



SONOMA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING

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AAA ADVISORY COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Wednesday October 12, 2016
Carnelian Room
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Present: Bob Picker, Jim Redding, Ruth Robeson, Rabon Saip, Alain Serkissian, Hav Staggs, Don Streeper

Guest: Melissa Apuya (Assemblymember Levine)

Absent: Sumedha Khanna MD

Staff: Rhiannon Coxon, Victoria Gonzalez-Allen

1. **Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions** (Picker) meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. all were welcomed and introductions were made.
2. **Approval of May Minutes & September Minutes** (Picker)
 - May 18, 2016 meeting minutes: Saip/Redding MSC motion carried forward.
 - September 14, 2016 meeting minutes were reviewed one correction was requested on section six third bullet point regarding opioid; the word should addition should be changed to misuse. Motion to approve minutes with change Redding/Robeson MSC motion carried forward with changes.
3. **Chair Report** (Picker)
 - The Legislative Committee must recommend to the Advisory Council level of participation in the California Senior Legislature (CSL).
 - Group discussion and consensus to postpone an election to participate in the CSL because it is currently being reorganized. The Legislative Committee will recommend to the Advisory Council that we wait to hold an election for CSL. In the meantime, there is an option to call into the meetings. Picker will ask if there is anyone interested in calling in. No volunteers from the Legislative Committee.
 - Robeson advised that the CSL received a one-time only \$500,000 funding to operate for an additional year.
 - Apuya (Assemblymember Levine) advised that although the CSL received additional funding, it will not be allocated to them until the CSL has provided a line item budget of how the money will be spent. Apuya advised there is another group California Congress of Seniors which the committee may be able to join/participate in
 - Staggs will reach out to Gary Passmore with California Congress of Seniors to get specifics of the program and find out if the Legislative Committee can participate. Staggs will report back at the November meeting.
 - Picker advised that discussions today are focused on discussing areas of concern which will set the agenda for November. In November the committee will vote on 2-3 priorities for the year.
4. **Federal Policy: n4a Conference Presentation** (Coxon)

- Highlight of the program presented at n4a
- n4a's Top legislative priorities:
 - Increasing funding for III B Supportive Services, we have the most flexibility in spending, programs such as: transportation, mobility, legal aid, case management
 - OAA increases to III E Caregiver, VI Native America and VII Ombudsman (HICAP)
 - Aging and Disability Resource Centers
 - Elder Justice (Funding for APS)
 - State Health Insurance Assistance Program (aka HICAP)
 - National Aging and Disability Transportation Center
 - Chronic Disease Self-Management & Falls Prevention
- n4A Legislative Efforts
 - Senate Finance Committee Working Group on Chronic Disease Care Coordination
 - Increased awareness of caregiving issues
 - Individual Members of Congress releasing specific remedies (housing modification, telehealth, dementia screening)
- Coxon to send out a definitions for acronym used in this document

5. **Legislative Areas of Concern & Set Priorities** (Picker)

- Long Term Care / Home Care Services for low income seniors
 - Assisted Living Waiver
 - LTC insurance
 - Ombudsman Programs, Oversight of Care and financing, RCFE, "Six Packs"
- Protection of mentally ill
 - Dementia and memory impaired seniors
 - Depression, Anxiety
- Legislation for new types of housing arrangements, homeless, house sharing
- Palliative and End of Life care
- Advocating for alternative sources of funding based on data presented in the Area Plan and n4a graph indicating senior growth and lack of funding
- Opioid Misuse and Treatment "Hidden Epidemic"
- Elder Abuse Prevention and Financial Abuse
- Coxon to put together survey monkey for group to rank priorities

6. **Legislative Field Representative Updates** (Legislative Aides)

- Individual legislation and initiatives
 - Apuya (Assemblymember Levine) 32 bills that Assemblymember Levine supported were signed by the governor. Legislature is currently in transition stage with the election and new members are being sworn in December. Officials are talking to stake holders and their constituents on what issues are relevant. Aging is an issue for both Sonoma and Marin counties. People are aware of the issue but there is not enough money to fund the resources needed. Legislators are still putting together their bill package, and now is a great opportunity for the Legislative Committee to recommend issues/bills to their assemblymembers to carry on to Sacramento, to ensure bills make it through the legislature.
- Coxon and Saip and possibly Robeson to attend Coffee with Assemblymember Wood, Thursday October 20th at SOCO Cafe

7. **Adjourn** (Picker) meeting adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

Next Meeting:
Wednesday November 9, 2016 – 10:30 a.m.

Materials related to an item on this Agenda are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Adult and Aging Office, 3725 Westwind Blvd, #101, Santa Rosa