

July 14, 2009

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order on July 14, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizen Center.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Callen, Cardella, Craft*, Draper, Kraemer,
Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino
Absent: Commissioner Thomas
Staff: Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand
Commissioner Craft* (arrived at 9:49 a.m.)

FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Cardella led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INSPIRATIONAL

Commissioner Cardella provided the following inspiration:

Positive Thinking...

The birth of the belief that, "I am somebody!" So. "I can do something."

You are focused. Don't leave any stone unturned.

Former Commissioner Griffith provided the following inspiration:

"If you are all wrapped up in yourself, you are overdressed."

Kate Halverson

ACCEPT AND FILE AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Kraemer moved, Commissioner Callen seconded, to accept and file the affidavit of agenda posting for its meeting of July 14, 2009. The motion carried. (Absent Commissioners Thomas and Craft).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Commissioner Kraemer moved, Commissioner Draper seconded, to approve the minutes of the Commission on Aging meeting of June 9, 2009. The motion carried.

(Absent Commissioners Thomas and Craft)

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Phillip Ross, Senior Librarian, City of Torrance

Former Commissioner Irene Griffith

SENIOR CITIZENS CONCERNS

A. City Council

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino reported on a number of issues addressed by the City Council pertaining to purchase and redesign of buses, extending the moratorium on massage or acupuncture establishments, the formation of a Discover Torrance Project and the establishment of the 2010 Census Complete Count Ad Hoc Committee. She stated that the Ad Hoc Committee would meet for the first time on August 20, 2009, and would like to have a Commission on Aging member on the committee.

She also shared that a fee of \$360.25 will be assessed when a patient is taken to the hospital in an ambulance, whether or not there is a paramedic present, and that the fee will be used to train additional paramedics for staffing all fire engines on a 24 hour basis.

B. Housing

Commissioner Kraemer reported that there was an article in the Daily Breeze about the benefits and dangers of reverse mortgages.

C. Health

Former Commissioner Griffith stated that the Los Angeles Dental Society will host a Dental and Vision Clinic in the Los Angeles Forum from August 11 through August 18, 2009.

D. Transportation

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino stated that the city buses are being redesigned and provided an example of the redesign. She also stated that the Transit Strategic Plan Committee had submitted subgoals for the Strategic Plan for bus transportation.

E. Cable

Commissioner Callen announced that Torrance CitiCABLE is on currently on hiatus and is showing requested encore presentations on various health issues: osteoporosis, Alzheimer's, diabetes, and health fairs.

F. Focal Point Program

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

June 2009

Total number of documented calls: 53	Total number of callbacks: 39
Miscellaneous calls: 84	Total number of walk-ins: 12
Total number of calls received: 137	
Of the documented calls:	
47.2% were in regard to Housing	17.0% were for transportation
23.0% were for In-Home Services	

Commissioner Cardella also reported that Focal Point gave a presentation to the PEERS group in Torrance and that the 2009-2010 edition of the Service Directory has been printed, is being distributed in the community, is available online at: <http://www.tornet.com/parks/6619.htm> and is at the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library.

Commissioner Cardella reported that the Focal Point Annual Report was received from Bea Virobik, the Office Manager of Focal Point on Aging.

G. Elder Abuse/Fraud

Former Commissioner Griffith reported on a problem in which retirement communities no longer have the funds to provide coverage for the people who had invested in the communities' lifetime care plans.

ORALS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Callen stated that he would like to have the city publicize that the Bartlett Center is a designated cooling station.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that the bid for the air conditioning for the Bartlett Center had been turned down due to an error in the bid process and the bid process has to be redone, but that there is no current problem with the air conditioning.

Commissioner Callen thanked Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand for providing current information on obtaining dog licenses in Torrance.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that seniors over 62 years of age whose annual household income does not exceed \$27,075 are eligible to receive a free dog license once the application is completed and proper financial documentation is provided.

Commissioner Kraemer announced that "Rock around the Block", a fifties' theme event, would be held on Thursday, July 16, in front of the Torrance Historical Society Museum.

Senior Librarian Ross stated the El Retiro Library refurbishment is completed and that an open house will be held at the library on July 23. He also noted that the next library to close for refurbishment is the Henderson Library. He announced that there will be a paperback book sale at the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library on Saturday, July 18.

Senior Supervisor Wand announced that the 2010 Census Complete Count Ad Hoc Committee would like to have seniors represented on the committee. She also stated that all of the Torrance Traveler's trips have been filled and that there are waiting lists.

Senior Supervisor Wand announced that the Commission of Aging Annual report is due soon and asked Commissioner Craft to add his modifications to last year's report.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino announced that the City Council had approved a contract with Main Street Tours for \$129,600 for Seniors Tour Excursions for both cultural and recreation services and that the CERT Program received \$10,000 donation from Exxon Mobil.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino announced that the Disaster Council's plan for seniors is almost completed and asked that the Commission on Aging see the report before it is released. She also stated that the Disaster Council will be contacting the City Manager to get 3 defibrillators with training, to be used at the Ken Miller Recreation Center and at the Tillim and Walteria Park Senior Centers.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino stated that the Torrance Police Department has trained 25 CERT team members to assist in traffic control for the upcoming street fair on August 30, 2009, sponsored by RSVP, in Downtown Torrance from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino stated that funding of \$25,000 annually for 4 years has been approved for the Torrance Centennial Committee and applications for the committee are due by August 4, 2009. She said that the committee will meet the 4th Monday of every month and the first meeting will be September 28, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino noted that the City of Torrance has a new domain name and email address: TorranceCA.gov

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m. to the next regular meeting on Tuesday, August 11, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizens Center.

Approved as Submitted August 11, 2009 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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