

PSA 2 Area Agency on Aging  
Virtual Advisory Council Meeting  
April 25, 2025  
10:00am  
Minutes

**A. Call to order and Flag Salute**

Meeting called to order.

**B. Roll Call (Establishment of a quorum)**

Vacant	Lassen	
Tina Kennemore	Lassen	Present
Vacant	Lassen	
Angela Reed	Lassen	Excused
Clinton Davis	Modoc	Present
Debbie Mason	Modoc	Present
Tiffany Gwinn	Modoc	Present
Laurie Wayne	Modoc	Present
Staci Wadley	Shasta	Excused
Nancy Quirus	Shasta	Present
Maggie McNamara	Shasta	Present
Marianne Seifert	Shasta	Present
Michelle Harris	Siskiyou	Present
Vacant	Siskiyou	
Lydia Gil	Siskiyou	Present
Joan Smith	Siskiyou	Present
Elaine Brown	Trinity	Excused
Benjamin Sarkisan	Trinity	Present
Michael Cottone	Trinity	Present
Vacant	Trinity	

**Quorum Established.**

**C. Introduction of Guests**

Patrick Moriarty - with the Shasta County Older Adult Policy Council and Hill Country health and Wellness Center  
Cheryl Rushton – PSA 2 AAA  
Dr. Spring Myers – VA Sierra Health Care Systems  
Hallie Fonseca – RABA  
Scott Ferris, Center for Healthy Communities (CHC), Program Manager

**D. Approval of the Agenda**

Motion to approve the agenda – Debbie Mason  
Second Approval - Maggie McNamara  
Approved.

**E. Approval of March 28th Minutes**

Motion to Approve – Joan Smith  
Seconds approval – Laurie Wayne  
Approved.

**F. Open session and Announcements**

- **Benjamin Sarkisan** – IHS to sign MOU for Senior companion program out of AmeriCorps.
- **Marianne** – Assisted Living Waiver Program to expand to Shasta County, letters have been sent to politicians.
- **Spring Myers, PhD** - VA Sierra Health Care Systems presented on *Community-Based Interventions for Suicide Prevention: Community Engagement and Partnerships*
  - Looking for organizations to partner with, can do presentations, and tabling events.
  - Dr. Myers is serving Modoc County but has contacts serving other counties in PSA 2.
  - Contact information: Phone: 775-481-5792 Email: [spring.myers@va.gov](mailto:spring.myers@va.gov)

**G. Chairman Report – Mike Cottone**

- Executive Board meeting- 4 vacancies. Refer to Teri for more information.
- TACC Report
  - UC Davis is working on state policy briefs and analyzing impacts to assist in advocacy (drafts):
    - Rural homelessness
    - Rural long term services and supports
    - Healthcare
  - Presentations included: Expanding caregiver workforce, Justice in Aging- potential cuts to Medicaid and risk of block grants
- The C4A annual Conference is scheduled for November 5th - 7<sup>th</sup>.

**California Senior Legislature (CSL) Report – Nancy Quirus**

- Three CSL-sponsored legislative bills have held committee hearings. The only sponsored legislation is the increase of the Medi-Cal personal needs allowance:
  - Medical allowance to increase \$35 to \$50/month
- 25 new topics are being proposed for the 2025 legislative session. Including our own Northern California CSL senator Sharon Howard (from Jamesville, Ca) – who proposed – Graduated Sr. Vehicle License Renewal, currently these proposals are in the ‘question phase’. You are encouraged to reach out to her with questions (she was formerly a PSA 2 Advisory Council member).

- Recent Caucus meeting a new concern regarding—In-home healthcare workers for rural patients needing in-home care. What happens after an initial referral by M.D., rural data is not being aggregated, critical home healthcare data is being lost?
  - PSA 2 tracks phone calls, emails, walk ins, transportation, legal services, care giving.
- **Senior Rally Day** - May the 6<sup>th</sup> 9-2pm in Sacramento - meeting with the legislators but can also be attended virtually in portions. Nancy to share more information.
  - Nancy encouraging individuals to get involved in rallies to support the Medi-Cal program.
  - Recent rally in Redding – the former Public Health Director with a sign that read 66,000 Shasta County residents at risk due to potential Medi-Cal cuts. Justice for Aging has some great tip sheets and handouts.
- **Partnership HealthPlan of California** serves Medi-Cal beneficiaries in 24 northern California counties: Butte, Colusa, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Marin, Mendocino, Modoc, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Solano, Sonoma, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Yolo, and Yuba

#### **Nutrition Report – Michelle Harris**

- **Michelle Harris** – introduced Scott Ferris, new Program Manager, Center for Healthy Communities.
- Recent changes to the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program. CHC and Laurie Wayne (UCCE) will be assisting with the distribution of new market cards (like debit cards) and supporting farmers this summer.
  - For county specific food assistance flyers, visit CHC's local food resource page - <https://chcfoodassistance.org/local-food-resources/>

#### **Mental Health Services Act Report**

- **Teri Gabriel**- connected with Trinity County MHSA.
  - Department of Aging to host a webinar on Proposition 1 and Behavioral Health Services Act. Teri to share more information.
- **Mike Cottone** – MHSA Trinity County meeting, messaged Tiffany Forbes - Plan for 2025-26 is coming up May 10<sup>th</sup> and for a public comment on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Food Access Report** – N/A

#### **Directors Report – Teri Gabriel**

- Advisory Council members are involved we have an Area Plan update in between the four-year area plans. The 2024–28 Area Plan is still pending state approval (May 1st deadline).
- C4A – primary budget leak suggests cuts are concerning – HICAP, LTC Ombudsman and Adult Protective Services. Nutrition Program seems to be somewhat funded. Transportation, supportive services also mentioned.
- Maggie's & Kelsey Halverson will be spread out over the next two months with caregiver support classes

- *Master Plan for Aging flyer* – currently covering Glenn, Butte, and Shasta County. A survey is being conducted to gather information about older adults' living experiences to support the development of an Age-Friendly Community Plan. Please help spread the word and encourage participation in the survey.
- Thank you, Nancy Q, for participating in the RFP Review Committee in Lassen County.
- *Digital Divide (objective)* – AT&T has committed with 50 laptops. Last year, 40 were distributed in Siskiyou County. Hoping to expand to other counties. Please note: we cannot advertise yet due to uncertainty about quantity.
- *California Digital Equity Program* – Opportunity to expand broadband access. The Application process and sharing with county contacts. Over \$2 million available in the PSA 2 region.
- *Siskiyou Healthy Aging Fair*, scheduled for next month, half-day event. Focused on connecting older adults with services. Attendees are encouraged to stay for lunch (lasagna will be served). Please make a reservation.
- **Marianne Seifert** shared Mt. Shasta Parkinson's & Movement Disorder support group. Contact Michael Wrisley at (907)849-4489 for more information.

#### **H. Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Proposed Plan, Goals and Objectives**

- Members, please complete your activity reports and send them to Michelle. Teri has developed processes and procedures to track time spent on our goals and objectives.

#### **I. Discussion to Year End Report to Executive Board**

- **Year End Report** – Presentation scheduled for June 16<sup>th</sup>. Michelle will coordinate the committee using a Doodle poll.
- **Nancy** provided an update on *2M – Digital Divide*. Short Survey that is being proposed to be utilized by all the members to gather information from their communities. Patrick to prepare a report for the next meeting regarding digital divide.
  - Marriane- Shade Darling will be the next speaker in May at the library.

#### **J. Correspondence**

No correspondence

**Meeting Adjourned at 11:51 am.** Next month in person meeting at DH-CL. The Site can't support meal. Lumberjack can cater the lunch, Teri to send more information.