

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order in the Bartlett Senior Citizen Center on August 14, 2007 by Chairperson Craft at 9:35 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Breaker, Callen, Cardella, Clutter, Griffith, Virobik, and Chairperson Craft

Absent: None

Staff: Senior Recreations Supervisor Wand

3. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Griffith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INSPIRATIONAL

Commissioner Griffith provided the inspiration:

"We turn not older with years, but newer everyday."

Emily Dickinson

"It is one of the most beautiful compensations of life that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

4. ACCEPT AND FILE AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Griffith moved, Commissioner Virobik seconded, to accept and file the Affidavit of Agenda Posting for its meeting of August 14, 2007. The motion carried unanimously.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Commissioner Virobik moved, Commissioner Griffith seconded, to approve the minutes of the Commission on Aging meeting of July 10, 2007. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairperson Craft presented Commissioner Callen with a plaque in recognition of his dedicated service as the 2005-2007 Commission on Aging Chairperson.

6. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Senior Librarian Phillip Ross,
Principal Librarian Hillary Theyer

There was a brief discussion about the Library's programs specifically designed for older adults.

7. SENIOR CITIZENS CONCERNS

A. City Council

Commissioner Griffith discussed recent home renovation projects brought forward to the City Council, which were discussed.

Commissioner Griffith also discussed "medical condominiums" in Torrance.

She updated the Commission regarding the recent committee assignments given to City Council members and also indicated that an electronic voting system will soon be in place for the City Council.

Chairperson Craft reported that the Commission on Aging was invited to appoint a representative to the City's Strategic Plan Committee. Chairperson Craft appointed Commissioner Callen.

B. Housing

Commissioner Breaker commented on the new condominium development for seniors located on Sepulveda Boulevard and Ocean Avenue. Various other projects were discussed.

C. Health

Commissioner Virobik reported that vitamin manufacturers will soon need to test all their products' ingredients for purity and will also have to accurately label these products. This will also apply to herbal concoctions and other dietary supplements, in an effort by the Food and Drug Administration to provide improved oversight.

Commissioner Griffith discussed the twelve least contaminated foods and the twelve most contaminated foods. She also discussed her use of "Ocuvite" for macular degeneration which she recently learned contained an element that is known to cause bowel cancer.

D. Transportation

Commissioner Cardella discussed the many mass transit and public transportation options available back east.

E. Cable

Commissioner Callen reported on a currently airing segment: "Safety Tips for Seniors" which highlighted the Vial of Life program coordinated by the Torrance Fire Department.

He also plans to follow up with James Duarte of the Torrance Fire Department to do a segment about heart health.

The "Read the Book, See the Movie" program was discussed. Principal Librarian Hillary Theyer distributed flyers advertising this program as well as "Hot Fun Sunday", a summer concert program.

There was also a discussion about potential fees for Paramedic Service.

F. Focal Point Program

Commissioner Virobik reported three elder abuse calls were reported to the Focal Point office in July.

She reported the following statistics for the month of July:

- Total number of calls received -- 136
- Total number of documented calls -- 51
(Note: 31 follow up phone calls were made to clients)
- Miscellaneous calls -- 85
- Total number of walk-ins -- 22

Of the 51 documented calls,

- 33.3% were in regard to Housing
- 29.4% were for In-Home Service
- 14 % were for Transportation

Commissioner Virobik also distributed copies of the Focal Point Annual Report (Attachment A).

G. Elder Abuse/Fraud

Commissioner Griffith reported that Ed and Pat Long have hired a new Executive Director for H.E.L.P.

8. JOINT MEETING WITH CITY COUNCIL

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand indicated that, per City Manager's staff, the best dates for a joint meeting with the City Council are October 2, or October 16, 2007. After discussion, the Commission agreed that October 2, 2007 would be best for them. Commissioners were asked to bring a list of potential questions and/or concerns to the September meeting so that an agenda for the joint meeting can be developed.

9. ORALS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Principal Librarian Hillary Theyer discussed a grant opportunity available through the California State Library, "Transforming Life After 50: Public Libraries and Baby Boomers". Ms. Theyer explained the grant process, indicating that she will appreciate future input from the Commission on Aging. There was a discussion about services available for seniors through the Torrance Library with Ms. Theyer answering questions.

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Senior Recreations Supervisor Wand reported that Jim Mills and Enny Chung of the Transit Department will attend the Commission's September meeting to provide updates on the Senior Bus Ambassador and Senior Taxi Programs. She announced the Flu Vaccinations Clinic, scheduled for Monday, November 5th from 10:00 a.m. to 12 Noon at the Ken Miller Recreation Center. She also announced the Salvation Army/City of Torrance Health and Resources Fair scheduled for Saturday, September 15th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Salvation Army Torrance facility.

Commissioner Griffith recounted a story in which a City of Torrance employee assisted a heart attack victim and was then kind enough to help with the victim's dog.

Senior Librarian Phillip Ross announced that he will represent the Torrance Library at an upcoming Health Fair to be held at Golden West Towers. Commissioner Virobik asked Mr. Ross to provide information about the Fair to the Commission.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m. to Tuesday, September 11, 2007 at 9:30 a.m. at the Bartlett Center, Hosler Conference Room.

Approved as Submitted September 11, 2007 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
