

**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 May 13, 2008 by Chairman Craft at 9:35 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Breaker, Callen, Cardella, Griffith, Thomas and Chairman Craft

Excused Absent: Thomas

Staff: Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand

3. FLAG SALUTE AND INSPIRATIONAL

Commissioner Cardella led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Commissioner Griffith provided the following inspiration:

“The world is so empty if one thinks only of mountains, rivers, and cities; but to know someone who thinks and feels with us and who, though distant, is close to us in spirit, this makes the earth for us an inhabited garden.”

Goethe

4. ACCEPT AND FILE AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Callen moved, Commissioner Griffith seconded, to accept and file the Affidavit of Agenda Posting for its meeting of June 10, 2008. The motion carried unanimously.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Griffith requested that Item 7D be amended to read: “Commissioner Griffith shared that she recently looked into using the Mass Transit System to Sunset Kaiser Hospital and it was not an easy route.”

MOTION: Commissioner Griffith moved, Commissioner Callen seconded, to approve the minutes of the Commission on Aging meeting of May 13, 2008, as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

- Vicky Hershberger, Torrance Memorial
- Phillip Ross, Torrance Public Library

7. SENIOR CITIZENS CONCERNS

A. City Council

Commissioner Griffith updated the Commission on recent City Council meetings. She indicated that the issue regarding the use of jet fuel will soon be addressed. She announced that Mayor Scotto's "State of the City" address is currently airing on CitiCABLE Channel 3. Commissioner Griffith also referenced the June 3rd election, noting that Susan Rhilinger, Gene Barnett, Pat Furey and Cliff Numark were elected. She announced that Little Company of Mary will soon be building medical offices at the site formerly occupied by the Daily Breeze and also discussed earthquake safety measures for hospitals.

B. Housing

Commissioner Griffith reported on "lease to own" condominiums on Cabrillo Avenue. Shared and affordable housing issues were discussed.

C. Health

Commissioner Griffith reported on a recent article which appeared in the Los Angeles Times in regard to fall prevention for seniors. She also discussed medical transportation which is not reimbursable through Medicare. She recounted a recent experience in which the vehicle transporting she and her husband, Owen, from a medical appointment broke down on the freeway.

D. Transportation

No report.

E. Cable

Commissioner Callen reported on a currently airing segment highlighting the Special Olympics Area Track Meet held recently at West High School. Upcoming will be a segment featuring the 2008 Salvation Army Volunteer Recognition Luncheon. He also announced his new segment, "Canine Corner", which will feature a different dog available for adoption each week. The cost of prescription medicines was discussed.

F. Focal Point Program

Commissioner Cardella reported the following Focal Point statistics for the months of May:

- Total number of calls received -- 99
- Total number of documented calls -- 37
(Note: 30 follow up phone calls were made to clients)
- Miscellaneous calls -- 62
- Total number of walk-ins -- 18

Of the 37 documented calls,

- 43.2% were in regard to Housing
- 32.4% were for In-Home Services, and
- 16.2 % were questions about Legal issues.

The June Focal Point Volunteer Meeting will feature a presentation, "Managing Sleep Disturbances in the Older Individual", by the Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center. The presentation is scheduled for Friday, June 20, 2008, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m., at the Bartlett Center. The meeting is open to the public.

G. Elder Abuse/Fraud

Commissioner Griffith reported that the L.A. Area Agency on Aging is urging citizens to communicate with their legislators about the importance of providing funding to protect vulnerable seniors.

8. ORALS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vicky Hershberger announced upcoming educational programs sponsored by Torrance Memorial Medical Center's Advantage Program. She also distributed copies of the current "For Your Advantage" newsletter.

Senior Librarian Phillip Ross discussed the status of the Torrance Public Library's Baby Boomer grant. He also distributed copies of the Library's June calendar of events.

Mrs. Wand announced that the Commission will be electing a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson at the July meeting.

Commissioner Griffith thanked the Commission for selecting her as an Older Americans Award recipient, indicating that she truly enjoyed the LA County sponsored luncheon event.

Commissioner Craft read a thank you note from Helen Dennis, an Older Americans Award recipient. He also announced a major Rotarian Convention to be held in downtown Los Angeles.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m. to Tuesday, July 8, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. at the Bartlett Center, Hosler Conference Room.

Approved as Submitted August 12, 2008 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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