

# El Dorado County Commission on Aging

## Advisory Council to the Area Agency on Aging

### Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Thursday, January 20, 2022  
**Time:** 9:30am – 12:00pm  
**Location:** Virtual Meeting Via Zoom  
**Contact:** Yasmin Hichborn (530) 642-4833 Email: [yasmin.hichborn@edcgov.us](mailto:yasmin.hichborn@edcgov.us)

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**Commissioners Present:** Tita Bladen, Steve Shervey, Jim Wassner, Ray Wyatt, Penny Huber, Craig Kuehn, Connell Persico, Marian Washburn, Lisbeth Powell, Barbara Kaufman, Raelene Nunn, Barbara Raines

**Absent:** Paul Sobelman, Keeley Link

**Special Advocates Present:** None

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1. **Call to Order, Salute to the Flag, and Roll Call**  
The meeting was called to order at 9:33am with a quorum present.
2. **Approval of the January 20, 2021 Agenda**  
A motion was made by Connell Persico to approve the Agenda and seconded by Barbara Kaufman. The motion was approved (11-0).
3. **Approval of the November 18, 2021 Minutes**  
A motion was made by Connell Persico to approve the October 21, 2021 minutes and seconded by Barbara Kaufman. The motion was approved (11-0).
4. **Chairperson's Report**  
Lisbeth Powell provided the Chairperson's Report.
5. **Guest Speaker: Brian James, Planning and Marketing Manager, El Dorado Transit**  
Brian James provided PowerPoint presentation on the services of El Dorado Transit and discussed the effects of COVID on public transit.
6. **Commissioner Reports and Activities**  
Jim Wassner commented that he started SAFE-D three years ago and has served 225 people. There are currently five (5) volunteers working with the program.
7. **AAA Director's Report, Questions**  
Rich Todd provided the Director's Report.
  - The congregate meal sites are still closed.
  - The reopening of The Clubs is on hold.
  - The AAA will be receiving additional funding from CDA.
  - Free COVID tests can be ordered [www.covidtests.gov](http://www.covidtests.gov)

Star Walker reported:

- AARP Tax Assistance Program will be starting in at the Placerville Senior Center. VITA tax assistance will also be available. VITA serves all low-income adults
- The front desk at the Placerville Senior Center is very busy.
- HEAP has four open contracts.
- After the recent snowstorm and significant power outage, the Severe Weather Emergency Assistance and Transportation Services (SWEATS) Program was activated on December 31, 2021. Hotel rooms were reserved and paid for by the SWEATS Program for approximately 19 El Dorado County households (over 40 individuals) who were without power due to the storm.

Jordan Brushia announced:

- Fall Prevention will continue in the next budget cycle (7/1/2022 – 6/30/2023)
- FCSP is focusing on increasing the utilization by caregivers of authorized respite services.
- I&A will be going to SLT on a regular basis.

#### **8. HHS Management and EDC Board of Supervisors Report**

Ranell Brown thanked Star Walker and Jordan Brushia for their outstanding work with the SWEATS program.

Both Ranell Brown and Daniel Del Monte reported on the staffing vacancies within HHS.

#### **9 Committee Reports Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee is working with Tita Bladen on planning for the February retreat.

#### **Policy & Legislation Committee**

No report.

#### **10. Ad Hoc Committees Strategic Planning**

Tita Bladen provided information on the structure and goals for the next month's retreat. She will be sending out an email to everyone requesting input on 2021 and interests for 2022. Connell Persico will develop the Core Values and Mission Statement.

#### **Outreach and Education Team/Lifelong Learning**

Raelene Nunn is the new chair of this committee.

#### **South Lake Tahoe**

Barbara Kaufman will schedule a meeting with Joe Irwin to discuss the status of the 56-Acres Plan.

Penny Huber and Lisbeth Powell will be meeting with Supervisor Novasel.

#### **Community Action Council Meeting**

Star Walker reported that the last meeting of the Community Action Council (CAC) was on December 10, 2021. The CAC is reviewing its bylaws. The next meeting is January 26, 2022.

#### **Disaster Preparedness**

Jim Wassner provided a report on the progress of the Neighborhood Radio Watch program. A program is being developed for the Georgetown area.

## **Aging in Place/Caregiving – No Report**

### **Housing for Seniors**

Marian Washburn reported that the Housing Committee is focusing on the shortage of housing for older people, especially those older people in the middle-income range (too much for low-income programs and not enough to afford current levels of housing costs). The Housing Committee will be looking at proposed projects and meet with developers regarding the growing need for housing for older people that is not large, single level, and accessible for all physical abilities.

## **11. Unfinished Business**

### **A. Planning for the 2022 Retreat**

The retreat will be an in-person meeting at the Veterans Memorial Building.

### **B. Re-Opening of the Senior Centers**

The Placerville and South Lake Tahoe Senior Centers are still closed.

## **12. New Business**

### **A. 2022 In-Person Meetings**

2022 Commission on Aging meetings are planned to be in-person meetings at various places in the county. The calendar is being confirmed.

### **B. CSL Election**

Anyone interested in joining the CSL as an assembly member or senator should send their completed CSL packets to Yasmin Hichborn. The election will be held during a regular Commission meeting; however, candidates are not required to be Commissioners.

## **13. Public Input on Non-Agenda Items**

*J. Hawkins*

## **14. Topics for Next Meeting**

## **15. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 12:21pm. The next meeting is the Retreat on February 17, 2022.