

# **MINUTES**

# REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGING

Wednesday, August 21, 2013, 3:00 P.M.
Council Chambers, City Hall
10890 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530
This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible

## Roll Call

Present: Karen Christian, Mark Guthrie, Kimi Honda, Janet James, Dr. Pansy Kwong, Callie Major, Kim

Marlia, Gabriel Quinto, Joanna Kim Selby, Willa Sudduth and Nola Veganez-Chavez **Excused:** Arlinda Babcock, Shirley Cressey, Lillian Daniels and Vera Gibbs Winston

Council Liaison: Janet Abelson

Staff: Janet Bilbas Guest: None

## Meeting called to order at 3:00 P.M.

## 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of July 17, 2013 approved as written.

#### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comment from the public.

#### 3. REPORTS

# A. Council Liaison Report

Councilwoman Abelson reported that the City Council passed the "No Plastic" law as the city bans the use of plastic or Styrofoam. Effective January 1, 2014 a plastic bag will cost \$0.05 and \$0.10 by 2016.

Councilwoman Abelson announced that AT&T plans to add a new cell phone tower at 851 Seaview Drive in El Cerrito. She explained that since it is a federal law the City Council could not discuss details as they must abide by federal government guidelines.

# B. Affordable Housing Project Update – No report.

## **C.** Housing Subcommittee – No report.

## **D.** Transportation Subcommittee

Mr. Guthrie reported that Paratransit riders will be given an I.D. number for faster registration, better auto call back and earlier, and riders will be notified 10 minutes before their ride.

## E. Legislative (State & Federal)

Mr. Guthrie reported that the House Bill 861, Elder Victim Act of 2013, has not yet passed. He added that the House Bill was introduced to address elder abuse at care home facilities.

# **F.** Area Agency on Aging Advisory – No report.

Ms. Selby reported that the Obamacare campaign is finished as enrollment begins October 1, 2013. She added that the uninsured will have to buy insurance beginning October 1<sup>st</sup> until March 2014; otherwise, they will face an annual penalty on their taxes.

Ms. Selby pointed out that the ambulance bill is \$1,900 while Medicare only pays \$600. She expressed her disappointment as she explained the hardship and difficulty for patients to afford the cost of ambulance service.

# **G.** West County Senior Coalition (WCSC)

Mr. Quinto suggested having Dr. Carson of Doctors Medical Hospital to do a public presentation on heart attack or stroke. Members agreed to have Dr. Carson as guest speaker to discuss heart attack or stroke prevention.

#### H. Health Care Subcommittee

Ms. James announced that Flu Shots will be available at the Hazel Shirley Manor on Friday, September 20, 2013.

**I. Membership** – No report.

#### 4. NEW BUSINESS

#### A. GUEST SPEAKERS SUBCOMMITTEE

Gabriel Quinto, Mark Guthrie and Nola Veganez-Chavez were nominated to the Guest Speaker Subcommittee.

#### 5. STAFF LIAISON REPORT

Ms. Bilbas reported updates on the following:

- Insomnia & Relaxation Workshop with Pamela J. Kimmel, MA., LMFT on Wed., Sept. 11, 2013, 2-3PM at the Open House Senior Center.
- Advance Health Care Directive & Estate Planning with Doris Mitchell, Attorney-at-Law, on Wed., Sept., 18, 2013, 2-3PM at the Open House Senior Center.
- Bone for Life ® (6-Week Session) with Trish Clifford on Wed., Sept. 18 Oct. 23, 2013, 9-10AM at the Open House Senior Center.
- Easy Ride Paratransit Service Let's Go Shopping for \$5 round trip to Pacific East Mall, Costco, Grocery Outlet and Target between 9-12noon.

#### 6. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- EL CERRITO POLICE DEPARTMENT CRIME REPORT
- EL CERRITO AREA FOUNDATION FOR SENIORS

## 7. ADJOURNED REGULAR COMMITTEE ON AGING MEETING at 4:15 P.M.

Submitted by: Janet Bilbas, MS City of El Cerrito Senior Services Division

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#### COMMUNICATION ACCESS INFORMATION

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6500 Stockton Avenue, El Cerrito, CA 94530 Tel. (510) 559-7680 E-mail: jbilbas@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us