

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE TORRANCE COMMISSION ON AGING**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order on January 8, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizen Center.

**ROLL CALL/MOTIONS FOR EXCUSED ABSENCE**

Present: Commissioners Craft, G. Davis, Kimmel-Dagostino, Kraemer, Robelotto, Virobik, and Chairperson K. Davis

Absent: None

Staff: Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand

**FLAG SALUTE**

Vickie Hershberger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**INSPIRATIONAL**

Former Commissioner Griffith provided the following inspirations:

*A spirituality of aging must help us find a way to turn losses into gains, to learn how the stripping process which often accompanies aging can be a gradual entrance into freedom and new life, how, in fact, aging can be winter grace.*

Kathleen Fischer, *Winter Grace*

*They say wisdom comes with age - Now I'm in a real jam - at sixty I should be a sage - look what a fool I am!*

S. Minanel, *Maybe at Eighty?*

**ACCEPT AND FILE AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Craft moved and Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino seconded, to accept and file the Affidavit of Agenda Posting for its meeting of January 8, 2013. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Robelotto moved and Commissioner G. Davis seconded, to approve the minutes of the Commission on Aging meeting of November 13, 2012, as submitted. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Former Commissioner Griffith, LACCOA

Vickie Hershberger, Torrance Memorial Medical Center

**SENIOR CITIZENS CONCERNS**

**A. City Council Activities**

Commissioner Kraemer stated that there had been few meetings during the December and no significant items for seniors.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand noted that the City Council Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee met on December 17, 2012, reviewed the recommendations from the joint meeting of the Parks and Recreation and Cultural Arts Commissions, evaluated the

cost recovery subsidy plan with subsidy levels and made a recommendation of budget and subsidy levels that would be forwarded to the City Council on January 15, 2013. She stated that the Committee had expressed support for maintaining the \$3.2 million as the funding floor and expressed concern for rising costs.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that the Committee had approved a motion to:

- concur with the recommendations from the joint Parks and Recreation and Cultural Arts Commissions to increase the subsidy level for the Senior Citizen Excursion Program from 20% to 40% with a cost of \$7000 for the remainder of fiscal year 2012-13
- maintain the current subsidy levels for all other programs
- allow eligible seniors to apply to the existing scholarship program
- request that the \$25,000 be part of next year's budget deliberation process

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand requested that the Commissioners, if possible, attend the City Council meeting on January 15.

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino noted that the \$7000 would cover 3 excursions from now to the end of the fiscal year on June 30.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand reported that all Torrance Travelers participants had been notified of the recommendations by mail.

There was a discussion of destinations for the tours.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand thanked the Commission for all their efforts.

There was a discussion of Nordstrom moving from Redondo Beach to Torrance.

## **B. Housing**

Chairperson K. Davis invited the Commission to the Wednesday, April 3 meeting of the Woman's Club to hear speaker, Helen Dennis and noted that talk would begin at 1:00 p.m.

There was a discussion of the Beach Cities Health District and the services that they provide for seniors.

Chairperson K. Davis reported that the Section 8 housing information on the Torrance website needed to be updated.

Former Commissioner Griffith noted that the Daily Breeze was currently asking for reader input to determine which columns, features and comics should be retained in the paper.

## **C. Health**

Commissioner Virobik presented information on an article on federal government proposals for rules to implement the health care law.

Former Commissioner Griffith noted that LACCOA was involved in projects to promote walking for seniors, as well as promoting diets lower in salt and sugar.

Former Commissioner Griffith presented and distributed information on the food stamp program, now called CalFresh. She noted that the program now used EBT cards instead of paper.

## **D. Transportation**

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino stated that Jim Mills of the Transit Department had reported that three new services had been implemented on November 19: Line 3 rapid bus service to Long Beach, Line 4 Express Lanes to Los Angeles and Line 10 to the Metro Green Line.

### **E. Community Programs**

Former Commissioner Griffith noted that the Torrance Symphony was trying to reorganize in order to stay together.

Commissioner K. Davis reported that the Woman's Club was having a rummage sale on January 12 at the Woman's Club, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. She noted that the Youth Council would be assisting at the sale.

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino noted that she had attended a Chamber of Commerce meeting where she had met the local representatives for State elected officials and would send the representatives' contact list to the Commissioners.

### **F. Focal Point Program**

Commissioner Virobik reported the following Focal Point statistics for the month of:

#### **November 2012**

Total number of documented calls: 40	Total number of callbacks: 13
Miscellaneous calls: 57	Total number of walk-ins: 21
Total number of calls received: 97	

Of the documented calls:

10 % were for transportation	12.5% were for housing
10 % were for in home services	

#### **December 2012**

Total number of documented calls: 26	Total number of callbacks: 10
Miscellaneous calls: 46	Total number of walk-ins: 9
Total number of calls received: 72	

Of the documented calls:

19.2 % were for transportation	4 % were for housing
11.5 % were for in home services	

Commissioner Virobik reported that Focal Point had one presentation in November.

There was a discussion on the best ways to utilize the Focal Point volunteers.

Commissioner Virobik noted that RSVP was closing.

### **G. Elder Abuse/Fraud**

There was a discussion on computer viruses and email hackers.

Commissioner Virobik reported that the UC Irvine Center of Excellence on Elder Abuse and Neglect received funding for Elder Abuse Prevention Interventions Programs from the federal Administration for Community Living.

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino noted that she had been the victim of a mail fraud.

### **JOINT MEETING WITH THE CITY COUNCIL**

There was a discussion of the agenda for the joint meeting with the City Council.

It was decided to reschedule the February joint meeting for a future date when all seven Commissioners could be present.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that she would try to schedule D.R. Richardson to attend the April Commission meeting to give an update on Section 8 housing.

## **ORALS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Virobik noted that everyone who was receiving a paper check for Social Security benefits needed to switch to electronic payments by March 1, 2013.

Commissioner K. Davis requested that the Commissioners send her any items that they would like to include in the Annual Report.

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino noted that she had been selected to be on the 2013 Leadership Torrance Program sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand reminded the Commissioners to bring their nominations for the Older Americans award to February's meeting.

Former Commissioner Griffith noted that she would forward any updates concerning the County's Older Americans award to Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand.

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino noted that the Commissioners could ask various Torrance organizations and groups for their suggestions for candidates for the Older Americans award.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that she would send the Commissioners the list of previous recipients for the Older Americans award.

Commissioner Craft announced that the Odd Fellows had received the Princess' Trophy from the Tournament of Roses for the most beautiful entry in the 35' and under class. He noted that the Odd Fellows would sponsor a magic show for children on February 2, 2013.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand reminded the Commission that the February meeting would be on February 19, due to the Lincoln's birthday holiday.

Vickie Hershberger, Torrance Memorial Medical Center distributed information on the 2013 Health Links classes on memory skills, caregiver support and medications 101.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:21 p.m. to the regular meeting on Tuesday, February 19, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizens Center.

Approved as Submitted February 19, 2013 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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