this is part of the Medicare Modernization Act.

Gast thought it would be helpful to have a better understanding of the types of senior housing. Broaddus and Mack called attention to HUD Section 8 issues. Senior Senator Jaffee spoke about the shared housing program which helps "house rich cash poor" seniors in Santa Clara.

Sonnefeld asked for attention to the issue of banks reporting of elder financial abuse, asking if there is reporting and how to complain. Wilder pointed out that the regulations won't be complete until 1/1/07. Sonnefeld suggested inviting a representative of a banking institution to speak. Prath suggested that a team from the AAA could train bank personnel; Wilder suggested that APS will be required to do so.

Prath wants to know more about proposition 63 funds for older adults with mental health issue, expressing concerns for how the money is being managed.

Schofield asked for education regarding conservators.

Gast raised the issue of hospitals and their financial problems. Prath pointed out that a hospital cannot offer emergency care unless it can offer a full range of services. Mack said that their hospital in San Mateo is closed because of seismic issues, so there is no emergency service. Romeo asked what can be done about the shortage of nurses.

Wilder asked about the effect on IHSS and food delivery of the high cost of fuel. Tucker wondered about the possibility of tax waivers for such services. Prath reported that ARCO gives gas cards to volunteers.

Prath asked for focus on long term care integration issues, and suggested Lora Connolly as a speaker.

X. CalACT presentation: Dennis Guinaw did not come to the meeting.

(XIII.) PSA Reports

Wilder, PSA 20, reported that changes are occurring, with a new Director and loss of staff.

Elliot, PSA 8, also reported on reorganization activities.

Gast, PSA 1, spoke about senior bus days to help seniors learn to ride the bus, and that the disability community is joining the effort.

Romeo, PSA 5, spoke of the change of a meals contract taken from an agency that has had it for 35 years. They have an elder abuse prevention grant from the Department of Justice.

Brown, PSA 4, spoke of their RFP process and also noted that they have staff support in researching bills to support.

White, PSA 12, noting that the area consists of five rural counties, reported that they lost their director and faced insolvency, but are coming back on track.

Wilder offered a general and very significant note that under Medicare Part D the base amount of \$2250 is based on the total cost of the drugs covered, not the amount the client pays.

Prath, PSA 23, said that their integrated county services has received favorable attention with the Administration on Aging. They emphasize placing senior housing near schools. FACT (Full Access to Coordinated Transportation) is a new project.

Erman, PSA 22, reported that budget issues forced closing a senior center. Their CSL election was hotly contested, with banners and signs!

Schofield, PSA 6, spoke about budget cuts and staff cuts. He likes the new Executive

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Director, Anne Hinton, and says she has been responsive to issues raised, such as strengthening the relationship between the Advisory Council and the Commission.

Hollabaugh, PSA 6, said that the merger of the Department of Aging and Adults Services (which is the AAA) into the Human Services Agency has been beneficial.

Broadus, PSA 28, said that FAST (Financial Abuse Specialist Team) is effective.

Hunt, PSA 18, reported that they had a tie in the CSL election that was decided by lot. They reduced meal costs significantly with a new provider. Pepperdine University students participated in a study of baby boomers, including finding ways to increase volunteerism in the group. He noted that the August 2-3 meeting of the California Commission on Aging is scheduled for Ventura County.

Smith, PSA 15 and Tucker, PSA 17, reported on local activities.

XI. Committee Reports: see below.

XII. TEC Refresher Training

Sharon Jenkins, staff to TACC, discussed issues around Travel Expense Reports. She emphasized the need to provide a new *Authorization to Use Privately Owned Vehicles on State Business* form every year if auto use is to be included as a travel expense. The form is to be placed on the TACC website. The *Travel Expense Claim* form on the website (Excel version) can be filled out online and will calculate totals automatically.

XIII. PSA Reports were scattered throughout the meeting.

XIV. California Commission on Aging Report

Sandi Fitzpatrick, Executive Director of CCoA, stated that TACC finances are on target.

She reported that staff is working with the office of the State Controller to facilitate the transition of the CSL management to the Controller; this is taking a large amount of staff time. CSL has had a large worker's compensation claim. This raises the question about the decision for TACC to be self-insured (meaning not insured at all). Ms. Fitzpatrick is looking into purchasing insurance for TACC and CCoA. Tucker asked if the claim could be paid over more than one year; Ms Fitzpatrick said, "Probably not."

(XI.) Committee Reports

Legislative Committee: Wilder reported for the Legislative Committee which had met prior to this meeting, and requested action on several bills:

Bill	Summary	Action proposed and accepted
AB1169 Torrico	Extends to 1/1/10 provisions of the Civil Code requiring notice to tenants by landlords of lease termination.	Support
AB2486 Ridley-Thomas	IHSS worker criminal background checks	Watch
AB2536 Montañez	Would place personal attendants and household employees (whether live-in or not) under state overtime pay requirements	Watch; Letter of Concern regarding live-in help receiving board and room
AB2719 Houston	Provides postponement of property taxes for low income seniors and disabled persons	Support
AB2738 Wyland	Increases senior property tax exemption and renter's credit	Support

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AB3040 La Malfa	IHSS Providers: finger print and background check	Watch
AB3048 Dymally	IHSS provides to be paid when providing selected services away from home	Oppose*
SB1248 Alquist	Extends federal regulations to all skilled nursing or intermediate care facilities	Support
SB1249 Alquist	Remove indexing of minimum requirement for line 54 contributions for CSL	Support
SB1312 Alquist	Extends required inspections of nursing homes	Support
SB1609 Simitian	Reverse mortgages: prohibits requiring purchase of annuity; requires translations	Support
*AB3048: Members of Executive Committee studied the bill further, and feel it was not fully understood in the meeting, and are taking no action until the next meeting.		

The Committee also reviewed the presentation at the March meeting by Pat Toups of AB12 which directs the California Law Revision Commission to recommend statute in support of revocable transfer-on-death beneficiary deeds, and was signed by the Governor last year. Mooney moved that a letter be sent to the Commission requesting early action on the request; Tucker seconded the motions, and it passed unanimously.

Senior Legal Hotline: (David Mandell was unexpectedly available for a presentation.)

David Mandell, Supervising Attorney of Senior Legal Hotline, provided an update to a presentation made some time ago.

The Hotline is intended for quick legal advice, and handled 10,000 cases last year with a staff of five attorneys, two paralegals, two staff, two Vista volunteers, and 50 other volunteers. The budget is \$430,000.

The program started out with a federal grant in 1991, and continues with some government support as well as foundation support. It is currently seeking support through the California Department of Aging budget of \$250,000.

Bob Sessler, President of the California Association of Area Agencies on Aging (C4A, host for the conference) and Executive Director of PSA 7 (Contra Costa County) stopped by to offer greetings to TACC.

(IX. Continued) Committee Reports

SB910 LRSPA Monitoring Update Committee

Hunt reported that task team meetings are continuing, mostly by teleconference. The CCoA will consider LRSPA reports at its March 14-15, 2007 meeting in Sacramento.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bill Hollabaugh, Recording Secretary

Next (Annual) Meeting: July 26-27, 2006: Vagabond Inn, Sacramento