

July 12, 2016

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order on July 12, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. in the West Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizen Center.

2. ROLL CALL/MOTIONS FOR EXCUSED ABSENCE

Present: Commissioners Cohen, *Kimmel-Dagostino, G. Davis, Kraemer, Virobik and Chairperson K. Davis

Absent: Commissioner Miranda

Staff: Senior Recreation Supervisor Reed

* Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino arrived at 10:27 a.m.

Chairperson K. Davis asked for a moment of silence.

MOTION: Commissioner G. Davis moved to approve the excused absence of Commissioner Miranda; motion was seconded by Commissioner Cohen. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote. (Absent Commissioner *Kimmel-Dagostino and Miranda)

3. FLAG SALUTE AND INSPIRATIONAL

Barbara Cardella led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Former Commissioner Griffith provided the inspirations.

4. ACCEPT AND FILE AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner G. Davis moved and Commissioner Virobik seconded, to accept and file the Affidavit of Agenda Posting for its meeting of July 12, 2016. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote. (Absent Commissioners *Kimmel-Dagostino and Miranda)

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Kraemer requested that on page 2, the spelling of Lynn Robinson's name be corrected.

MOTION: Commissioner Kraemer moved and Commissioner G. Davis seconded, to approve the minutes of the Commission on Aging meeting of May 10, 2016, as amended. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote. (Absent Commissioners *Kimmel-Dagostino and Miranda)

6. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Barbara Cardella; Commissioner Griffith, Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults (LACCOA), Chair of Health, Nutrition and Long Term Care Committee; **Catherine Endo-Roberts**, Medical Dental advocate, representing Governor's Oral Health Task Force; **Julie Dojiri**, Civic Affairs Chairperson for South Bay New Horizons; **Senior Librarian Coates**, South East Library, Library liaison to the Commission on Aging; **Adrienne Brandriss; Sharmone La Rose**, retired Torrance Adult School; **Teri Harwood** (fitness class participant); **Schneider** (fitness class participant); **Sue Aaron** (fitness class participant); **Ann Kirschner** (yoga class participant); **Eleanor Broder** (fitness class participant); **Bonnie Wolfe** (fitness instructor); **John Wolfe; Dean M.** (pool player); **Ray Esquibel** (pool player); **J. Collins** (pool player); **Phil Rizzo** (pool

player and volunteer); **Foster** (pool player); **Tom Sizemore** (pool player); **Recreation Supervisor Snodgrass**; **Bertie Wood** (yoga class and pool player); **Lester Wood** (pool player) and **Lee Wisel** (retired Library director- meeting and yoga class).

7. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES - Presentation

Chairperson K. Davis stated that the item was continued, as Captain Dobine would be at the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

8. ANNUAL REPORT - Discussion and approval

Commissioner Virobik requested that her name be removed from page 2, fifth paragraph, as she had not attended the *Successful Aging Expo*.

MOTION: Commissioner G. Davis moved and Commissioner Kraemer seconded, to approve the Annual Report, as amended. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote. (Absent Commissioners *Kimmel-Dagostino and Miranda)

9. EVALUATING CENTER PROGRAMS AND ROOM USE

Commissioner G. Davis stated that Recreation Services Manager Brunette was not present.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Reed reported that the Recreation Services Department had distributed a two-page evaluation survey to users of the Bartlett Center and added that the survey results were currently being tabulated and would be presented in a report to the Commission at the next month. She added that everyone was welcomed to speak, but she noted that there would be no action taken at this meeting.

Bonnie Wolfe stated that the evaluation was confusing in that many people thought that the reference to pool was a question concerning a swimming pool, not billiards.

Dean M. presented a report on a February meeting that he and Ray Esquibel had had with Community Service Director Jones to discuss the idea of adding a second pool table at the Center. Dean M. noted that he and Mr. Esquibel had also attended the April meeting of the Commission on Aging where they had repeated their request for an additional pool table. He added that in his February meeting with Community Service Director Jones, there had been discussion of possible locations for the additional pool table and one of the locations that had been mentioned was the area where the exercises classes are currently held. He stated his opinion that it would be easier to re-locate the exercise group than to divide up the pool players by placing a second table at a different location. He concluded that there was a need for a second table to accommodate everyone that wanted to play and expressed his desire that the second table be added very soon.

In response to a question from Commissioner G. Davis, Senior Recreation Supervisor Reed explained that the survey had been conducted during a two-week period at the Center, notices had been posted throughout the facility and everyone that came into the Center during that period was asked to participate. She noted that the staff also circulated through the facility to remind everyone to take the survey and offered assistance to anyone who needed help to complete the survey. She stated that 181 surveys had been collected and noted that the Commission would receive the results of the survey with their agenda packet for the August meeting.

Sharmone La Rose stated that it was difficult to find other locations and funding for the exercise and other Older Adult education classes and she noted that there was an effort to form a nonprofit foundation with the hope of making more classes available. She noted that Torrance offered a good selection of adult classes.

Ray Esquibel stated that the Walteria Senior Center could provide a space for the exercise class, as it was not always busy.

Bonnie Wolfe stated that it was important to try to accommodate the needs of all the Center's participants.

Julie Dojiri noted, that in response to her question at the City Council meeting regarding the plans for the Bartlett Center, she was told that the plan for the second pool table was already in progress.

Ray Esquibel stated that he wanted the Center to be a place where seniors wanted to come and stay all day.

Commissioner G. Davis thanked the public for their presence and their comments and added that it was very important to have a center that seniors would want to come to and stay to participate in the activities.

10. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairperson K. Davis stated that the election of officers would be continued to the next meeting.

11. SENIOR CITIZENS CONCERNS

A. City Council Activities

Commissioner Kraemer noted that the Council meetings were available for viewing on the Torrance cable station. She stated that the Council was working on ordinances for hillside vegetation and short terms rentals in the City. She added that the transfer of Exxon Mobil was completed and noted that signups to receive announcements from the Torrance Alert system could be completed online.

Commissioner Kraemer reported that brochures about coyotes had been distributed to all Torrance residents and that the bocce courts in Columbia Park were in progress. She noted that sidewalk ramping was continuing in the City and requested that reports be made to the City of any areas that were still in need of ramps. She added that the revamping of the City website had been approved.

Commissioner Kraemer stated that the Commission on Aging had officially been approved to have their monthly meetings at the Bartlett Center. She added that the Commission had selected recipients for Older Americans awards in May and that the City had celebrated Armed Forces Day, held a Council election and provided tours of the City Yard. She noted that she had been on the panel to select the new members of the Youth Council.

B. Housing

No report.

C. Health

Commissioner Virobik reported that Governor Brown had signed SB833 which included major changes to the Medi-Cal Recovery program, such as: no recovery on the estates of surviving spouses, recovery limited to only what is required by federal law, the estate from which the state can recover will be limited to the probate estate. She added that the new provisions will take effect for those who die on or after January 1, 2017. She also reported on an article which stated that changes of ownership for nursing homes, especially chains, were linked to poor quality of care.

Catherine Endo-Roberts distributed information on a Medi-Cal cut of 68% to dental benefits for seniors and developmentally disabled. She explained that there had been Denti-Cal for a long time, but many dentists did not accept it. She added that people could contact the Governor to complain about the cuts, but that the cuts had already be put into effect.

There was a discussion of the relationship between dental health, medical health and nutritional health.

D. Transportation

Chairperson K. Davis explained how the senior taxi cab service operated. There was a discussion of the taxi service and the City bus.

Adrienne Brandriss stated that she was a Torrance resident but only used the senior facilities in Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach and Manhattan Beach because they had better transportation services at lower prices and better programs. There was a discussion of the use of Prop A funds in cities.

Commissioner Kraemer stated that citizens who had concerns or questions could speak during the Oral portion of a City Council meeting.

E. Community Programs

Commissioner Kraemer announced that “Rock around the Block” would take place in downtown Torrance on July 21.

Chairperson K. Davis stated that Focal Point would staff a table at “Rock around the Block” and Commissioner G. Davis added that South Bay Village would also staff a table at the event.

Commissioner G. Davis described the types of services that Focal Point offered.

Commissioner Kraemer announced that there would be a fundraiser for the Rose Float at the Ken Miller Center on August 6, 2016.

F. Focal Point Program

Commissioner Virobik explained that Focal Point was run by volunteers and reported the following statistics for the months of:

May 2016

Total number of documented calls: 48	Total number of callbacks: 12
Miscellaneous calls: 60	Total number of walk-ins: 47
Total number of calls received: 108	

Of the documented calls:

31% were for transportation	50% were for housing
15% were for in home services	

June 2016

Total number of documented calls: 52	Total number of callbacks: 18
Miscellaneous calls: 64	Total number of walk-ins: 45
Total number of calls received: 116	

Of the documented calls:

9.6% were for transportation	38% were for housing
8% were for in home services	

Commissioner Virobik announced that on July 15 at 9:30 a.m., Howard Korman, from Omnimore, a lifelong learning program, would speak in the Focal Point conference room.

Chairperson K. Davis stated that the H.E.L.P. office was located in downtown Torrance and was a free resource for health and elder law services.

G. Elder Abuse/Fraud

Commissioner Cohen reported on a phone scam in which the caller stated that they were from the IRS.

Commissioner G. Davis announced that South Bay Village would sponsor a program on scams from Keep Safe Coalition at Torrance Memorial Medical Center at 11:15 a.m. on July 18.

12. ORALS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson K. Davis stated that the Commission had received thank you letters from the Volunteer Center for their food donation and Beverly Greeno, one of the Older American award recipients.

Senior Librarian Coates reported that he had attended a conference on seniors in the library.

Participants requested that the Center keep the exercise program at the Center and thanked the City for the programs at the Center.

There was a discussion on scams.

There was a discussion of Access van services. Chairperson K. Davis advised those interested to seek more information at the West Annex at City Hall.

There was a discussion on using the bus, bus shelters and bus benches. Commissioner Kraemer stated that the addition of bus shelters and benches was in progress in the City.

Recreation Supervisor Snodgrass thanked both Bonnie Wolfe for her many years of providing excellent exercise classes and all the volunteers at the Center.

Chairperson K. Davis requested that Orals/Announcements be continued after Item 7.

7. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES – Presentation (continued)

Fire Captain Dobine stated that he was the EMS Captain for the Fire Department and added that he would be speaking about physician orders for life-sustaining treatment (POLST), do-not-resuscitate order (DNR), and an End of Life Option Act.

He reported that a POLST form could be acquired through your doctor and would list your decisions on treatments you had elected to receive in a facility at your end of life and was separate from an DNR form. He noted that the pink copy of the POLST should be contained in your file at the facility. He noted that the DNR form or an Advanced Care Directive would be used if you were in your home.

Captain Dobine explained that in the case of a disagreement from family members about the treatment that was contained in the Advance Care Directive, the EMS would try to honor the family's wishes, as the EMS attempted to treat the entire family.

Captain Dobine noted that if there was no documentation, then the EMS was legally required to administer treatment, unless the person was in full cardiac arrest.

Captain Dobine stressed the importance of having family conversations and making end of life medical decisions in advance, so your wishes would be clear and easier for the family to carry out.

In response to a question from Former Commissioner Griffith, Captain Dobine stated that on a current 911 call, CPR was not routinely performed if the patient was determined to be deceased. He noted that in the past, that was not always the case, and sometimes the family had to pay the bill for unnecessary or unwanted services. He added however, that EMS would do some measures if they thought there was some chance for the patient. He reminded the Commission that these were the rules for Los Angeles County.

Captain Dobine stated that within the City of Torrance it was required that all convalescent hospitals had specific Fire Department forms on file for all patients.

Responding to a question from Ms. Endo-Roberts, Captain Dobine explained the steps to be followed if someone had passed away at home: call 911, if the EMS determined that the person had died, then a mortuary could be called, if the person had been under a doctor's care, otherwise the person would first need to be transported to the coroner's office.

Captain Dobine stated that if you encountered a person who you thought was in need of CPR, you should call 911 and start to administer CPR, if you knew the procedure.

Captain Dobine stated that the forms could be updated at any time, as the person's needs changed. He noted that if a person was under hospice care, 911 should not be called, as the call would void the hospice care program. He added that the forms could be obtained from your doctor or the State of California website and added that the vials of life and window stickers could be obtained from the Fire Department.

In response to a question from Commissioner Virobik, Captain Dobine stated that any special documentation would need to be readily available for the EMS to act on.

12. ORALS/ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

Senior Librarian Coates announced that Katy Geissert Civic Center Library would present *From Cows to Concrete: The Rise and Fall of Farming in Los Angeles* on July 13 and the Friends of Library book sale would be on Friday, July 22 and Saturday, July 23. He noted the former Commission liaison, Senior Librarian Deleget was retiring and her last day would be Thursday, July 14.

He reported that the Library was partnering with the Torrance Unified School District to offer a free lunch, for children under the age of 18, at the North Torrance Library from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

In response to a question from Mr. Esquibel, Bonnie Wolfe stated that she was unable to tell him how the money that came from fees for exercise classes was used and added that the exercise classes were not a business, but were run through the school district.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Reed stated that Mr. Esquibel could ask the school district for the information.

Recreation Supervisor Snodgrass noted that the classes had been offered for free for many years and even now the fees were moderate.

Responding to a question from Mr. Esquibel, Senior Recreation Supervisor Reed stated that the department was not trying to get rid of any group, but looking to accommodate all groups and make the best use of the facility. She verified that adding another pool table was under consideration in the plan.

Mr. Esquibel stated that he felt that the system was very slow.

Dean M. stated that he thought that it was reasonable question to ask, if the exercise classes, as a revenue center, were going to replace the pool players.

Commissioner G. Davis asked that Mr. Esquibel and Dean M. wait for the tabulated results of the Center survey.

There was a discussion on the reason for the difference in the price for Torrance senior tours compared to other Beach cities.

13. ADJOURNMENT

At 11:26 a.m., Commissioner Kraemer moved to adjourn the meeting to the regular meeting on Tuesday, August 9, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizens Center. The motion was seconded by Commissioner G. Davis and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval. (Absent Commissioner Miranda)

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Approved as amended August 9, 2016 s/ Rebecca Poirier, City Clerk
