



TACC – TRIPLE-A COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
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TACC – TRIPLE-A COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Vagabond Inn, 909 3rd Street, Sacramento, CA
March 28-29, 2007
10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, March 28, 2007

1. Call to Order

President Wilder called the meeting to order at 10:14 am.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Staggs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call – Establish a Quorum

A quorum was present. Those in attendance were:

PSA 4 – Jacque Brown	PSA 17 – Martin Tucker
PSA 5 – Roberto Romeo	PSA 18 – Don Hunt
PSA 6 – Bill Hollabaugh	PSA 20 - David Wilder
PSA 7 – Reva Clark	PSA 21 – Venetta Maiden
PSA 8 – May Nichols	PSA 22 – Dee Erman
PSA 10 – Anne Mack	PSA 23 – Jonann Siders
PSA 11 – Terry Sonnefeld	PSA 25 – Ed Woods
PSA 12 – Hav Staggs	PSA 26 – Patricia Jauregui-Darland
PSA 12 - Marge Depew	PSA 31 – Joe Cox
PSA 13 – Bud Winslow	PSA 33 – Marti Overfield
PSA 16 – Kathryn Williams	

Guest: PSA 6 – Edna James

Staff: Carol Sewell; Lynn Nielsen

4. Introductions, Announcements

President Wilder announced that Thea Gast is recovering and will try to come to the July Meeting, but will be unable to attend the May meeting. Sewell introduced Nielsen, TACC and CCoA's new Executive Secretary, to the group.

5. Approve Agenda

The March 28-29, 2007 agenda was reviewed. Wilson moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Maiden. Motion carries.

6. Approve Minutes of Jan 11, 2007

Wilder made a presidential decision to postpone the review of the January minutes until Thursday morning.

7. Confirm Dates of May Meeting

President Wilder announced that the next TACC meeting will be May 23-24, 2007 at Vagabond Inn, Sacramento. This is an important meeting for legislation. July is the Annual Meeting (first meeting of the fiscal year).

8. Transition Programs - Ben Harville, Department of Rehabilitation

Ben Harville of the California Department of Rehabilitation described the Department's work in the implementation of the Olmstead Decision. He discussed Transition and Diversion as it relates to seniors and persons with disabilities, both mental and physical. Transition involves moving people into the community and making appropriate services available. Diversion involves avoiding institutionalization by identifying services that allow the client to remain in their home.

Funding for these programs is through State Independent Living Council (SILC) discretionary dollars. Another funding source is an interagency agreement with UCLA, Department of Rehabilitation and Department of Health Services using a "Money Follows the Person" grant. The project involves a Preference Assessment to determine the desires of seniors regarding staying home or moving to an institution. Harville cited several examples of transition programs throughout the state, including Project Dial in Los Angeles. This project has helped 53 people transition from nursing homes to the community. The Department of Rehabilitation is working on a review of Medicaid waivers in relation to their compliance with the Olmstead Decision.

Wilder agreed to send Harville's contact information to the TACC members.

9. PSA Reports

PSA 21: Maiden reported on her PSA's promotional effort through special candy wrappers. A leadership conference is being planned. A "passport" lists all programs featured at the conference. The Area Agency is holding a transportation forum at the Morongo Casino in May.

10. Treasurer's Report – Martin Tucker

Tucker reported that \$17,923 has been received through the FTB Line 50 this fiscal year. TACC has a projected shortfall of \$8,000. Funds are still available in the Special Deposit Fund (\$1,000) and in the Foundation of Aging fund (\$1,800). Carryover for the budget is approximately \$80,000.

President Wilder stressed that members should ask their PSAs to help cover costs for attending the Sacramento TACC meetings.

11. Connie DaMant, California Department of Aging, Assistant Director for Legislation

Damant gave a presentation on how the administration and state departments influence legislation. The Department of Aging tracks bills that impact aging programs as well as departmental procedures. The department avoids bills that are outside their purview. The department can only support bills that are sponsored by the administration. Other bills that the department favors will receive a "neutral" position. The department evaluates legislation for several factors including compliance with the Olmstead Decision, costs of the proposal, economic impact, and reviews prior legislation and comparable laws in other states.

12. California Senior Legislature Report

Anne Mack discussed seven proposals that have been picked up as bills:

- AB 311 – Dymally. Hearing aid availability and cost (CSL AP 14)
- AB 351 – Smyth. Property tax exemptions (SP 4)
- AB 459 – Cook. IHSS criminal background checks (SP 2)
- AB 1142 – Salas. Nursing home end of life privacy (AP 25)
- SB 633 - Alquist. Long term care options: Olmstead (AP 28)
- SB 977 – Correa – Senior facility infrastructure upgrade (AP 19)
- AB 1276 – Pharmacy, Prescription labels (2006 CSL proposal)

A three-day CSL session will be held in October 2007.

13. Committee Reports

Legislative Committee - Hunt announced that Maiden was added to the committee this morning.

The following bills related to senior issues were recommended for TACC's support:

- AB 51 – Dymally. Oppose.
- AB 205 – DeVore. Support
- AB 322 – Anderson. Support
- AB 351 - Smyth. Watch
- AB 459 & SB 868. Support
- AB 927 – Saldana. Support
- AB 1142 – Salas. Watch
- SB 977 – Correa. Watch
- HR 166 – Watch
- SJR 33 – To be reviewed next meeting
- SB 611 – Steinberg. Watch

Hunt moved to adopt the Legislative Committee recommendations. Winslow seconded. Approved.

SB910 LRSPA Monitoring Committee Update - Mack reported on the Transportation Task Team conference call. The Mobility Action Plan will be addressed at the CalACT Conference in April. Other topics will include long range strategic plan, use of Medi-Cal dollars with non-medical transportation, human services transportation and mobility management centers.

14. PSA Reports

PSA 25. Woods reported on collaboration between PSA 25 and PSA 19 for Public Hearings and other common issues. Topics for joint conferencing will include: transportation, lesbian/gay/bisexual/transsexual issues, homelessness /veterans and older women's issues. The fifth Senior Annual Art Exhibit will be held in May as well as HIV and AIDS training for seniors.

PSA 17. Tucker reported that the Older Americans lunch preparations are being made along with plans for the volunteer lunch. Requests for the renewal of contracts are being reviewed. The Senior Expo in the wine country is in the planning stages.

PSA 6. Hollabaugh reported that Edna James will be serving as alternate for PSA 6. This is Bill Hollabaugh's last meeting.

PSA 11. Sonnefield reported that senior Spring Fairs/picnics are being planned by various communities in the region.

PSA 16. Williams reported that her Area Agency is looking at alternate sources of funding. The PSA is short-staffed and they are facing a new payment request from the county. Program focus is on building senior center activities and addressing problem gambling in older adults.

PSA 10. Mack reported that the advisory council was studying the five legislative proposals for health care and working on senior bills and issues. The health committee is working on topics of interest related to senior health, i.e, Alzheimer's, nutrition, Meals on Wheels, etc. The transportation committee is working on transportation for non-disabled seniors and disabled adults. The March meeting topic was reverse mortgages and annuities and an all day retreat is planned for April.

PSA 5. Romeo reported that CDA is coming for their routine visit. In February PSA 5 had a very successful retreat. They're preparing a list of expectations in their bylaws for their Commissioners. Projects of the council include a television program for seniors, a healthy aging symposium and the Carfit Program. The Elder Abuse Task Force is training the police force in elder abuse prevention. Romeo will contact newspapers to alert them to the problem of identity theft after death.

PSA 7. Clark reported that Joanna Kim-Selby is recovering after her accident last year. Fitzpatrick has addressed the Advisory Council in February and presented Kim-Selby with an award for her service on the California Commission on Aging. The transportation staff is working on mobility options for seniors and the health committee is addressing stroke prevention.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Thursday, March 29, 2007

President Wilder called the meeting called to order at 8:03 am.

15. Public Comment

None.

16. Approve Minutes of January 10-11, 2007

The minutes of the January meeting were reviewed and three corrections were noted. Winslow moved to approve as amended. Tucker seconded. Minutes were approved with three abstentions.

17. PSA Reports

PSA 33. Overfield reported that the Medicare Part D prescription drug program meeting was held in March with good attendance. The council continues to honor senior volunteers at senior centers; meetings are held at different senior centers throughout Kern County. Guest speakers are often brought in to increase senior interest so that they will stay for the commission meetings. The Advisory Council is in the process of revising its bylaws to conform with the Older Americans Act. PSA 33 is having problems getting providers for nutritional programs, Meals on Wheels, etc.

PSA 4. Brown reported PSA 4 is continuing their Grandparent Program. Volunteer Appreciation, cooking classes for men, fall prevention, exercise and focal point programs are underway. The council is involved in legislative advocacy, but one county has instructed its members to abstain. The baby boomer's effect on the region is being studied.

18. California Commission on Aging Report – Sandi Fitzpatrick, Executive Director

Fitzpatrick announced the hire of Lynn Nielsen to the CCoA. She reported no new Commission appointees. The next two CCoA meetings are scheduled for April 23-24 and June 13-14 in Sacramento. Copies of the Turning Ideas into Action Forum Proceedings were distributed. AB 927, a CCoA co-sponsored senior housing bill, was distributed to TACC members and discussed. Fitzpatrick discussed SB 491, a spot bill intended to create a "new" Older Californians Act. Fitzpatrick and President Wilder attended the Governor's Office Senior Roundtable which provided information on health care reform. A Scambusters Kit provided by Consumer Affairs was distributed.

19. Election of Secretary – Nominating Committee

President Wilder announced that Hollabaugh has submitted his resignation from TACC and his local Commission on Aging. Staggs announced that the nominating committee has selected Erman as the nominee for Recording Secretary. Winslow moved to close the nominations. Tucker seconded. Nominations were closed. Winslow moved to elect Erman as Recording Secretary. Woods seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Hollabaugh was presented with an award for his service to TACC by President Wilder and Past President Staggs. He will continue to be the TACC Webmaster.

20. Congress of California Seniors – Gary Passmore

Passmore gave an overview of the Congress of California Seniors and noted that the organization will celebrate its 30th birthday this year. The organization is made up of organized retiree groups and community based organizations. CCS's activities include educational programs, legislative advocacy and legal intervention on behalf of seniors. Primary issue areas are drug safety for seniors and senior nutrition program funding. The organization is involved in health care reform negotiations with the legislature and other stakeholder groups. Passmore

discussed the vision for senior advocates which includes a better organizational structure within the state to deliver services and stronger focus from the legislature on senior issues. He noted that more credible data would help assure funding requests are addressed. Passmore stressed the need for more elected officials with the knowledge and concern for seniors is critical.

21. PSA Reports

PSA 13, Winslow reported his Area Agency is considering an organizational change to become a board sustaining organization in which the board of directors will decide new members as outgoing members are replaced.

PSA 6, James reported two appointments being made to their Commission on Aging. The group completed ethics training in February and is continuing program site visits. Priorities include the area plan, site visits and needs assessments. The San Francisco Partnership is considering a conference about baby boomer needs. The Commission received a \$2 million budget augmentation which will be used to supplement their meal programs and other specific needs.

PSA 26, Jauregui-Darland reported the Area Agency has a new Program Director, Lori Sweeney. A new advisory council has been established and is holding meetings around the region. Joint meetings are being held with their board and contractors on a regular basis to assure program integration. They are continuing to meet with first responders about the File of Life and encouraged other PSAs to make available and use the File of Life for seniors in their areas.

PSA 12, Depew reported that changes have been made at the Area Agency in the past two years and high risk status issued by the State has been lifted. Two new hot shot trucks have been purchased to deliver meals to seniors and new transportation is available for the medical program. PSA 12 has a dozen vacancies; training will be ongoing.

PSA 23, Siders reported that their IHSS council will hold public hearings. The Agency is seeking grants to purchase computers for seniors; training will be provided. A Vital Aging Conference is scheduled for July. An RSVP luncheon will be held in May and volunteer recognition has been postponed until September.

PSA 8, Nichols reported her advisory council members are appointed by the local Board of Supervisors. Three members resigned over state reporting requirements. The month of May is Older Americans Month and plans are underway for activities. The annual Minority Elders Luncheon is being planned for April with help from youth and other organizations. PSA 8 will participate in an IHSS event in October; a donation raffle will be included.

PSA 31, Cox reported his council functions under the authority of the Board of Supervisors. A new director has been appointed. The Ombudsman program is running well. The Area Agency was monitored recently by the Department of Aging and no concerns were noted. Free senior transportation was provided for three months. A baby boomer survey was conducted and Senior Recognition Day will be May 8th.

PSA 22, Erman reported that Lynn Daucher is the new Department of Aging Director. Daucher is a former Assemblymember from Orange County and she will attempt to visit each PSA throughout the state. PSA 22 will be attending the C4A Conference in Los Angeles in April. Erman reported her Agency is low staffed. The Dale McIntosh Center will make a presentation to the advisory council on serving seniors with low vision.

ADJOURN TO NEXT MEETING:

Sonnefeld moved to adjourn the meeting. Tucker seconded. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned until May 23-24, 2007 at Vagabond Inn, Sacramento.