



Kern County Commission On Aging

Stephanie Lynch, Chairperson
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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

October 4, 2023, 1:30 PM

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lynch called the meeting to order at 1:35 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, and Yolanda Prado

Excused Absence: **Judy Snyder

Quorum present: Quorum confirmed by Jeremy Oliver

Commission on Aging Members Present: None.

Honorary Commissioners Present: None.

Aging & Adult Services Staff Present: Laura Juarez, Martin Reynoso

Guests Present: Tammy Hartsch

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- **Area Plan Update** – Martin Reynoso shared that he is working on the 2024-2028 Area Plan Update and would like to have the Commissioners assist with the focus group and needs assessment. He is looking for 5-8 volunteers for each committee. Commissioner Lemucchi, Commissioner Oswald, Chair Lynch, and (possibly) Commissioner Prado volunteered to serve on the Area Plan Focus Group. Commissioner Lemucchi, Commissioner Oswald, Parliamentarian Grasty, and Chair

Lynch volunteered to serve on the Needs Assessment Committee. Martin will attend the COA Regular meeting on October 16th and will solicit more volunteers. Chair Lynch, Commissioner Oswald, and Commissioner Prado said they would be willing to step down from the committees if Martin gets enough volunteers from the other Commissioners.

- **Ethics Training** – Parliamentarian Grasty shared that the online Ethics Training (www.ca-ilg.org/ab1234compliance) will be discontinued as of December 31, 2023, due to lack of funding. Most counties already have their own online training, but we are not certain if Kern County will make their own online training. Some Commissioners have been having difficulty accessing the website. Laura shared that County Counsel does provide 1-2 virtual trainings throughout the year via Microsoft Teams and they are scheduling another training in November. The date and time have not been set yet. Parliamentarian Grasty asked if there should be someone to oversee the Commissioners Ethics, if so, she suggested the Parliamentarian take on this responsibility. The COA Secretary will notify the Commissioners once and after that, the Parliamentarian will follow up with the Commissioners. If agreed, the Parliamentarian will draft procedures for review, and add to the COA Standing Rules. Laura will contact County Counsel to ask if they plan to create an online training for Kern County.
- **2024 COA Regular Meeting Schedule** – the schedule was reviewed, and a revision made. The schedule will be placed on the COA Regular Meeting agenda as an Action Item for approval from the Commission.
- **2024 MPA Public Forum** – Commissioner Lemucchi stated she will be attending the Visalia Fair on October 19th which is where Kings and Tulare Counties will be discussing their Master Plan on Aging for rural communities. She will see how they are handling this task, what they are doing, etc., and will bring back some ideas and where the funding comes from to be discussed at the November COA Executive meeting.
- **COA Group Photo** – Chair Lynch announced that a COA group photo will be taken after the October COA Regular meeting and is requesting that all Commissioners wear their COA shirt and/or COA name badge for the photo.
- **Funding to Nursing Homes** – Commissioner Prado shared that she read an article in the paper in September 2023 about the Federal Government regulating nursing homes. The article talked about it happening in New York, but the photo showed a retirement home in Grass Valley, CA. Will this also affect nursing homes in Kern County? Commissioner Prado will reach out to Commissioner Gonzalez for further clarification.
- **Article in Paper re: Senior Day at the Kern County Fair** – Commissioner Prado shared there was an article in the newspaper on September 26th about the Senior Day at the Fair. There was a comment from one individual about it happening during the hottest part of the day and why it should end at 4 p.m.

- **Honorary Commissioners** – Chair Lynch contacted the Honorary Commissioners asking if they'd like to continue as an Honorary Commissioner. Honorary Mooney's phone numbers went to voice mail. Honorary Flucker's home phone number is disconnected but his cell number is still active. A voice message was left for Honorary Commissioner Baker and Honorary Commissioner Sutherland.
- **SB544 - Meetings via Zoom due to Disability/Medical** – Jeremy reported that we are still waiting for clarification. It sounds like how we are currently operating; quorum must be in person. We're hoping to get more information on this next month. SB544 currently only applies to Los Angeles County.
- **Orientation New Commissioners** – We have two new Commissioners who need to attend orientation. A date and time will be scheduled. Laura will send a digital copy of the COA handbook for them to review. A hard copy will be provided to them (no need to print). Commissioner Prado suggested the meeting be in person.
- **COA Foundation Donation** – Chair Grasty shared that the COA Foundation donated \$1,000 to the Bakersfield American Indian Health Project (BAIHP). A photo was taken when the check was presented and was posted on the COA website. BAIHP sent a thank you letter to the COA Foundation for the kind donation. She will share the letter with the Commissioners.
- **Veterans Standdown** – The Kern County Veterans Standdown will take place Saturday, October 12, 2023, at Stramler Park. If you know of any veterans, send them out. There are a lot of resources and services available for them.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. A letter was sent to the Kern County Fair Board of Directors by Chair Lynch thanking them for the wonderful day seniors had during Senior Day at the Fair, and for the renovation of the parking lot, trollies to/from the gate, and let them know how much the Commissioners enjoyed greeting seniors as they entered the gate. She also let them know that the Commission on Aging would be happy to participate in the fair next year in that capacity. Parliamentarian Grasty suggested that we reach out to the Fair Board in April or May 2024 to remind them that the Commission would like to help with the planning.
2. A thank you letter will be sent to Dignity Health, attention: Jessica Neeley, in their Marketing Department, thanking them for sponsoring Senior Day at the Fair, and for inviting many non-profit organizations to participate with lots of information for seniors.

3. Laura shared that thank you letters were sent to the Rasmussen Senior Center thanking them for hosting the Commission meeting in September 2023, and a letter was also sent to Amanda Ruiz thanking her for being the guest speaker.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. **Approval of September 6, 2023, Executive Committee Minutes** – The minutes were approved with a revision to page one (date).
Motion/Second/Abstention/Objection (M/S/A/O) –
Grasty/Lemucchi/Prado/None. Motion carried.
2. **Approval of October 16, 2023, Regular Meeting Agenda** - The agenda was approved with revisions. **(M/S/A/O) Grasty/Prado/None/None. Motion carried.**
3. **Approval of 2024 COA Executive Committee Meeting Schedule** – The 2024 COA Executive Committee meeting schedule was approved with one revision.
(M/S/A/O) – Oswald/Prado/None/None. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeremy Oliver, Secretary