



Recreation Department – Senior Services Division

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON AGING

Wednesday, August 19, 2009 3:00 p.m.
Council Chambers, City Hall
10890 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Roll Call

Present: Janet James, Lillian Daniels, Kimi Honda, Callie Major, Thelma Soldavini, Mary Queen and Willa Sudduth

Absent: Elizabeth Carty, Chad Shepard and Joanna Kim-Selby

Council Liaison: Janet Abelson

Staff Liaison: Ellen Paasch and Liza Espadilla

Guest: Mark Guthrie, Shirley Cressey, M. Joslin, Evelyn Hendricks, Betty Brown and Evon Stephen

1. Minutes for Approval

The minutes of June 17, 2009 were approved by unanimous consent.

2. Public Comment

No oral communications from the public.

3. Reports

A. Council Liaison Report

Councilmember Abelson reported updates on the estimated 2 million city funds due back to the state, no funding to purchase new senior center site, an alternative plan to combine senior center and housing for new senior center project, and many city vacancies not being filled due to the budget restraints.

A discussion followed on the city and state budget, proposed new senior center and the state take-away funding. **Action:** Discussion held.

B. Transportation Subcommittee (Soldavini)

Soldavini reported that Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) has cancelled the plan to strike as union workers represented by The Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) and Board of Directors came into a labor agreement. **Action:** Discussion held.

C. Legislative (Carty): No report.

D. Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council (Selby): No report.

E. West County Coalition (Selby): No report.

F. Health Care Subcommittee (Sudduth)

Sudduth reported information on CO15 United Nations Climate Change Conference on December 7th - 18th, 2009 in Copenhagen, Denmark. Government representatives meet to finalize a new global agreement to cap or cut greenhouse gas emissions.

She informed members about the upcoming Senior Educational Workshop on Friday, August 21, 2009 at 3230 McDonald Avenue in Richmond. **Action:** Discussion held.

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***

***NOTICE PRIOR TO THE MEETING** to ensure availability*

- G. Housing Subcommittee (James)
Paasch reported the passing of one Committee on Aging member. A moment of silence was observed in memory of Marilyn Miller.
- H. Eskaton Hazel Shirley Manor (James)
James reported attending the Annual Board Meeting at the Hazel Shirley Manor. She shared that senior residents are concerned with budget cutback on Social Security income. **Action:** Discussion held.
- I. Membership (Daniels)
Daniels welcomed new Committee on Aging members Mary Queen and Chad Shepard. She encouraged guests into joining the Committee. **Action:** Discussion held.
- J. Proposed New Senior Center (Paasch)
Paasch reported that the City of El Cerrito is not in a position to build a new Senior Center due to budget restraints and current economic status. **Action:** Discussion held.

Councilmember Abelson discussed the design guidelines to include the type of development along San Pablo Avenue as the City of El Cerrito partners with the City of Richmond in long-term planning.
Action: Discussion held.

4. Old Business

A. Lecture Series Topic (Paasch)

Announced the upcoming Lecture Series on Climate Change. Showing the movie documentary “*An Inconvenient Truth*” in lieu of the regular meeting on Wednesday, September 16, 2009, 3:00 p.m., at the Council Chambers, City Hall, 10890 San Pablo Avenue.

B. SB 810, Single Payer Health Care

Betty Brown, member of *Contra Costa Healthcare For All*, has presented information on single payer publicly financed system and seeking endorsement for SB 810 (Leno) California Universal Healthcare Act.

Action: Moved, seconded, carried (Sudduth / Honda) to endorse SB 810. Letter of Support will be mailed/faxed to Senator Mark Leno in Sacramento and *Contra Costa Healthcare For All* chapter in California.

5. Staff Liaison Report (Paasch)

Paasch reported hiring a new part-time Senior Center Assistant, 3 part-time van drivers and 1 part-time custodial maintenance. Additional updates provided on Fall/Winter city brochure, Tradeway Furniture Sale event from August 24th through August 26th from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m., and a possible teachers strike at the West Contra Costa Unified School District on August 24th and grand opening of Cerrito Theater operated by Rialto Cinemas.

Paasch noted that the City Council has agreed to financially support the Summer Program for senior day activities at St. John Senior Center, Christ Lutheran Senior Center and Sakura Kai at the Open House Senior Center. **Action:** Discussion held.

6. Items for Next Agenda

- Lecture Series Workshop on Climate Change

7. Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Submitted by:

Liza Espadilla

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

NOTICE PRIOR TO THE MEETING to ensure availability