

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order on September 13, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizen Center.

2. ROLL CALL/MOTIONS FOR EXCUSED ABSENCE

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

Absent: None

Staff: Senior Recreation Supervisor Reed

3. FLAG SALUTE AND INSPIRATIONAL

Robert Chiota led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Commission members read the inspirations provided by Former Commissioner Griffith via email.

4. ACCEPT AND FILE AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Virobik moved and Commissioner G. Davis seconded, to accept and file the Affidavit of Agenda Posting for its meeting of September 13, 2016. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Commissioner Kraemer moved and Commissioner G. Davis seconded, to approve the minutes of the Commission on Aging meeting of August 9, 2016, as submitted. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

6. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Joe Massa

Robert Chiota

Senior Librarian Coates, South East Library, Library liaison to the Commission on Aging

7. BOCCE COURTS UPDATE– Joel Massa and Bob Chiota

Joel Massa presented information on the status of the bocce courts at Columbia Park. He reported that the ground had been broken and the installation had begun and he noted that the courts should be completed by the second week in November, and ready for use by the first of December. He stated that he and Bob Chiota would provide free instruction and requested that the Commission help them advertise the bocce courts to encourage participation by children and adults. He noted that bocce was the third most popular ball sport, after soccer and golf.

The Commissioners suggested advertising by: placing a monthly article/ad in the Bartlett newsletter, placing a flyer in the Libraries and Italian restaurants, placing an article for South Bay Village and in the Torrance Tribune, filming a segment on Torrance Cable Senior Scene, and contacting Torrance Memorial Medical Center, Providence Little Company of Mary, the Pediatric

Therapy Network, Dick's Sporting Goods stores, Kiwanis, Rotarians, the Woman's Club and the YMCA Senior Center.

Mr. Massa stated that the courts were designed so that disabled individuals would be able to access the courts and noted that the three courts would be lighted and open from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and were 90 feet long by 12 feet wide. He added that there would be no fee, unless there was a tournament, but participants would need to supply their own equipment, available for purchase at local sporting goods stores. He explained that the courts would be open on a first come, first served basis, except for City sponsored tournaments or events.

Mr. Chiota stated that there would now be a need for Torrance bocce teams to compete in local competitions and added that they would be contacting the local high schools to establish intramural teams.

8. SENIOR CITIZENS CONCERNS

A. City Council Activities

Commissioner Kraemer reported that Commissioner training was being offered on September 15 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Ethics training would be held on October 6 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. or could be completed online.

Commissioner Kraemer stated that there had been discussions on some problems with street sweeping and that the City's contract with McCormick Ambulance had been extended.

B. Housing

Commissioner Cohen reported on a problem with a senior housing in Redondo Beach.

Chairperson K. Davis reported on a program that places college students in homes with seniors.

C. Health

Commissioner Miranda stated that open enrollment for Medicare begins on October 15 through December 7 and noted that Los Angeles County Medicare would be paying for fewer benefits this year.

In response to a question from Commissioner Virobik, Commissioner Miranda stated that if a person was having difficulties obtaining services through their Medicare plan, they should call the ombudsman in Sacramento.

Commissioner Virobik reported on a website: cahealthadvocates.org by California Health Advocates, which was designed to make Medicare understandable and accessible for consumers and professionals.

D. Transportation

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino reported that there was still construction at LAX, which was creating parking problems.

Commissioner Virobik reported on an article on senior programs by Uber and Lyft, which allowed seniors to book rides through a phone operator.

There was a discussion of the lack of background and fingerprint checks for Uber and Lyft car services. Commissioner Miranda stated that some medical plans provided transportation to health appointments.

There was a discussion on the variation in transit agencies for the age at which they consider someone to be a senior.

E. Community Programs

Senior Librarian Coates reported that there would be three free flu shots clinic this year: October 1 at the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library, October 15 at the Southeast Library and November 5 at the Henderson Library. Senior Recreation Supervisor Reed stated that there would be an additional flu shot clinic at the Ken Miller Recreational Center in October.

Commissioner G. Davis announced that South Bay Village would hold a town hall meeting on September 15, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at First Lutheran Church, moderated by Assembly member David Hadley. She added there would be speakers from Torrance Memorial Medical Center and Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center.

F. Focal Point Program

Commissioner Virobik reported the following statistics for the month of:

August 2016

Total number of documented calls: 36	Total number of callbacks: 31
Miscellaneous calls: 70	Total number of walk-ins: 44
Total number of calls received: 106	
Of the documented calls:	
25% were for transportation	64% were for housing
7.2% were for in home services	

Commissioner Virobik reported that Focal Point was training three new volunteers.

G. Elder Abuse/Fraud

There was a discussion of IRS scams and computer hacking.

Commissioner Virobik described a website called "Next Door" which had a list from the Police Department on current scams.

9. ORALS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

In response to a question from Commissioner Cohen, Senior Recreation Supervisor Reed stated that she would check on whether the addition of railings was a component of the renovation of the Armstrong Theater. She added that she would email the Commission with any information. Commissioner Cohen requested that an item be added to the next month's agenda regarding the railings.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Reed noted that the Annual Report would go before the Council at this evening's meeting.

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino requested an excused absence for the October meeting.

10. ADJOURNMENT

At 11:04 a.m., Commissioner Miranda moved to adjourn the meeting to the regular meeting on Tuesday, October 11, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizens Center. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kraemer and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

Approved as submitted October 10, 2016 s/ Rebecca Poirier, City Clerk

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Ellen Seaman
Recording Secretary

3

Commission on Aging
September 13, 2016