



Kern County Commission On Aging

Yolanda Prado, Chairperson
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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 1, 2023, 1:30 PM

Aging and Adult Services
5357 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA
Video Meeting via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Prado called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

ROLL CALL OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

(*Chairperson, **Vice Chairperson, *** Parliamentarian)

Executive Members Present: Barbara Goodlow, Kris Grasty, Jan Lemucchi, **Stephanie Lynch, Linda Oswald, *Yolanda Prado, and ***Judy Snyder

Excused Absence: None.

Quorum present: Quorum confirmed by Jeremy Oliver

Commission on Aging Members Present: Sherry Gomez

Honorary Commissioners Present: None.

Aging & Adult Services Staff Present: Laura Juarez

Guests Present: Tammy Hartsch

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- **Elder Abuse Prevention Conference** – This year's conference will be held in person at Hodel's County Dining on June 15, 2023, to coincide with World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. We will have local guest speakers to cover a range of topics related to elder abuse from the Adult Protective Services side, law enforcement, prosecution, Victim Witness, and Conservatorship. Laura will work with the Commission on Aging on securing a maximum of 14 vendors for the conference. If Dodger tickets are donated again this year, Commissioner Grasty will assist in that area.

- **Older Americans Month Resource Fair** – This year's senior health fair will be tied in with Older Americans Month and will be held on a weekend in May at Aging and Adult Services in the parking lot and conference rooms for some training demonstration pieces. We are still in the planning process for this event. Jeremy welcomed the Commission to participate and be part of the event. The 2023 national theme for Americans Month is **Aging Unbound**. Jeremy also invited all Commissioners to join him at the Board of Supervisors meeting when he goes before the Board for the Older Americans Month proclamation on May 9, 2023. The Commission will work on giveaways and handouts for their table.
- **Senior Rally Day** – Commissioner Lemucchi shared this year's event will be held virtually on May 2, 2023.
- **Volunteer Recognition** – There was a discussion about what to give to the senior nutrition volunteers as the Commission meets at their centers. Commissioner Grasty and Laura will research the price for writing pens and will bring this matter before the COA Foundation for approval to purchase. Suggested writing on the pens is "The Commission on Aging thanks you for your service." Lapel pins will be given to the senior nutrition volunteers for this month's meeting at the Bakersfield Senior Center.
- **3rd Annual Spring Gathering** – The Bakersfield American Indian Health Project (BAIHP), and Owens Valley Career Development Center (OVCDC), are hosting a Native American Alaska Natives Spring Gathering on Saturday, March 18, 2023, at BAIHP, 501 40th Street in Bakersfield from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The event is open to all Indigenous people and members of the community. Laura Juarez welcomed the Commissioners to attend.
- **COA Officer Nominations** – Officer Nominations voting is coming up in June 2023. A slate will be presented at the May 2023 minute. Nominations for Chair, Vice-Chair, and Parliamentarian can be sent to Commissioner Brown, Commissioner, Goodlow, and Commissioner Jackson. Laura will send an email to remind the committee.
- **COA Bylaws** – The revised COA Bylaws will be going before the Board of Supervisors for approval March 14, 2023. After they are approved, Laura will provide a copy to all Commissioners.
- **Regular Meetings** – All Commissioners are required to attend COA regular meetings in person. Zoom will still be available to COA Ex-Officio members and the public.
- **C4A Conference** – AASD will cover the cost for a couple of Commissioners to join this year's C4A Conference in Glendale, CA on May 8-9, 2023. Laura will send an email to all Commissioners to see who is interested in attending. Commissioner Wright will attend as the TACC representative.

- **CalFresh Emergency Increase** – With the CalFresh Emergency increase allotment ending this month, a list of resources will be available to share with the Commission for those individuals who need assistance. The Department of Human Services has been sending out notices regarding the discontinuation of the emergency CalFresh benefits ending March 31, 2023.
- **Meals on Wheels** – Individuals can apply online for Meals on Wheels. Staff can assist applicants with completing their application. We are working on switching to frozen meals for the Meals on Wheels participants. There is a waiting list for some areas.
- **Department Merger** – There was a brief discussion regarding the possible merger of Aging and Adult Services with the Department of Human Services.
- **Commissioner Badges, Business Cards, & Shirts** – A lot of our newer Commissioners will need to receive a badge, business cards, and COA shirt. Laura shared that the shirt vendor is working on a contract with pricing for new shirts. Laura will need a list of which Commissioners need what items. The Department covers the cost of the badges and business cards. Commissioners cover the cost of their shirts.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. A letter will be sent to Jeremy Oliver congratulating him on his appointment as Director of the Aging and Adult Services Department.
2. Parliamentarian Snyder is working on the letter to send to Christine Peters, Editor of Bakersfield Life Magazine.
3. A thank you letter will be sent to Tamia Smith for being the guest speaker during the February COA Regular meeting. Her Supervisor will be copied on the letter.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. **Approval of February 1, 2023 Executive Committee Minutes** – The minutes were approved with a revision to page 3. **(M/S/A/O) – Grasty/Lemucchi/None/None. Motion carried.**
2. **Approval of March 21, 2023 Regular Meeting Agenda** - The agenda was approved with revisions. **(M/S/A/O) – Lynch/Snyder/None/None. Motion carried.**

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting adjourned at 3:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeremy Oliver, Secretary