



## Meeting Minutes

### COMMITTEE ON AGING

Wednesday, February 20, 2019, 3:00 P.M.

Council Chambers, City Hall

10890 San Pablo Avenue

El Cerrito, CA 94530

**This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible**

### ROLL CALL

Members Present: Katherine Cesa, Shirley Cressey, Kenneth Epley, Jennifer Haller, Janet James, Carol Kehoe, Dr. Pansy Kwong, Steve Lipson, Kim Marlia, Joanna Kim Selby and Nola Veganes Chavez

Members Absent: Karen Christian, Matean “Te” Everson

Councilmember Present: None

Staff Member Present: Bridget Cooney

Guests:

### 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the January 16, 2019 meeting were approved with the correction of spelling the name “Galoro”. Jennifer Haller made a motion to approve the minutes and Carol Kehoe seconded a motion to approve the minutes with the spelling correction.

### 2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

### 3. COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISON ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS:

Bridget Cooney reported that:

Projects are in the works for the intersection of Richmond St/Donal Ave and Del Norte/Safeway crosswalk. Public Works will check-in with the El Cerrito Police Department regarding collision history at the intersection of Richmond and Central to determine next steps. Yvetteh Ortiz, Public Works Director has agreed to come to the April 17, 2019 Committee on Aging Meeting to provide additional updates.

UCSF is putting on a presentation called “Living Alone & Brain Health” at the Hana Gardens Senior Center on Wednesday, March 22, 2019 at 1:15pm.

Mark Deleon encouraged committee members to volunteer at the Midtown Activity Center and encouraged members to help with the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on April 26, 2019.

Pickle (Ball) Relish Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, June 22, 2019.

Hana Gardens Grand Opening is tentatively scheduled for Monday, May 13, 2019 at 12pm.

#### 4. NEW BUSINESS

Carol Kehoe reported that she spoke with Saied Aminian in the Public Works Department about the intersection of Richmond St and Central Ave. He confirmed they had a copy of the Police Report from when Katherine Cesa was hit by a car and that they were looking at past police records to determine next steps.

Carol Kehoe invited the Committee on Aging members to attend the community meeting on the topic of improving safety and accessibility for seniors and disabled people along San Pablo Ave. The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 26, 2019 from 2-4pm at 6333 Potrero Ave.

Dr. Pansy Kwong reviewed protocol for oral communication from the public. She reminded the committee that the Brown Act prevents discussion of things with the public that are not on the agenda. She reminded staff that after public comment, the committee is permitted to make a brief response and to refer the item to subcommittees or staff for follow up. Dr. Pansy Kwong confirmed that she will remind the public at the beginning of each meeting that they are limited to 2-3 minutes to speak. Jennifer Haller recommended that the information regarding public communication at committee meetings be put in a Senior Snippet to educate the public.

#### 5. REPORTS

*(Reports by Members of the Committee. The Committee may discuss individual report topics and refer or schedule issues for future action. Each report is limited to a maximum of 5 minutes.)*

- A. Housing Subcommittee: Janet James reported that Eskaton Hazel Shirley Manor is having a presentation by Community Resources for Independent Living (CRIL) on Tuesday, February 26, 2019 at 2pm.
- B. Transportation Subcommittee: Kenneth Epley reported that the BART tube retrofitted Warm Springs station is open. Warm Springs is the transfer point to San Jose light rail.
- C. Legislation Subcommittee: Dr. Pansy Kwong reported that Governor Gavin Newsom reported that in the next decade, the senior population will increase and nearly half of seniors will need some type of long-term care. Governor Newsom is hoping to address issues such as improving transportation, the shortage of nursing opportunities particularly for those who are home-bound and he is launching an Alzheimer's program headed by Maria Shriver. There is a housing shortage with too much demand and too little supply. Gavin Newsom is fining cities for not complying with housing planning compliance and plans to use the money from those fines towards helping cities get their housing plans in order. Legislature is working to come up with a statewide bill for affordable housing for the Governor to sign.
- D. Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council: Steve Lipson and Joanna Kim Selby reported they attended a presentation on the topic of Family Caregivers put on by the Advisory Council on Aging Contra Costa County. There are 4.5 million caregivers to adults aged 18 and older. 60% of caregivers are women and 1 in 4 assist a person with dementia. Caregivers provide approximately \$58 billion dollars of care. 67% of caregivers suffer from social isolation. Review of Caregiver Supports in Contra Costa

County were presented to the group. The group is committed to provide services and support for caregivers.

- E. West County Senior Coalition: No report. Carol Kehoe spoke with John Gioia and he said he would look into this as meetings haven't been happening.
- F. Health Care Subcommittee: Dr. Pansy Kwong reported that the flu shot is the best defense in protecting against influenza. There are FDA approved drugs available by prescription that are effective against influenza A and B. They are Tamiflu and Relenza. Dr. Pansy Kwong reported that penicillin is the least expensive, best antibiotic available and that experts are asking doctors to re-evaluate people who have tested positive for penicillin allergies. She presented findings from a 2017 study that determined that 95% of people who said they were allergic did not actually have allergies.
- G. Membership Subcommittee: We are currently down two members on the committee.
- H. Communication Subcommittee: Reminded Committee members to submit "Snippets" for the 50+ newsletter.
- I. Technology Subcommittee: Steve Lipson reported that the Eldertech program second semester started at the end of January. Tutoring is available in Spanish, Cantonese, Hindi and English. A satellite program at the El Cerrito Library started on Thursday afternoons from 4-5:30pm on a walk-in basis. Tutors there help with ebooks and technology related to the library. Steve Lipson also reported that there is a new scam if you have Apple devices where you get a receipt in your email for something that you didn't purchase that is a virus. Steve agreed to prepare a write up for the Senior Snippets.
- J. Disabilities Subcommittee: Carol Kehoe reported that Yvetteh Ortiz from the Public Works Department was coming to speak with the Committee on Aging at the April meeting regarding pedestrian safety and updates to projects that are in the works.

## **6. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

Updates on pedestrian safety concerns and projects throughout the city by Public Works Director, Yvetteh Ortiz including the intersections of Richmond St/Central Ave and Donal Ave/Richmond St.

## **7. ADJOURN REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETING**

Carol Kehoe moved, and Kenneth Epley seconded to adjourn meeting.  
The meeting adjourned at 4:30p.m.

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### **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 Bridget Cooney, Staff Liaison at (510) 559-7678 at least FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS NOTICE PRIOR TO THE MEETING to ensure availability: 10940 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, CA 94530 E-mail: [bcooney@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us](mailto:bcooney@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us)*