



Commission on Aging

The Commission on Aging meets on the second Tuesday of each month, 9:30 a.m. at the Bartlett Senior Citizens Center. All meetings are open to the public.

Those who wish to speak on any matter on the agenda are requested to complete a "Speaker Information Card" (available at the meeting) and give it to the Staff Liaison to ensure correct spelling on names in the minutes. Direct any questions or concerns to the Commission on Aging Liaison, Debbie Reed, at 310/618-2949.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Liaison's Office at 310/618-2947. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. [28 CFR 35.102-104 ADA Title II]

Agendas and Minutes are posted on the City of Torrance Home Page www.TorranceCA.Gov. Please direct any questions or concerns to the Community Services Director John Jones at 310/618-2939.

HOURS OF OPERATION

- **Bartlett Senior Citizens Center** -
Monday through Saturday from
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and
Sundays: 12:30 – 4:00 p.m.

- **City Hall** -
3031 Torrance Boulevard
Monday through Friday
From 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Offices are closed alternate Fridays
and certain holidays.

City Hall will be closed Fridays:
August 2, 16, and 30, 2019

COMMISSION ON AGING REGULAR MEETING

BARTLETT SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER
HOSLER CONFERENCE ROOM
1318 CRAVENS AVENUE, TORRANCE

TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2019
9:30 A.M.

AGENDA

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL/MOTIONS FOR EXCUSED ABSENCE**
3. **FLAG SALUTE AND INSPIRATIONAL**
4. **MOTION TO ACCEPT AND FILE THE REPORT OF THE CITY CLERK ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA**
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – July 9, 2019.
6. **PRESENTATION:** Mail Fraud Prevention; Glenn Morimoto, Federal Law Enforcement Agent with the U.S. Postal Service.
7. **DISCUSSION:** Approval of 2018-2019 Annual Report
8. **ORAL REPORTS ON SENIOR CITIZENS CONCERNS**
 - A. **City Council Activities**
 - B. **Housing**
 - C. **Health**
 - D. **Transportation**
 - E. **Community Programs**
 - F. **Focal Point Program**
 - G. **Elder Abuse/Fraud**

9. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

This portion of the meeting is reserved for comment on items not on the agenda. Under the Ralph M. Brown Act, City Council cannot act on items raised during public comment, but may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed; request clarification; or refer the item to staff. Speakers under Orals may speak only once and no longer than 3 minutes per speaker.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

To a regular Meeting on Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. at the Bartlett Senior Citizens Center, Hosler Conference Room.

Creating and Enriching Community through People, Programs, and Partnerships

ROLL CALL: G. Davis _____ K. Davis _____ Dojiri _____ Grundhaus _____ Hileman _____
Mayfield _____ Virobik _____

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order on July 9, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizens Center.

2. ROLL CALL/MOTIONS FOR EXCUSED ABSENCE

Present: Commissioners G. Davis, Grundhaus, *Hileman, Mayfield, Virobik and Chairperson K. Davis

Absent: Commissioner Dojiri

Staff: Senior Recreation Supervisor Reed

*Commissioner Hileman arrived at 9:33 a.m.

MOTION: Commissioner Mayfield moved to approve the excused absence of Commissioner Dojiri; motion was seconded by Commissioner G. Davis. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote. (Absent Commissioners Dojiri and *Hileman)

3. FLAG SALUTE AND INSPIRATIONAL

Recording Secretary Seaman led the Pledge of Allegiance and Irene Griffith provided the inspirations.

4. MOTION TO ACCEPT AND FILE THE REPORT OF THE CITY CLERK ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner G. Davis moved and Commissioner Virobik seconded, to accept and file the Affidavit of Agenda Posting for its meeting of July 9, 2019. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote. (Absent Commissioner Dojiri)

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 14, 2019

MOTION: Commissioner Virobik moved and Commissioner G. Davis seconded, to approve the minutes of the Commission on Aging meeting of May 14, 2019, as submitted. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote. (Absent Commissioner Dojiri)

6. DISCUSSION: Porch pirates and mail fraud; Josh Burden, Detective Torrance Police Department

Considered out of order

7. OLDER AMERICANS AWARDS: Debrief of the Los Angeles County Older American Awards

Chairperson K. Davis stated that she had received the proclamation from the County and noted that Commissioners G. Davis, Grundhaus and Mayfield had attended the ceremony. Commissioner Mayfield stated that the musical group which had entertained at the ceremony was called "Dementia" and consisted of people in various phases of dementia.

There was a discussion of music therapy.

The Commission explained the process of the City and County Older American awards to newly installed Commissioner Hileman.

8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairperson K. Davis stated that it had been a privilege to serve as Chair for six years.

Commissioner G. Davis nominated Commissioner Grundhaus as Chair. Commissioner Grundhaus accepted the nomination.

MOTION: Commissioner G. Davis moved and Commissioner Virobik seconded, to approve Commissioner Grundhaus as Chairperson. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote. (Absent Commissioner Dojiri)

Commissioner Virobik nominated Commissioner Mayfield as Vice Chair. Commissioner Mayfield accepted the nomination.

MOTION: Commissioner Virobik moved and Commissioner G. Davis seconded, to approve Commissioner Mayfield as Vice Chair. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote. (Absent Commissioner Dojiri)

9. ORAL REPORTS ON SENIOR CITIZENS CONCERNS

A. City Council Activities

There was a discussion of the ongoing disruptions at City Council meetings.

Chairperson K. Davis stated that the Commission, at any time, could discuss changing the assignments for Senior Citizens Concerns. It was decided to discuss the assignments at the next meeting.

B. Housing

Commissioner Grundhaus reported that she had attended a meeting for the development at Via del Monte, which was not well attended. There was a discussion on the lack of affordable housing, especially for seniors.

There was a discussion of the problems of homeless. Commissioner Virobik reported that Focal Point on Aging was exploring shared housing opportunities.

Commissioner Grundhaus reported on her experience to date, as a member of the Strategic Plan Committee.

C. Health

Commissioner Virobik reported on an article in the Los Angeles Times on nursing home abuses and added that it was important to research qualified nursing homes using Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS') Nursing Home Compare site and other online rankings.

Chairperson K. Davis and Commissioner Virobik discussed veteran benefits.

In response to a question from Commissioner Hileman, Commissioner G. Davis explained the mission of South Bay Village. She noted that there were currently 64 volunteers and 60 members.

D. Transportation

There was a discussion of some Commissioners attending the meetings on proposed changes to the Transit system.

E. Community Programs

Chairperson K. Davis announced the Torrance Woman's Club would be presenting a senior prom on October 19, tickets would cost \$35 per person and all proceeds would go to South Bay Village.

6. DISCUSSION: Porch pirates and mail fraud; Josh Burden, Detective Torrance Police Department (Considered out of order)

Detective Burden stated that he worked financial crimes for the Department. He explained that the problem of porch pirates was not confined to any one area, City or criminal group and noted that the thieves were developing more sophisticated ways to identify the value of the packages. He stated that it was often difficult for the Department to follow up on the crimes or locate the criminals, unless a witness was able to obtain a license plate number, as the thieves were skilled at avoiding cameras. He explained that the Department did not work directly with apps like Nextdoor or Ring doorbell, but often were able to obtain video footage directly from residents. He added that images obtained from Ring doorbells was not clear enough to identify vehicles or for use with facial recognition software.

Detective Burden stated that he had personally only arrested one porch pirate, who had had stolen packages visible in his car. He listed the following as possible solutions:

- Include specific delivery placement information on orders to have carrier place package in area that was not in plain view
- Use other addresses, such as office locations for delivery or Amazon lockers, located at 7-11 stores, or Fed-Ex offices

Detective Burden discussed scams that have affected senior citizens and noted that these were topics that were discussed in the "Seniors, Don't Be Scammed" seminars. He listed some ways to avoid mail and credit fraud:

- Do not deposit mail in any of the blue Postal boxes on street corners or in front of the Post Office. Deposit all mail inside the post office.
- Have a locked mail box at home or delivery directly into a mail slot into the house.
- Use only credit cards, instead of debit cards to insure coverage in the case of fraud
- Secure the wi-fi network on your home computer
- Create credit freezes on yours and your children's accounts
- Only donate to Police and Fire Departments through their approved non-profit partners or at Department sponsored events, not on the phone, through email or solicitors on the street
- He stated that one in four persons have been victims of identity theft
- He explained that hotels did not add credit card information to their key cards, but thieves did use blank cards with magnetic strips to recode and create fraudulent credit cards

There was a discussion on the best way to educate citizens to use window signs to indicate, after a disaster, whether help was needed. Detective Burden announced that the National Night Out would be August 6, 2019 and noted that neighborhood watch meetings could be used to distribute the information for the disaster signs.

F. Focal Point Program (considered out of order)

Commissioner Virobik reported the following statistics for the month of:

May 2019

Total number of documented calls: 49	Total number of callbacks: 17
Miscellaneous calls: 48	Total number of walk-ins: 32
Total number of calls received: 97	Web Inquiries: 32

Of the documented calls:

53% were for housing	14.3% were for in home services
20.4% were for transportation	

June 2019

Total number of documented calls: 52	Total number of callbacks: 15
Miscellaneous calls: 64	Total number of walk-ins: 26
Total number of calls received: 116	Web Inquiries: 77

Of the documented calls:

47% were for housing	6% were for in home services
14% were for transportation	

Commissioner Virobik reported that total calls for fiscal year 2018-2019 were 1154 and 1124 persons referred to the Focal Point website.

G. Elder Abuse/Fraud

Commissioner Virobik discussed a scam involving genetic testing.

10. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson K. Davis announced that the Annual Report was complete and Senior Recreation Supervisor Reed would send the report to all Commissioners.

Chairperson K. Davis congratulated Commissioner Grundhaus on becoming Chair.

11. ADJOURNMENT

At 11:40 a.m., Commissioner Mayfield moved to adjourn the meeting to the regular meeting on Tuesday, August 13, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. at the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizens Center. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hileman and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval. (Absent Commissioner Dojiri)

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Torrance Commission on Aging 2018 - 2019 Annual Report

Purpose of the Commission

The Commission on Aging is comprised of seven residents of Torrance who act to identify situations and problems affecting the senior population, and to serve as a liaison to the City Council.

The Commission on Aging meets the second Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. (except June and December). The meetings are held at the Bartlett Senior Citizens Center and are open to the public. Torrance residents are encouraged to attend the meetings to address to the Commission on Aging matters of concern about the senior community.

Membership of the Commission on Aging

The following Commission members currently serve the Torrance Commission on Aging:

MEMBER	STATUS	APPOINTED or REAPPOINTED
Ghislaine Davis	General Representative	2018
Kathleen Davis, Chair	General Representative	2016
Julie Dojiri, Vice Chair	General Representative	2017
Kay Grundhaus	General Representative	2017
Dale Korman	General Representative	2018
Rosie Mayfield	General Representative	2017
Bea Virobik	General Representative	2016

Highlights 2018 - 2019

At the September 11, 2018 Commission on Aging meeting, PATH (People Helping the Homeless) representatives Brigid Kelly, Public Policy Manager; Haley Fuselier, Director of Homeless Services in West Los Angeles Region, South County and Service Planning Area 7 and Courtney Reed, Associate Director of Outreach and Housing Teams in the South Bay presented a report about the mission of PATH and outreach services provided to seniors. This meeting was well attended and a discussion followed.

At the February 19, 2019 Commission on Aging meeting, Deputy Community Development Director Linda Cessna conducted a Strategic Plan Renewal Focus Group session. Commissioner Kay Grundhaus volunteered to be the Commission on Aging representative for participation in the Community Development Department's Strategic Planning Committee.

At the March 12, 2019 Commission on Aging meeting, Viet Hoang Assistant to the City Manager gave an overview about the jurisdiction of the Commission's four populations

assigned to the Social Services Commission: Veterans, Homelessness, Adults with Developmental Disabilities, and Special Needs Youth.

Commissioner K. Grundhaus served as a committee member for the April 4, 2019 Youth Council' Beat the Odds scholarship program and attended the May 2, 2019 21st Annual Youth Achievement Awards Ceremony hosted by the Torrance Youth Council. Commissioner Rosie Mayfield participated in the June 6 & 7, 2019 Torrance Youth Council 2019-2020 Committee selection. These programs were held at THE ATTIC Teen Center.

Effective June 2019, Commissioner D. Korman resigned her position for personal reasons. She received well wishes by the Commission on Aging Commissioners for her many contributions.

At the June 11, 2019 City Council meeting, Mary Hileman was appointed to the City of Torrance Commission on Aging.

Community Programs

The February 28, 2019, *South Bay Cities Council of Governments 20th Annual General Assembly* was held at the City of Carson Community Center and it focused on “*Celebrating the Past - Shaping the Future.*” Commissioners B. Virobik, G. Davis, R. Mayfield, J. Dojiri, and K. Grundhaus were in attendance.

The *5-0 And On The Go* registration is held quarterly for the Seniors *Torrance Travelers Excursion Program* at the Ken Miller Recreation Center. The *10th Annual Senior Prom*, theme “*Springtime in Paris*” was held April 11, 2019. These events were sponsored by the Community Services Department, Recreation Services Division.

The *20th Annual Senior Faire* sponsored by the Community Services Department was held at the Ken Miller Recreation Center on May 11, 2019. Commissioners Bea Virobik and G. Davis attended the May 11, 2019 *Successful Aging Expo* sponsored by the Daily Breeze. These large-scale events drew more than 4,000 people collectively.

At the May 14, 2019 City Council meeting, Mayor Patrick Furey and members of City Council declared May 2019 as Older American Month in the City of Torrance. The following seniors were honored, Fayze Fandey, Sharon Saffer, Patty Black, Carolyn Snyder, Mimi (Miriam) Brody, Keith Montoya, and Bill Arrowsmith, for their volunteer efforts in the City of Torrance. This year's theme was “Connect, Create, Contribute.”

Commissioner B. Virobik and Commissioner G. Davis attended the *South Bay Cities Council of Governments Senior Services Working Group Meetings* scheduled every other month. The Senior Services Working Group is a collaborative effort of bringing together the various service providers to address issues that impact the quality of life for older adults in the South Bay.

Commission on Aging Commissioners, K. Grundhaus, R. Mayfield, G. Davis, J. Dojiri and K. Davis attended the *60th Annual Armed Forces Day Celebration and Parade* on May 18, 2019 hosted by the City of Torrance.

Commissioners R. Mayfield, K. Grundhaus and G. Davis represented the Commission on Aging at the *54th Annual Older Americans Recognition Day Awards Program* for Los Angeles County, representing the City of Torrance honoree Fayze Fandey. The event was held at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion Music Center on May 23, 2019.

Housing

Ongoing senior housing issues are discussed at our monthly meetings. At the May 14, 2019 Commission on Aging meeting, Karen Pryor of Priority Lending addressed the topic of reverse mortgages.

Elder Abuse/Fraud

Scams that target senior identity and financial fraud are topics discussed at the Commission on Aging meetings. Commissioner R. Mayfield attends the quarterly City of Torrance Police Department's *Seniors Don't Be Scammed* programs held at the Katie Geissert Library.

Safety and Emergency Planning

At the October 9, 2018 Commission on Aging meeting, Fire Prevention Specialist Christopher Rhodes gave an informative presentation about the importance of home safety fire prevention procedures. He included in his report how the Community Emergency Response Team (CERTS) is planning to work with the newly developed Business Emergency Response Training (BERT).

At the November 13, 2018 Commission on Aging meeting, Fire Department Emergency Services Manager Jeffery Snoddy, who is also a veteran, reported that he will be coordinating with CAL-Vets for Torrance veterans and information for homeless and seniors.

Commissioner K. Endo-Roberts, Liaison from the Commission on Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation attended a Commission on Aging meetings to report on and give updates about solar panels for seniors.

Focal Point on Aging

Commissioner B. Virobik oversees the *Focal Point on Aging Program* for the City of Torrance and surrounding communities. At each Commission meeting, Commissioner Virobik presents statistic results for senior referral outreach telephone calls, follow-up, and office walk-ins.

This year, Focal Point information coordinated by the Torrance Fire Department and the Library about fall prevention services for seniors was added to the referral literature. *Focal Point* volunteers received 1,154 calls for assistance for a myriad of issues. The volunteer staff meets monthly to address problem solving and they host various speakers throughout the year. Additionally, *Focal Point* volunteers participate in community Health and Resource Fairs. The 22nd edition of the *Senior Services Directory* was distributed to each City department and is available on the City of Torrance website and is continually updated.

Transportation

At the July 10, 2018 Commission on Aging meeting, Transit Analyst Mach, Transit Staff Assistant Tang, and Transit Intern Liu presented an overview about the new Transit Center, Transit Access Pass (TAP) cards, the Senior Ambassador Program, and the app for the schedule arrival times.

At the September 11, 2018 Commission on Aging meeting, Transit Manager James Lee introduced Transit Analyst Mark McDougal who reported that various operational analysis workshop meetings will be scheduled to involve public input and update to the Senior Taxi service.

Health

The City of Torrance and the Los Angeles Department of Public Health Services hosted a free *Flu Vaccination Clinic* on Wednesday, May 6, 2019, at the Ken Miller Recreation Center. Seventy-two participants received a free flu vaccination.

Commissioner G. Davis participated in the *Mental Health First Aid Training* held at the Katy Geissert Library. The training was sponsored by the Community Services Department.

Former Commissioner Irene Griffith, a member of the *LA County Commission on Aging (LACCOA)*, attends our meetings and keeps us informed about the services, programs, and challenges in LA County.

Librarian Theresa Babiar attends the Commission on Aging meetings, and gives updates about the City of Torrance Library programs and activities for seniors.

Conclusion

The Commission is indebted to the City Council and the City staff for their support and assistance in helping the Commission on Aging members to be available to senior citizens in our community. We are especially grateful to Staff Liaison Debbie Reed for her guidance and support, and to Ellen Seaman, Commission Recording Secretary.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Davis
2018-2019 Chairperson
Torrance Commission on Aging

Attachment: A) Focal Point on Aging Annual Report

ATTACHMENT A

Focal Point Annual Report June 30, 2018 - June 30, 2019

Submitted by: Bea Virobik, Office Manager, *Focal Point on Aging*
Russ Nolte Annex of the Bartlett Senior Center
1339 Post Avenue
Torrance, CA 90501

For the past 22 years, the *Torrance Focal Point volunteer* staff have assisted seniors with information and provided referrals to community resources. Homelessness has increased by 13% in LA County. In our Spa 8, the homelessness has been caused by the increase in rents up to 30%. Seniors on fixed incomes cannot afford the increases and this has resulted in homelessness. Our referrals are to S.H.A.R.E. that offers collaborative housing as well as ALA (Affordable Living for the Aging). If collaborative housing is not an option referrals are given to PATH.

- 468 calls with documentation
- 686 miscellaneous calls without documentation
- 247 or 53 % of documented calls for affordable senior rental housing
- 1,154 total calls for the year

Past year accomplishments/Community outreach:

- . 22nd edition of the Community Focal Point on Aging Service Directory was distributed to community providers.
- . 1,124 persons referred to our website for information
- . Focal Point services are published in several resources directories and newspapers in Los Angeles County.
- . Care Managers and Social Workers at three major hospitals use the directory as a referral resource.
- . Participation in seven community events, as well as the Torrance Police lecture series "Seniors Don't Be Scammed" four times a year.
- . The directory can be accessed through the City of Torrance website: <http://torranceca.gov/focalpoint>
- . Monthly volunteer staff meeting with guest speakers

Goal for 2019-2020: Continue to provide quality services to our seniors and pursue affordable rental and shared housing options.