



## AREA AGENCY ON AGING OF LAKE & MENDOCINO COUNTIES PSA 26 ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
2:00 pm  
Zoom Meeting

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### **AAA Advisory Council Members Present:**

Paul Branson - President  
Linda Schoeller-Boyle  
Janine Smith-Citron (late 2:19 PM)  
Nancy Nanna – Vice President  
Lisa Morrow  
Jill Rexrode

### **AAA Advisory Council Members Not Present:**

Priscilla Tarver (Excused)

### **AAA Staff Present:**

Virginia Peeke-AAA Staff Services Analyst

### **Others in Attendance:**

Betsy Cawn  
Kathy Herdman

#### **1. Welcome / Announcements:**

- The meeting was called to order by Paul Branson at 2:00 pm. six (6) Advisory Council members were present out of a total of seven (7) active members. Attendees present introduced themselves.
  - Linda asked if anyone knows of any health fairs being organized around the county to let her know so that she can promote her Tai Chi program.
  - Lisa mentioned that the Children's Festival is coming up this month.
  - Virginia stated that Lake County Behavioral Health is doing a Mental Health Event Saturday, May 13.
  - Betsy said she forwarded some upcoming events to Virginia to be distributed to the Advisory Council, which Virginia distributed to the Advisory Council.

#### **2. Action Items**

- Review and Approve Meeting Minutes for April 4, 2023

M/S Lisa/Nancy All in Favor 0 Abstain

### **3. Resolution to send to the Governing Board to Elect Shannon Kennedy to Advisory Council**

- Paul made a motion to send Shannon Kennedy Advisory Council application to the Governing Board.

M/S Lisa/Jill All in Favor 0 Abstain

### **4. Presentation to Governing Board About Senior Needs**

- Paul stated that Senior Needs has not been fully addressed due to the work on the Area Plan.
- Nancy stated that we have all the needs assessments done that could be presented to the Board of Supervisors.
- Paul stated that at the last meeting, the Advisory Council talked about having the Council do a presentation to the Board of Supervisors about Senior Needs
- Besty said, as she recalls, that the Advisory Council was going to take something to the Board of Supervisors to ask them to support the Area Agency on Aging better.
- Paul asked if the Advisory Council would like to form a small committee to work on a presentation to the Board of Supervisors on Senior Needs.
- Paul suggested that the members of the Advisory Council start making a list of what they think the Senior Needs are for our two counties.

### **5. Senior of the Year Award**

- Janine stated that through her research, she found that a lot of other agencies do Senior of the Year Awards around May and that the best idea for us would be to start small and then build on it in future years.
- Paul asked if there is any recommendation of when to have the Senior of the Year Award and what are the necessary steps to get the process in motion.
- Janine asked if the Senior of the Year Award has to be tied to the Older American Month or if we could have it on a different month.
- Paul stated that looking at the calendar, we don't have the time to do the Senior of the Year Award on the Older American Month this year; however, we could have it on another month.
- Nancy asked if the Senior of the Year Award will be bi-county and if we will have a Senior of the Year for each county.
- Janine said we would have a Senior of the Year Award for each County.
- Paul said that we should set a timeline and that the first set of awards would be announced in the fall.

Public Comment was made by Betsy Cawn, mentioning that the Stars of Lake County have a model for nominating people, and this could be used as an example.

### **6. Area Plan Approval**

- Paul asked Nancy if the Goal in reference to dementia was as she requested it to be worded in the final Area Plan.
- Nancy responded yes.
- Jill made a motion to approve the updated Area Plan and the Transmittal Letter

M/S Jill /Nancy All in Favor 0 Abstain

Public comment was made by Betsy Cawn for the Advisory Council to come onto her Radio program to discuss the Senior Issues in Lake County. Nancy Nanna made additional comments about writing an article in the Mendocino Paper regarding Senior Needs, The Area Plan, and the Area Agency on Aging.

## 7. Committee Meetings

- Community Involvement and Advocacy Committee
  - Ad-Hoc Committee, Senior Thriving
    - Janine stated that Senior Thriving is attempting to create a system where they can target vulnerable seniors on a regular basis through people that already provide local information referral assistance and the Senior I&A line.
  
- Nominating and Membership Committee
  - Paul stated that he heard from the head of the California Legislative Committee asking if there was any available representation for members from Lake and Mendocino Counties; we still have two openings for the positions.
  
- Legislative Committee
  - Paul asked if anyone got a chance to read the attachments, which had a link to the Justice On Aging Legislative Bills that they are working on.
  - Nancy stated that all of the bills look good, but how do we get them all passed.
  - Paul mentioned AB540 Social Service Transportation Act, the focus of this bill is to provide an ongoing source of funding for non-traditional transportation for seniors.
  - Paul stated that a former Social Services Transportation colleague has asked to present to the Advisory Council's next meeting to take more about AB540; his name is John Cunningham, and he's a transportation planner for Contra Costa County.
  - Janine said she would like to make a comment that she was encouraged by the document's goals that there is a movement to expand the opportunities for caregiving; however, there is not anything on palliative care which is hugely unfunded.

Public Comment was made by Betsy Cawn about the training that is coming up tomorrow from the California In-Home supportive services Consumer Alliance focusing on the Brown Act.

- Elder Abuse Prevention Committee
  - Virginia stated that the Elder Abuse Conference will be on June 20.
  - Nancy asked what the topic is for Elder Abuse Conference
  - Virginia stated that it is about Caregiver Neglect.

## 8. AAA Staff Report

- Area Plan Public Hearing (April 24)
  - Virginia stated that the Area Plan Hearing will be held on April 24 in Lower Lake.
- Mendocino County Funding Increase
  - Virginia stated that Mendocino County put their Ombudsman Coordinator position into their upcoming budget.
  - Paul asked Virginia to inform the Advisory Council Community when the Ombudsman Coordinator position will be presented to the Lake County Board of Supervisors for their approval of their portion of the funding for the position.

## 9. Presidents Report

- TACC Report
  - Paul announced he will be attending the California Association of Area Agencies on Aging, C4A conference in Glendale.
  - Paul shared that there were Master Plan updates and 95 new initiatives, all items were posted on their website. Number 71 of the new initiatives has to do with getting ADRC going throughout the state
  - Paul mentioned that there is an Age Watch newsletter that people can sign up to receive updates.
  - Paul stated that the Commission on Aging is starting to create legislation on its own, one of their bills, AB7070, is a bill to increase the representation of Older Adults in the State Committees; and there are also a number of bills regarding Seniors and Homelessness.
  - Paul shared that the Senior Rally Day on May 2 will be held virtually.
  - Paul commented that the Elder Justice Coalition has developed an A Team project, and it is funded by the United States Justice Department Grant to address elder abuse and financial exploitation.
  - Paul talked about in-person meeting requirements and the equity issue of seniors being able to attend meetings, the transparency issue, and the push to have the option to have a virtual or hybrid option.
  - Paul discussed in the TACC meeting the equity between rural and urban communities and Area Agency on Aging. He stated that staffing for the Area Agency on Aging should not be based on population and that there should be a minimum staffing requirement for staffing all Area Agencies on Aging.
  - Linda stated we need to look at the pre-Covid service level of the Senior Center after Covid and how this dramatically changed C2.

Public Comment was made by Betsy Cawn regarding her big concern about the lack of staff for the Area Agency on Aging, resulting in reduced capacities at the Senior Centers not being addressed.

**10. Adjourned**

Adjourned at 3:10 PM

**Next meeting**

June 6th 2023

2:00pm

Zoom Meeting