



## AREA AGENCY ON AGING OF LAKE & MENDOCINO COUNTIES PSA 26 ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

August 8th, 2023

2:00 pm

Zoom Meeting

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### **AAA Advisory Council Members Present:**

Paul Branson - President

Linda Schoeller-Boyle

Janine Smith-Citron

Lisa Morrow

Jill Rexrode – Vice President -(late 2:45 PM via Zoom)

Priscilla Traver (late 2:17 PM via Zoom)

### **AAA Advisory Council Members Not Present:**

Nancy Nanna

### **AAA Staff Present:**

Dena Eddings-Green- Program Coordinator

Virginia Peeke-AAA Staff Services Analyst

### **Others in Attendance:**

Joan Walter

#### **1. Welcome / Announcements:**

- The meeting was called to order by Paul Branson at 2:00 p.m. Six (4) Advisory Council members were present out of seven (7) active members. Attendees present introduced themselves.
- Janine stated the Mendocino Lake County Stand Down for Veterans is coming up in September, and she encourages organizations and providers to participate; it will be held September 20th and 21st from 9 AM to 4 PM, and it is at the Lake County Fair Grounds. The target audience is at-risk veterans.
- Linda asked Janine if any exercise options could be offered to the participants.
- Janine said that Linda could come and do Thai Chi at the event if she would like.
- Janine continued that Hospice is starting a new eight-week group, Bereavement Group, in September; there is limited space, and it is in person.
- Janine stated Hospice was fortunate to have two grants from Lakeport Rotary and Kelseyville Rotary; we are utilizing our leading closet.
- Paul mentioned that Lake Links is ready to launch their new volunteer driver program, and Lake Links had their first training for volunteer drivers last month. Paul noted that for more information, contact Laura at Lake Links.

#### **2. Comments from the Public on Non-Agenda Items**

- No comments from the public

### **3. Action Items**

- Review and Approve Meeting Minutes for June 6, 2023  
M/S Lisa/Janine All in Favor 0 Abstain

### **4. Review and Make Recommendations on membership applications for Joan Walter and Gail Cargile**

- Joan stated that she was a retired educational gerontologist in Michigan. She also worked in DC before moving to California and has been caring for older adults for the last couple of years.
- Paul mentioned they will send Joan's application to the Governing Board for approval.
- Dena stated that we need a motion to add this to the upcoming GB agenda.

M/S Janine/Lisa All in Favor 0 Abstain

- Paul said that Gail Cargile is not here; however, he could tell everyone about her. She is a dynamo who runs the Ukiah Senior Center, and he was impressed with her energy. He recommends that we give her a try because we need people with energy.
- Linda asked if he knew of her past experience.
- Paul replied that he does not know Gail's past experience.
- Paul said he needed to call Gail to see if she would be willing to drive between the two counties.
- Janine said we could get everything in place if she decides to continue with the process of becoming an Advisory Council member and that she would make a motion to recommend her as a member of the Advisory Council.

M/S Janine/Lisa All in Favor 0 Abstain

### **5. Senior of the Year Awards**

- Janine said as soon as this phase is over (looking for an executive director), she can concentrate more time on the Senior of the year.

### **6. Review, Discuss, and Decide on a Date/Location and Format for Special Strategic Planning Meeting**

- Paul stated that he wanted to give a little background on the Strategic Planning meeting and his role as the Advisory Council president; he is automatically a member of TACC, and it has been a very frustrating experience for him because a lot of the other AAA are doing things that we are not doing here at our AAA. Our Advisory Council decided we wanted to do some advocacy to fill this gap and get new services for our seniors in our two counties. We discussed having a special meeting closed to the public and just having our members.
- Paul continued he thought we should come up with ideas of what we want, which means looking at the list of things he sent out, the needs assessment survey, the area plan, and your own experience of what we need. Also, look at what do we want and what do we need in our two counties.

- Paul stated that from these meetings, he has learned that all these other AAAs have more staff. He continued by saying that the Advisory Council members are volunteers with other jobs, and we can't write these grants, we can't manage the programs, and that is what staff is for, but if our staff are up to their eyeballs just managing the day to day, they can't do these other things. That is part of what we need to talk about: what we need to do to get to where we need to go.
- Dena stated that the Advisory Council themselves would be able to do grants, and other Advisory Councils do a lot of that kind of stuff.
- Dena continued saying that the Advisory Council could write a grant on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging; however, the Advisory Council would need permission from the Governing Board to write the grant.
- Janine said that this was good because this is about partnership.
- Paul pointed out that we could partner with organizations like Hospice and Family Resource Center.
- Dena said that all we would need to do this is an MOU.
- Paul stated that the other piece to this is how we get there; we talked about advocacy at the state level.
- Dena stated that C4A is having their strategic planning meeting in September, so if the Advisory Council were able to have their strategic planning meeting before the C4A meeting, it would be helpful so that she could take some of the Advisory Council ideas and talk to other program directors.
- Paul mentioned having the hybrid meeting in Fort Bragg at the Redwood Coast Senior Center in early to mid-September; however, he will have to contact Jill for some dates.
- Dena mentioned that we are up for RFP again for the fiscal year 2024-2025, so we are going to add programs that fall under III-B, which right now makes up our information and assistance, outreach, family care, and respite. We are going to start the RFP process in January, and Dena would like to add transportation to one of the programs we add in the new RFP.
- Paul stated that transportation is needed in both counties; he continued that Lake Links was invited to sit in on NCO on their driver program in Mendocino County about software.

## **7. Senior Needs- What additional programs and services do we need to meet these needs?**

- Paul asked the Advisory Council if they wanted to talk about Senior Needs or if we wanted to wait till we meet at the Strategic Planning Meeting next month; the Advisory Council agreed to address this at next month's meeting.

## **8. Committee Meetings**

- **Community Involvement and Advocacy Committee**
  - **Ad-Hoc Committee, Senior Thriving**
    - Janine stated that we have not met.
  - **Nominating and Membership Committee**
    - Paul stated that this was Nancy, but she is not here; however, he did report that one person in Lake County approached him and might be interested in applying for the Advisory Council. Virginia is going to call her to see if she is still interested.
  - **Legislative Committee**
    - Paul stated that Lisa, at the last Advisory Council meeting, that she was interested in applying for the Californias Senior Legislation.

- Lisa stated that she was interested and meant to follow up but has yet to get a chance to do so.
- Paul said that we need some on the California Legislative Committee and should ideally have someone from Mendocino County as well.
- Paul asked if appointing a member to the California Legislative Committee has to be approved by the Governing Board.
- Dena responded that there is a process for appointing a California Senior Legislation member and that she would contact the CSL to find out the process because we are outside the voting part of the year.
- Paul commented that CSL has been bugging us for years for representation, so not being in the voting part of the year should be fine.
- **Elder Abuse Prevention Committee**
  - Dena asked the Advisory Council for next year's Elder Abuse Conference if they had any idea what topic they would like to have and whether the Advisory Council would like to have it in person.
  - Lisa responded that she would like to have it in person.
  - Dena stated that our last Elder Abuse Conference was via Zoom, and the topic was about caregiver abuse, and it was excellent.
- **Needs Assessment/Health Promotion Committee**
  - Dena stated that we are coming up to where we need to do our Needs Assessment, which will be released in January. And we get the data back in February, compile it, and it goes into our Area Plan for May.
  - Paul said we have already beaten the Needs Assessment Survey by adding some items to the Area Plan.
  - Dena responded yes, you have; there are new things that you have asked to be added to the Area Plan in roles and objectives.
- **Area Plan Committee**
  - Nothing to report at this time.

#### **Discussed at the Meeting that was not on the Agenda**

- Linda asked where we are going to have the Advisory Council Meeting in October.
- Dena responded where would you like to have the meeting? It must be in Mendocino County, and Fort Bragg is unavailable on October 3rd. Do you want us to make arrangements to have it in Ukiah? Also, does the Advisory Council wish to continue doing every other month, or do you want to change to less frequently since we are meeting in person?
- Paul stated it would only be fair to have it in Ukiah.
- Linda asked if we had the option to Zoom the meeting.
- Dena replied only under the specific circumstances she sent in the email, which included a family emergency, medical emergency, or something like that, and you can only do it twice.
- Paul said that a person could attend the meeting via Zoom as long as there is an in-person quorum.
- Dena stated yes, but they would not be able to vote, and still, the same requirement applies where you have to post the agenda at the location where you are, and it has to be open to the public and all the other provisions under the Brown Act.
- Paul said we should have the October Advisory Council meeting at the Social Services Office.
- Dena said we could try to get the Big Sur conference room or the other one across the street.

#### **Discussed at the Meeting that was not on the Agenda**

- Paul asked Jill to send him some dates of when the room at the Senior Center is available so that we can have our Special Strategic Planning meeting, preferably on a Friday.
- Jill responded that Friday is good to use the day program room, and she thinks there is plenty of space for the meeting.

- Paul continued that we would like to have it before September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> because there is a statewide meeting that Dena will be attending.
- Jill asked what time are you thinking of having it on September 15.
- Paul replied no later than 10 am, and we can have lunch at your center, and after lunch, we can meet for a couple of hours.
- Jill continued let's plan on having the meeting starting at 1 pm; we begin serving food at 11:30 am, so that would give everyone time to get here and eat their lunch and then have the meeting afterward.
- Dena said that her only concern with doing what Jill suggested is staff being on overtime and then the drive home, and staff is going to have to make special arrangements to work on a Friday because Virginia and Dena do not work on Fridays.
- Janine suggested that we have a working Lunch.
- Jill stated that a working lunch would work in the room that we are meeting in.
- Dena suggested that the meeting ends at 2 PM so staff has time to drive home.
- Paul responded that we are hearing that we start at 10 AM, have a working lunch, and wrap it up by 2 PM.

**9. AAA Staff Report**

- o Nothing Staff Report at this time.

**10. Presidents' Report**

- o Nothing to report at this time.

**Discussed at the Meeting that was not on the Agenda**

- Jill announced that the Redwood Coast Senior dementia program is officially open after a two-year hiatus.
- Priscilla said that she wanted to say that she is going to talk to Joan to catch her up, and she is all for this meeting and looking forward to catching up and getting back to business.

**11. Adjourned**

Adjourned at 2:58 PM

**Next meeting**

October 3rd 2023

2:00 pm

Zoom Meeting

In-Person: Health and Human Services

747 South State Street

“Big Sur Conference Room”

Ukiah, CA 95482