



MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON AGING

Wednesday, April 21, 2010, 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: Elizabeth Carty, Shirley Cressey, Lillian Daniels, Mark Guthrie, Kimi Honda, Janet James, Callie Major, Mary Queen, Thelma Soldavini, and Willa Sudduth

Excused: Chad Shepard

Absent: Joanna Selby

Council Liaison: Janet Abelson

Staff: Monica Kortz, Ellen Paasch, Liza Espadilla, and Nousheen Chaudry

Guests: Miriam Joscelyn, Jan Duckart, and Carol Kehoe

1. Approval of Minutes

March 17, 2010 Minutes approved unanimously.

2. Public Comment

No public comment.

3. Program

A. West Contra Costa Adult Education

Ms. Kortz made some clarification about the presentation program on the agenda. She explained that the presentation is about older adult programs and services offered at the Open House Senior Center (OHSC), Senior Services Division of the Recreation Department of the City of El Cerrito. In addition, the presentation did not represent or interpret decisions or discussions with regards to older adult education programs provided by West Contra Costa Adult Education (WCCAE) within the three adult day activity centers in El Cerrito.

Ms. Kortz discussed OHSC classes and programs as affected by the current state of the budget in El Cerrito. She recognized that the WCCAE budget is in jeopardy, affecting older adult day activity programs in St. John, Christ Lutheran, Alzheimer Respite and Sakura Kai at the Open House Senior Center. Ms. Kortz addressed fee structure and grant funding as well as the introduction of new older adult programs at OHSC to meet the increasing demand for older adult activities in El Cerrito.

A discussion followed on older adult classes and programs, OHSC fee structured programs, fundraising, and budget for the next fiscal year. **Action:** Discussion held.

B. Easy Ride Transportation Service

Ms. Paasch provided a presentation on Easy Ride Transportation Service (ERTS) with an emphasis on strengthening community transportation in El Cerrito with limited resources and a personal touch. A discussion followed on the shuttle service within the El Cerrito city limits, limited public bus service, Measure J sales tax, Contra Costa County Nutrition Program, and fare subsidy.

4. Reports

A. Council Liaison Report: Janet Abelson

Mayor Abelson reported updates on the El Cerrito Budget FY2010-2011, preference for departmental budget cuts, hiring freeze, possible sales tax increase in the November ballot, and State Take Away Funds.

Mr. Guthrie inquired whether the State would ask for more money once the city increased its own sales tax. Mayor Abelson responded that there is a possibility, as City of El Cerrito cannot prevent the State from taking away more money in the future. **Action:** Discussion held.

B. Transportation Sub-Committee: No report.

C. Legislative (*State & Federal*): No report.

D. Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council: No report.

E. West County Coalition: No report.

F. Health Care Sub-Committee: No report.

G. Housing Sub-Committee: No report.

H. Eskaton Hazel Shirley Manor: No report.

I. Membership: No report.

5. Old Business

A. **Letter to City Council on Budget Cuts**

Ms. Carty explained that the Letter to City Council is not necessary as she recognized that the message of the Committee on Aging presentation to support older adults programs and services in El Cerrito was clear at the City Council meeting in March.

6. Staff Liaison Report

Ms. Paasch reported updates on 50Plus Bulletin, Spring/Summer City Brochure, Senior Information and Health Fair on Tuesday, May 18 at the Richmond Auditorium, and free smoke alarm provided by the Kensington/El Cerrito Fire Department.

Ms. Kortz reported that the city officially dedicated the new Bruce King Memorial Dog Park on Saturday, April 17, 2010 at 1pm with community members and their dogs attended the celebration.

7. Items for Next Agenda

8. Adjournment

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6500 Stockton Avenue, El Cerrito, CA 94530 Tel. (510) 559-7035

E-mail: epaasch@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us