Minutes of the Committee on Aging

Meeting called to order at 3:05 P.M.

1. Approval of Minutes
   Approve the meeting minutes of November 17, 2010. Action: Moved, seconded (Sudduth/Cressey) and carried unanimously to approve the minutes.

2. Public Comment
   No oral communication from the public.

3. Reports
   A. Council Liaison Report
      Council Abelson reported information about land use and ownership protection. A dispute was settled, whereas, the City Council found in favor of the El Cerrito resident requesting for an approval to add a second unit on their a single-family property. She reminded that the City Council is aware of State Law that protects property owner and land use, however, City Council emphasized on maintaining a healthy relationship with neighbors to create harmony within the community.

   B. Senior Center Update
      Council Abelson reported Governor Jerry Brown proposed a budget that would terminate city redevelopment funds although Proposition 22 passed. The termination of the redevelopment funding will affect the portion of budget allotted toward the El Cerrito Senior Center. No additional update on Senior Center project.

   C. Housing Subcommittee
      Ms. Carty invited Ms. Givens-Thomas to provide information about the El Cerrito Royale. Ms. Givens-Thomas shared that El Cerrito Royale provides low to moderate income financing, SSI and SSP. The rate of $981 per month rental includes housing, social programs, and transportation. There are 31 units set aside for low to moderate with overall capacity of 145 beds. She added that El Cerrito Royale is currently 85% occupied.

   D. Eskaton Hazel Shirley Manor: Janet James, Elizabeth Carty & Willa Sudduth
      Ms. James complemented El Cerrito Royale for assisting residents of Eskaton Hazel Shirley Manor transitioning from independent housing to residential care facility. Ms. James reported residents of
Eskaton Hazel Shirley Manor are excited about the new building siding and roof project that is expected to finish in three weeks.

E. Transportation Sub-Committee: Thelma Soldavini & Mary Queen
Mr. Guthrie reported that East Bay Paratransit fee increased from $3 to $4. Ms. Daniels inquired about the discontinuation of selling half-priced East Bay Paratransit tickets to El Cerrito residents at the Open House Senior Center. Ms. Paasch explained that a decision was made based on how best to utilize staffing at the senior center, expansion of Easy Ride Transportation Service on Thursdays, and Measure J funding.

Ms. Daniels inquired about when the senior center would provide transportation to Kaiser Permanente in Richmond as many El Cerrito senior residents are with medical appointments. Ms. Paasch explained the idea of providing transportation to Kaiser Permanente in Richmond and Doctors Medical Center in San Pablo was on the project list. She added that senior center would have to ask for additional Measure J funding.

Ms. Queen reported visiting the El Cerrito Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to inquire about helpful information for people with disability using DMV services. She shared that DMV offers TTY for speech and hearing impaired, interpreter services, conducting business with service animal, disabled parking, and trained personnel to assist disabled customers that may require special arrangements.

F. Legislative (State & Federal): Elizabeth Carty & Mark Guthrie
Mr. Guthrie discussed the proposed budget by the Governor affected the IHSS, MediCal, SSI and other senior services. He spoke about the tax initiatives, $25.4 billion budget deficit, “shuffling” of state funding, and prioritizing the cutbacks on senior services.


H. West County Coalition. No report.

I. Health Care Sub-Committee. No report.

J. Membership: No report.

4. Old Business
1) Nominations & Election of New Officers
Ms. Carty presented the slate of officers as follows: Elizabeth Carty (Chair), Callie Major (Vice Chair), Willa Sudduth (Corresponding Secretary), Lillian Daniels (Member at Large) and Kimi Honda (Member at Large). Action: Moved, seconded (Sudduth/Cressey) and carried unanimously to approve the slate of officers.

5. New Business
1) Sub-Committee Assignments
Ms. Carty read the Committee on Aging members Subcommittee Assignments as follows:
- Housing Subcommittee: Elizabeth Carty
- Eskaton Hazel Shirley Manor: Janet James and Willa Sudduth
- Transportation Subcommittee: Thelma Soldavini, Mary Queen, Shirley Cressey and Mark Guthrie
- Legislative Subcommittee: Elizabeth Carty and Mark Guthrie
- Area Agency on Aging: Joanna Selby
- West County Coalition: Joanna Selby, Shirley Cressey and Willa Sudduth
- Health Care Subcommittee: Willa Sudduth, Kimi Honda and Pansy Kwong
2) Membership
Ms. Carty distributed the 2010 monthly attendance roster showing the number of absences and cancelled regular meetings due to lack of quorum. Ms. Paasch reminded members to call the Open House Senior Center if they are not able to attend the regular meeting.

6. Staff Liaison Report
Ms. Paasch reported updates on July 4th & WorldOne Music Festival 2011, Annual Senior Health & Information Fair in May, Open House Senior Center Annual Fundraiser, Cyber Café and new class programs offered at the senior center.

7. Items for Next Agenda
   - Committee on Aging By-Laws
   - List of Program for Current Year

8. Adjournment