



Recreation Department
Staff Liaison
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MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
COMMITTEE ON AGING

Wednesday, April 19, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

VIA TELECONFERENCE

CONVENE REGULAR MEETING Chair Epley called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Kenneth Epley, Vice Chair Katherine Cesa; Members: Buddy Akacic, Carol Kehoe, Dr. Pansy Kwong, Steve Lipson **joined at 3:15pm**, Bruce Yow

Absent: Janet James, Kim Marlia, Pamela Wagner

Also Present: Bridget Cooney, Staff Liaison

Members from the Public: Al Miller and Mark Watson

2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Al Miller introduced himself as the President of the El Cerrito Library Foundation.

Mark Watson introduced himself as an interested resident.

3. COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice Chair Cesa announced that members from John Gioia's office attended the At-Home Plan to Combat Homelessness summit in Sacramento on April 10, 2023.

Member Kehoe encouraged Committee on Aging members to consider participating in the City 4th of July Festival by volunteering to table at the event in an Advisory Body capacity.

4. COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISONS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS

Staff Liaison Cooney reported that rEC Guides for summer programming went out in the mail to all El Cerrito residents.

Staff Liaison Cooney reported that the Recreation Department hosted their second sold out Adult Line Dance on April 15, 2023, with over seventy attendees ranging in age from 35-85 years old.

Staff Liaison Cooney reported that in May the Recreation Department is partnering with the Alzheimer's Association to host a series of three free senior presentations.

Staff Liaison Cooney reported that the Contra Costa Area on Aging has a program called Connections, Health, Aging and Technology (CHAT) working to bridge the digital divide for seniors. Qualified seniors in Contra Costa County will receive an iPad, internet service and digital training.

Staff Liaison Cooney reported that there is a Budget Town Hall meeting in the Council Chambers on Saturday, April 22, 2023, from 10am-12pm.

Staff Liaison Cooney reported that there is a Climate Action and Adaptation Plan Workshop in the Council Chamber on Saturday, June 3, 2023, at 10am.

Staff Liaison Cooney reported that a video orientation and Advisory Body Handbook review is available to COA members on the city website.

Staff Liaison Cooney reported that results from the National Community Survey (NCS) for 2022 that the city conducted are available on the city website.

5. COMMITTEE ON AGING LIAISON REPORTS

Member Kehoe and Member Lipson reported attendance at the Advisory Council on Aging meeting on April 19, 2023. Kehoe reported on a presentation by Contra Costa County Senior Legal Services. Member Kehoe reported that the ACOA Transportation subcommittee is looking at transportation options in the county. Member Kehoe reported that there are currently three assembly bills under review regarding the reinstatement of the Brown Act rules.

Vice Chair Cesa and Member Kehoe reported the next West County Senior Coalition meeting is April 26, 2023.

6. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Moved/Second: Member Kehoe/Moved/Member Dr. Kwong Second

Action: Adopted the minutes with edits from the Committee on Aging meeting held on **February 15, 2023.**

Ayes: Chair Epley, Vice Chair Cesa, Member Akacic, Member Kehoe, Member Dr. Kwong, Member Lipson, Member Yow

Nos: None

Abstention: None

7. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION BY COMMITTEE MEMBER AKACIC

Member Akacic expressed concern that El Cerrito does not have a stand-alone senior center and neighboring cities all do. Member Akacic reported that Recreation Director Jones shared information on the City's Master Plan which identifies the desire for both dedicated and shared space for senior services. Member Akacic stated that he believes the "Senior Center" sign hanging above the space at Hana Gardens is false advertising and should be taken down. Member Akacic stated that he toured St. John's Hall on Portola Drive. Member Akacic stated that he had a conversation with Melanie Mintz, Community Development Director for the City of El Cerrito about the lack of a senior center in El Cerrito.

Member Kehoe requested that Staff Liaison Cooney email committee members the link to the City's Master Plan and requested that a city representative provide an explanation of the difference between the city's Master Plan and Strategic Plan.

8. DISCUSSION ON THE REINSTATEMENT OF THE BROWN ACT AND ITS IMPACTS ON OLDER ADULT ADVOCACY

Member Lipson reported that the reinstatement of the Brown Act is adversely impacting older adult advisory bodies across the state. Member Lipson reported that there are three pieces of legislation currently and that one has been identified as an urgency statute and requires a two-thirds vote to go into effect. Member Lipson stated that the Master Plan on Aging local playbook development will be affected by the reinstatement of the Brown Act meeting requirements regarding virtual meeting attendance participation. Member Lipson encouraged COA members to send letters of support to their congressperson.

9. WORK PLAN REPORTS

- Member Kehoe reported that the quarter one Centenarian recognized by City Council is Jacqueline (Jackie) Hettman. Jackie turned 103 years old in March 2023.

- *Committee members reviewed the April/May/June 2023 edition of the Committee on Aging Outreach Newsletter for editing. Member Dr. Kwong recommended that the committee prioritize information in future editions and keep the newsletter to a maximum of one page front and back.*

Moved/Second: Vice Chair Cesa_Moved/Member Lipson_Second

Action: Adopted the April/May/June 2023 Committee on Aging Outreach Newsletter with edits for publication.

Ayes: Chair Epley, Vice Chair Cesa, Member Akacic, Member Kehoe, Member Dr. Kwong, Member Lipson, Member Yow

Nos: None

Abstention: None

- *Staff Liaison Cooney presented the results of the informal Committee on Aging Survey. Member Kehoe recommended that the COA members review the information presented and continue discussing what to do with the information at the May 17, 2023, meeting.*

10. REORGANIZATION OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGING ADVISORY BODY

Action: Motion to nominate Vice Chair Cesa to serve as the Chair of the Committee on Aging.

Moved/Second: Member Epley **Moved/Member Lipson Second**

Ayes: Member Epley, Member Akacic, Member Cesa, Member Kehoe, Member Dr. Kwong, Member Lipson, Member Yow

Nos: None

Abstention: None

Action: Motion to nominate Member Dr. Kwong to serve as the Vice Chair of the Committee on Aging.

Moved/Second: Member Kehoe **Moved/Member Epley Second**

Ayes: Member Epley, Member Akacic, Member Cesa, Member Kehoe, Member Dr. Kwong, Member Lipson, Member Yow

Nos: None

Abstention: None

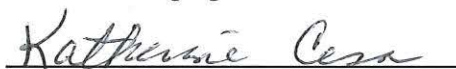
11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS


- Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers
- Continued discussion and possible action regarding the Committee on Aging Informal Survey Results (May 2023)
- Discussion about Committee Members participating at the city 4th of July Festival (May 2023)
- Discussion and possible action to cancel Committee on Aging meetings in August (May 2023)
- Work Plan 2022-23 Accomplishments (May/June 2023)
- Work Plan 2023-23 Goal Setting (June/July 2023)
- Adopt Annual Committee on Aging Meeting Calendar 2023 (November)

12. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Cesa adjourned the meeting at 4:49 p.m.

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Special Committee on Aging meeting of February 15, 2023, as approved by the Committee on Aging.


Katherine Cesa, Vice Chair


Bridget Cooney, Staff Liaison