



Recreation Department

**Staff Liaison**

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## MINUTES

### REGULAR MEETING OF THE Committee on Aging

Wednesday, August 21, 2019 at 3p.m.

City Council Chambers  
10890 San Pablo Ave

**This Meeting Place is Wheelchair Accessible**

**3 p.m. CONVENE REGULAR MEETING** Chair Dr. Pansy Kwong called the meeting to order at 3 p.m.

- 1. ROLL CALL – Present:** Chair Dr. Pansy Kwong; Vice-Chair Jennifer Haller; Members Shirley Cressey, Kenneth Epley, Janet James (arrived at 3:17pm), Carol Kehoe, Steve Lipson, Kim Marlia, Joanna Kim Selby, Nola Veganes Chavez

**Absent:** Katherine Cesa

**Also, Present:** Janet Abelson, Council Liaison; Bridget Cooney, Staff Liaison

- 2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Buddy Akacic spoke of his interest in the Tenant Protections Task Force working with City Council.

- 3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Consider a motion of adopting the minutes of the Committee meeting on **July 17 19, 2019.**

**Moved/Second:** Vice Chair Haller/Member Cressey **Action:** Passed a motion to adopt the minutes of the July 17, 2019 COA meeting with edits. **Ayes:** 8 **Nos:** None **Abstention:** 1(Dr. Pansy Kwong)

- 4. COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISONS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS**

Council Liaison Janet Abelson reported that Council held Tenant Task Force interviews. Council passed a resolution declaring a climate emergency exists.

Council Liaison Abelson reported that the Contra Costa Transportation Authority presented their 2020 Transportation Expenditure Plan and are proposing a half cent sales tax measure for the March 2020 election.

Council Liaison Abelson reported that there is an increase in fire abatement citations in El Cerrito due to a higher than normal fire danger this year. The Fire Department works with a contractor to take care of citations not addressed within the designated timeframe. Residents who do not take care of the citations, have the expense added to their property tax bill as a lien against their property.

Staff Liaisons Cooney reported that EC Stars Intern, Anna Madrid, completed her summer internship on August 16, 2019. EC Stars Interns will present at City Council on Tuesday, September 17, 2019.

Staff Liaison Cooney reported that the Travel Training presentation put on by CCTAC Travel Training on July 31, 2019 was well attended by over 50 residents. The first trip using the Richmond Ferry was held on August 8, 2019 with 12 attendees. Additional trip dates are being planned.

Staff Liaison Cooney also reported that the Senior Resource Fair would take place on October 2, 2019 at the El Cerrito Community Center and the City is soliciting vendors and volunteers for the event. Committee members interested in volunteering to work at a table or volunteer at the event should contact Recreation Supervisor, Bridget Cooney.

#### Reports:

- A. Housing subcommittee: James reported that Eskaton Hazel Shirley Manor is holding a presentation, "How to Maximize Brain Health" on September 17, 2019.
- B. Transportation subcommittee: Cressey reported that BART to Lafayette and Orinda will be operating on one track with a bus bridge over Labor Day weekend. Freeway traffic will also be affected. Riders should expect delays. Epley distributed flyers from Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) with information about participating in an online transportation plan survey affecting Richmond, North Richmond, San Pablo and portions of El Cerrito. Epley reported that CCTA received a grant to offer free Lyft rides to poor and impoverished senior residents in Walnut Creek.
- C. Legislation subcommittee: Dr. Kwong shared that there is a proposed ballot measure to change California's Prop. 13 on the 2020 ballot.
- D. Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council: Selby reported that she attended a presentation titled "Choice in Aging" by Debbie Toth, CEO of Choice in Aging. Selby reported that the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council discussed the growing number of older adults in Contra Costa County experiencing housing struggles.
- E. West County Senior Coalition: No Report
- F. Health Care subcommittee: Dr. Kwong shared that there are blood tests in the research phase that detect Alzheimer's earlier than any other test being tested out.
- G. Membership subcommittee: Marlia reported that former member "Te" Everson resigned effective July 29, 2019. Applicant, Buddy Akacic has attended three consecutive COA meetings and can have his name submitted to council to be reviewed as a member of the Committee on Aging.
- H. Communication subcommittee: Vice Chair Haller requested committee members to continue submitting snippets on areas of interest.
- I. Technology subcommittee: Lipson is working with El CHS to secure student tutors for the Elder Tech Program. Elder Tech in partnership with WCCUSD has expanded in the libraries in El Cerrito, Pinole, San Pablo and Richmond. Lipson reported that

he is working with the IT department for the City to get Wi-Fi at the Hana Gardens Senior Center.

- J. Disabilities subcommittee: Lipson reported that there is a federal class action lawsuit against UBER and Lyft regarding ADA and providing service to disabled riders. UBER and Lyft claim they are tech companies and not transportation companies.

**5. OHLONE-SAFEWAY PATH FIELD REVIEW MEETING FOLLOW-UP**

Chair Dr. Kwong, members Marlia and Lipson, Council Liaison Abelson and Staff Liaison Cooney attended the joint meeting of the Committee on Aging, Park & Rec Commission and ADA Advisory Group for Filed Review of Ohlone-Safeway Path scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2019 from 3:30-4:30pm meeting at the Ohlone-Safeway area. Dr. Kwong reported that a 6ft wide path from Hill Street to Safeway is proposed. Bushes and fence that currently exist would be removed and a leveling of the path would be required. BART is also planning to build a new substation further down the Ohlone Greenway path from the current substation. The current substation will remain until the new substation is completed. It was suggested that no bicycles be allowed on the path for pedestrian safety. There is currently a question of litigation as to who is responsible, the City or the Property Owner, as it was not negotiated previously. The plan is an improvement on the current situation at the site.

**6. MOBILITY MATTERS PRESENTATION: TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO OLDER ADULTS IN EL CERRITO**

Presentation by a representative from Mobility Matters was tabled until the September 17, 2019 meeting.

**7. Motion to Approve the Committee on Aging Work Plan Fiscal Year 2019-2020 and 2018-2019 Accomplishments**

Consider a motion to approve the annual Work Plan as presented at the August 21, 2019 Committee on Aging meeting.

**Motion to approve Moved/Second:** Member Kehoe/Vice Chair Haller **Action:** Passed a motion to approve the Committee on Aging Work Plan Fiscal Year 2019-2020 and 2018-2019 Accomplishments. **Ayes:** Unanimous **Nos:** None

**8. Future Agenda Items -**

- Mobility Matters presentation
- Library Forum Discussion

**9. ADJOURNMENT** The meeting adjourned at 4:16 p.m.

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Dr. Pansy Kwong, Chair

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular Committee on Aging meeting of August 21, 2019 as approved by the Committee on Aging.

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Bridget Cooney, Staff Liaison