Roll Call

Present: Elizabeth Carty, Shirley Cressey, Lillian Daniels, Mark Guthrie, Callie Major, Thelma Soldavini and Willa Sudduth.

Excused: Kimi Honda and Mary Queen

Absent: Janet James, Joanna Selby and Chad Shepard

Council Liaison: Janet Abelson

Staff: Ellen Paasch, Nousheen Chaudry and Liza Espadilla

Guests: Charles Burress, Pansy Kwong, and Marissa Shaw

1. Approval of Minutes
   Action: Move, Seconded and Carried (Major/Cressey) to approve the Minutes of June 16, 2010 meeting.

2. Public Comment
   Ms. Shaw discussed Governor Schwarzenegger’s proposed budget cuts in Mental Health, In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS), Medi-Cal, CalWorks, Adult Day Health Care, and other programs affecting the elderly and people with disabilities. Ms. Shaw requested from the El Cerrito Committee on Aging (COA) a similar letter of support to urge Governor Schwarzenegger not to impose budget cuts on IHSS and Medi-Cal.

   Mr. Burress announced the new local internet resource, elcerrito.patch.com, launching on Monday, August, 30, 2010. He explained elcerrito.patch.com is a community bulletin board for posting events, local news, and access to articles and information about El Cerrito.

   Ms. Major reported safety concerns for seniors and children due to dogs without leash roaming at Vista Park at the July 4th Event. She described an incident where a big dog without a leash attacked and bit a small dog at the park during the event. A discussion followed on dog leash ordinance in El Cerrito and safety issues for event participants, especially for the elderly and children.

3. Reports
   A. Council Liaison Report
      Council Abelson reported updates on City Council passed Budget Scenario A and B. If sales tax fail at the November ballot, City will implement Scenario B, whereby, drastic measure will take place by cutting staffing at the Open House Senior Center and closing Swim Center during the winter, including cuts in Police and Fire Departments. A discussion followed on Measure R (November Ballot Initiative for ½ Sales Tax), Tradeway site update, and funding resource for new Senior Center. Action: Discussion held.

   B. Transportation Sub-Committee: No report.
C. Legislative (State & Federal)
Mr. Guthrie reported economy is in a bad shape in the national level as President Obama formed a Deficit Reduction Committee and a proposal to more budget cuts and privatization of Social Security under the current administration. In the local level, city passed ordinance on security alarm system for home and business, whereby, owners must register with El Cerrito Police Department.

Ms. Carty reported updates on Medicare/Part D, innovations to cut health care cost, and Healthcare Reform. She shared that Healthcare Reform will expand coverage providing subsidies for moderate income individuals. Payment reform will reduce payment for hospitals with higher than expected re-admission rates due to lack of follow-up and quality of care procedures after patient discharge.

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.

4. New Business
1) In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) and Medi-Cal.
Ms. Abelson offered to assist Ms. Carty with drafting the letter. Letter will be forwarded to the COA’s Executive Committee and City Council for approval. Ms. Carty noted key points of the letter to highlight the importance of community care, El Cerrito demographics, and OMSTEAD. Action: Move, Seconded and Carried (Cressey/Daniel) to forward the letter to the City Council for approval urging Governor Schwarzenegger not to impose budget cuts to IHSS and Medi-Cal with the inclusion of key points.

5. Staff Liaison Report
Ms. Paasch addressed dog fight incident at the July 4th Festival. She reported on the new Community Garden, named after Lucille Weingart, located at the OHSC back patio. Large and small planters are available for seniors to rent and plant their own flowers and vegetables.

Ms. Paasch reported OHSC received a grant from Home Depot to repair and paint the exterior of the senior center. She thanked Ms. Nousheen Chaudry, Program Coordinator, for a job well done. In addition, she highlighted upcoming events such as Monthly Potluck Dinner, Stockton Avenue Art Stroll, Garden Trips and new classes starting in Fall 2010. In addition, Ms. Paasch shared the OHSC lost a Part-Time van driver. Mr. Leo Marquez was offered a Full-Time job with benefits.

6. Items for Next Agenda
   • Measure R, November Ballot Initiative for ½ Sales Tax

7. Adjournment
Meeting adjourned at 4:45 P.M.

Submitted by:
Liza Espadilla
Senior Services Division
Administrative Clerk Specialist

COMMUNICATION ACCESS INFORMATION
To request a meeting agenda in large print, Braille, or on cassette, or to request a sign language interpreter for the meeting, call Ellen Paasch, Staff Liaison at (510) 559-7035 (voice) at least FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS NOTIFICATION PRIOR TO THE MEETING to ensure availability