

PSA 2 Area Agency on Aging
Virtual Advisory Council Meeting
March 28, 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	Excused
Vacant	Lassen	
Angela Reed	Lassen	Present
Clinton Davis	Modoc	Not Present
Debbie Mason	Modoc	Present
Tiffany Gwinn	Modoc	Present
Laurie Wayne	Modoc	Present
Staci Wadley	Shasta	Present
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	Present
Benjamin Sarkisan	Trinity	Present
Michael Cottone	Trinity	Present
Vacant	Trinity	Present

Quorum Established.

C. Introduction of Guests

Angie & Genevieve from Siskiyou County Public Health

Primavera Macias – Center for Healthy Communities, CalFresh Healthy Living

Jerry Kirouac - Program manager for the PSA 2 long term Care Ombudsman program, service Lassen, Modoc, Trinity, Siskiyou, and Shasta County.

Cheryl Rushton – PSA 2

Stacy Campbell – Passages in Chico, education and outreach coordinator for the area PSA 2 and PSA 3.

D. Approval of the Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda – Tiffany Gwinn

Joan Smith seconds Approval.

Approved.

E. Approval of January Minutes

Motion to Approve – Nancy Quirus

Joan Smith seconds approval.

Approved.

Marianne Seifert, Staci Wadley - abstain.

F. Open session and Announcements

Benjamin Sarkisan – June 7th Peddlers Fair in Lewiston. Parking is available for older adults.

Angela Reed – Lassen County Behavior Health Stakeholders meeting next month, April 17th.

Elaine Brown & Michael Cottone - Attended online Medicare meeting. Webinar focused on messaging for advocacy, to advocate against cuts that would impact older adults, nothing definite yet.

Angie - Public Health Siskiyou County, Healthy Brain initiative program will be ending June 30th.

Angela Reed – Westwood is closing their food resource (One Stop). The food resource portion will stop.

G. Chairman Report – Mike Cottone

- PSA2 Executive Board meeting earlier this week and reported on activities in the Advisory Council.
- Advisory Council membership right now we have 4 vacancies (2 Lassen, 1 Siskiyou, 1 Trinity).

H. TACC Report

- AAA Council counseling meeting on February 13th. Presentations - Affordable living for the aging. Groups out of Los Angeles, focused on health instability and health for older adults. Group called Kelsey in San Francisco talked about housing accessibility and affordable housing for seniors and folks with disabilities
- The C4A annual Conference is scheduled for November 5th through 7th, not much information on the website.
- Next TACC meeting will be April 17th.

I. California Senior Legislature Report – Nancy Quirus

- Training for all CSL members in March led us through the process of proposals. All proposals were going to be accepted through a Dropbox.
- Most recent sponsored bills that are part of the top priorities
 - Out-of-state physicians and surgeons allowing telehealth with an exemption of the license, they are not licensed in the state of California, but the idea of this proposal is so that individuals can seek help at other medical centers.
 - Individuals staying in care facilities, the personal needs allowance, the amount of their Medicare that is actually set aside for them to use on purchases. California has the lowest personal need allowance in the entire nation at 35,

and the legislative bill that's going forward is hopefully going to boost that up to \$50.00 a month.

- Senior rally day - May the 6th 9 - 2 p.m. in Sacramento meeting with the legislators but can also be attended virtually in portions.

J. Nutrition Report – Michelle Harris

- Nutrition lessons in Shasta and Trinity, conversations about installing gardens in congregate meal sites or low-income housing.
- Shasta County – Shasta Grows Association, received additional grant to match CalFresh money up to \$15 at the farmer's market.
- **Lydia Gil** - Baptist Church in Tulelake has taken over the food distribution that comes from Great Northern, it has been so successful what they have started to do is senior citizens can go to the Church on the day of distribution at 12:00.

K. Mental Health Services Act Report

- **Nancy Quiris** - Shasta Quarterly work group, stakeholders meeting on mental health services in the county - now using that term behavioral health.
- Trinity – First responders received training on mental health to improve management with people.
- Trinity County Behavioral Health Services has merged with the Health and Human Services Department. Trinity county officially has a Health and Human Services Agency.
 - Agency means that you see when you have your social services, public health and behavioral health services, which includes mental health and alcohol and other drug services almost into one.
- Jeff was the previous MHSC coordinator for Trinity County Behavioral Health, and he retired recently. Tiffany Forbes is now currently the coordinator for Trinity County.
 - Working on the annual update for the Mental Services Act plan. Tells the state how they're budgeting their funds and what programs are focusing on.
- The Behavioral Health Advisory Board will meet on April 16th.

L. Food Access Report – Staci

- One senior commodities day, specific for seniors to pick up commodities and their and senior box in Redding. Saturday distribution will be for any age, and there will be a specific day 1st Wednesday and 2nd Thursday 8:30-9:30am of the month for only older adults – they will now have 2 days. Maximum of 1500 a month.

M. Ombudsman Program Report – Jerry Kirouac

- Jerry will be attending quarterly to report.
- Presented on numbers from January 1st of 2023 to December 31st of 2023 and then the following year, January 1 of 2024 to December 31st of 2024.
 - Five counties Shasta, Siskiyou, Lassen, Modoc, and Trinity. In 2023, total of 18,164 reports, cases and complaints to our office. 2,179 reports in 2024. About 1 instance per day, went from 7.18 to 8.4.
 - Emotional abuse has become a serious report.
- Case resolution rate (with consent) 2024: 79.44%

- To have a case, we have to have the residents consent, being that we are resident advocates. There are many times we have something that's brought to our attention that if a family member, an outside person may deem that serious or they feel that's the case, that we need to dig into to have a case, we actually have to have the residents consent, being that we are resident advocates, there are many times we have something that's brought to our attention that if a family member, an outside person, may deem that serious or they feel that is the case, that we need to dig into.
 - Family Council meetings – place where families can ask questions and interact with others.
 - Community education, trainings, meetings – what the community is seeking.
- CA long term care compares, state-run website has every facility that's in the state of California on it as well as any of the citations or anything negative that's happened at those facilities.

N. Directors Report – Teri Gabriel

- Older Americans Act funding is threatened to be cut, nothing official yet but change is coming.
- At the federal level - reorganizing the Administration of Community Living, which is ACL, to be under another organization. Reducing 50% of ACL staff.
 - State level may be scaling back to essential programs.
- Travel freeze, unable to reimburse travel for in-person meetings, AAA staff will not be in personal attendance.
 - Individuals able to attend the in person meeting on May 30th at 10 am, Dignity Health Connected Living 100 Mercy Oaks Drive:
 - Yes – Angela Reed, Tiffany Gwinn, Lori Wayne, Staci Wadley, Nancy Q, Maggi, Marianne, Michelle, Debbie Mason, Joan Smith, Elaine Brown, Benjamin, Mike Cottone
 - No – Lydia Gail
 - Staci Wadley will check to see if the room offers zoom connectivity.
- Public Hearing this week. Not a lot of feedback. Our Area Plan for 2024-28, which is our BIG 4-year plan is still not approved by the state.
 - Targets include Ombudsman and HICAP programs, and Legal Services of Northern California.
 - Next steps are to present the Area Plan update to the governing board in April, once approved, then we'll ask the chairman of both the Advisory Council and Executive Board to sign the transmittal letter, showing that indicating to the state that we've addressed the area plan with the Advisory Council on Executive Board. That will go to the state May 1st.
- Caregiver support presentations, there are videos recorded of Maggie's presentation along with Kelsi Halvarson, and they are on our website. More in person meeting as the months get warmer but we are cautious due to funding. More information to be shared.
- Master Plan for Aging – California Department of Aging is discussing their funding formula- conversation is ongoing.
- Siskiyou County Fall prevention and senior fitness testing - Cheryl will be presenting on Friday, April 11th at the local YMCA.

- Looking for a confirmed nutrition program for Lassen County serving the Susanville area.
- Continuing work with Alzheimer's association, training is available for first responders.

O. Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Proposed Plan, Goals and Objectives

- Maggie – celebrate older Americans month, elder abuse awareness.

P. Approval of the Proposed 25/26 Plan and Objectives - Teri Gabriel

- Educational opportunities for bridging the digital divide.
- Vote needed to add language: "Advisory Council members will support this effort, digital divide efforts to enhance awareness, increase outreach and promote educational opportunities available to older and disabled adults. Adult populations in the PSA 2."
 - i. **Michael Cottone to approve** revised language. Marriane Seifert to second approval.
 - ii. **Language is approved.**

Q. Committee for the End of the Year Report - Teri Gabriel

- Individuals identified here in the Advisory Council who would want to present to the Executive Board. Discuss the efforts the Advisory Council has made in the past year, plans to do in the future, the number of hours the Secretary will gather the number of hours that individuals have been participating in.
 - Via Zoom, 3rd Monday in June – June 16th at 10am. There are locations in person.
 - Michelle to help with PowerPoint. Staci and Joan volunteer to help.
 - Make sure to report as to the council's objectives to be able to speak regarding your efforts.

R. Correspondence

No correspondence

Meeting Adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Harris, Secretary