

April 9, 2013

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TORRANCE COMMISSION ON AGING

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order on April 9, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizen Center.

ROLL CALL/MOTIONS FOR EXCUSED ABSENCE

Present: Commissioners Craft, G. Davis, Kraemer, Robelotto, Virobik, and Chairperson K. Davis

Absent: Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino

Staff: Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand

MOTION: Commissioner Kraemer moved to approve the excused absence of Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino; motion was seconded by Commissioner G. Davis. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote. (Absent Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino)

FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Robelotto led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INSPIRATIONAL

Commissioner Robelotto provided the following inspiration:

You only fail when you give up.

Commissioner Virobik provided the following inspiration:

Never giving up and pushing forward will unlock all the potential we are capable of.

Christy Borgeld

Former Commissioner Griffith provided the following inspirations by Mother Teresa:

Being unwanted, unloved, uncared for, forgotten by everybody, I think is a much greater hunger, a much greater poverty than the person who has nothing to eat.

Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier.

Let us always meet each other with a smile, for the smile is the beginning of love.

ACCEPT AND FILE AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Craft moved and Commissioner G. Davis seconded, to accept and file the Affidavit of Agenda Posting for its meeting of April 9, 2013. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote. (Absent Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that she had received a request from Senior Business Manager Minter to change page 2, under Introduction to the Home Improvement Program, first paragraph, second line to read, "was now part of the *Community Services*".

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand added that Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino had emailed a request to change page 5, under Orals/Announcements, 7th paragraph to read, "would be attending the Government Affairs meeting at the Chamber of Commerce..".

MOTION: Commissioner Robelotto moved and Commissioner G. Davis seconded, to approve the minutes of the Commission on Aging meeting of March 12, 2013, as amended. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote. (Absent Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino)

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Gail Standley, Civic Affairs Chairperson for New Horizons

Patrice Deleget, Senior Librarian from Walteria Library

Former Commissioner Griffith, LACCOA

SENIOR CITIZENS CONCERNS

A. City Council Activities

Commissioner Kraemer reported that the City had obtained an eight year lease from the County for property located near the Courthouse and planned to use the property for sports' fields.

Commissioner Kraemer noted that there were three budget workshops scheduled for May 14 and May 21, with a possibility of May 28, if an additional meeting was needed. She noted that the meeting would be before the regular Council meetings.

Commissioner Kraemer stated that the City had 690 units of Section 8 housing with 19,000 people on the waiting list.

Commissioner Kraemer reported that the City was moving forward with the design and construction of the Transit Center.

Commissioner Kraemer explained that the City was considering adopting the Cars2Go rental program and noted that other cities had already begun using the program. There was a discussion of the impact of the program.

Commissioner Kraemer announced that there would be a meeting on April 9 at 5:00 p.m. of the Government Finance and Operations Committee meeting to review the third quarter budget.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand noted that the May 14 budget meeting would most likely be the meeting that would allow time for public comment. She added that the participants in the Torrance Travelers Program would be notified of the May 14 budget meeting.

B. Housing

Commissioner Robelotto described an article about HUD's Assisted Living Conversion Program which provided \$30 million a year for eligible projects to create low cost assisted living housing for seniors and for services for those aging in place. She noted that the article was from Senior Housing News.

Chairperson K. Davis reported on an article on the Village concept for a community network to allow people to remain in their homes and receive services.

C. Health

Commissioner Virobik reported on an article about the Cal MediConnect program, a new managed care program. She noted that 500,000 seniors who now receive both Medical and Medicare, will begin to move into the program in the fall.

Former Commissioner Griffith announced that Tony Kuo, M.D., was the Director of the Office of Senior Health in the County of Los Angeles and was assisted by

Heather Reedhead, M.D. She noted that Dr. Kuo's focus was on obesity, Alzheimer's and pneumonia and that he emphasized that Alzheimer's was now a leading cause of death.

Former Commissioner Griffith added that the County was now requesting proposals for a federally funded program that would provide door-to door service for doctor visits.

There was a discussion of medical education classes and other resources available for health and medical information.

Commission G. Davis discussed an article detailing problems with defibrillators, noting that there were 45,000 complaints of non working units. She noted that the units were not regulated and often not tested regularly.

Commissioner Robelotto discussed an article that linked social isolation to early death. There was a discussion of existing programs that might help those that were isolated and possible potential programs to consider.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that there were existing programs that did help with some of those that were isolated: such as the Fire Department with their work with hoarders, Focal Point, Home Improvement Program, but that there was no centralized clearing house to coordinate a list of all those who might need help.

It was decided to add an agenda item for a future meeting for potential programs for senior outreach programs.

Commission G. Davis reported on an article on the high Medicare costs of motorized scooters.

Chairperson K. Davis presented information on glaucoma.

D. Transportation

There was a discussion on the number of bus riders.

E. Community Programs

Commissioner Virobik announced that the Senior Fair would be on Mother's Day weekend.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand noted that the Aging Expo at the Marriot was on the same weekend, but added, that she and the administrator of the Expo, Julie Corlette of the Daily Breeze had agreed to help cross promote both events.

Chairperson K. Davis announced that the City was looking for volunteers to conduct interviews for the Youth Council's "Beat the Odds" Program and stated that she would send the information to the Commission.

Chairperson K. Davis announced the Attic was holding a Crafts and Rummage Sale on April 27 and booths were available to rent.

Commission G. Davis stated that the Senior Prom would be held at the Ken Miller Center on April 12 at 12:30 p.m. and that the Youth Council was assisting with the program

Commissioner Kraemer reported that the USO was asking for donations to support the Armed Forces Day parade and donations could be delivered to the offices of the Daily Breeze. She added that the City's refuse bill also included a request for donations for the parade.

Chairperson K. Davis noted that the Women's Club also donated to the USO.

There was a discussion of the difficulty in obtaining donations for events.

Chairperson K. Davis noted that the USS Iowa in San Pedro was a worthwhile and powerful experience.

Senior Librarian Deleget announced that the game of Reminiscing would be played on Saturday, April 20 at the Walteria Library at 10:00 a.m. and there would be a talk by Mike George on the history of the Torrance Public Library on April 13 at 2:00 p.m. at the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library.

F. Focal Point Program

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

February 2013

Total number of documented calls: 30	Total number of callbacks: 15
Miscellaneous calls: 45	Total number of walk-ins: 10
Total number of calls received: 75	

Of the documented calls:

20 % were for transportation	30% were for housing
17% were for in home services	

Commissioner Virobik reported that the volunteers had updated the service directory and reported that Torrance Memorial Medical Center would print the directory.

There was a discussion on how to keep the volunteers busy now that the wider distribution of information and the directory had reduced the number of phone calls to Focal Point.

Commissioner Virobik stated that she would give a directory and information on Focal Point to Gail Standley, Civic Affairs Chairperson for New Horizons and noted that Focal Point could do a presentation at New Horizons.

G. Elder Abuse/Fraud

There was a discussion on the importance of both spouses being familiar and informed on family finances and procedures, so either one could take over, if necessary.

Former Commissioner Griffith discussed articles from the H.E.L.P. newsletter and stated that there was financial information available from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau at 855-411-2372.

Chairperson K. Davis stated that she would stop at the H.E.L.P office each month and bring relevant information to future meetings.

Commissioner Craft recommended that the Commissioners request free credit scores from credit services at intervals throughout the year to check for changes to their credit information.

Commissioner Virobik reported that the Federal Trade Commission had taken action against a telemarketing company which was targeting seniors and using deceptive methods to induce consumers to pay for medical alert systems that they neither ordered nor wanted.

OLDER AMERICANS RECOGNITION

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that selection letters had been sent to all recipients and noted that the City ceremony was on May 14 and the County recognition ceremony was on May 29. She congratulated Commissioner Kraemer on her nomination.

ORALS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson K. Davis announced that the Women's Club had sold out their April 13 Fashion Show. She noted that the clothes in the show were from Planet Chic and that the proceeds from the show would be used for local scholarships.

Chairperson K. Davis announced there would be a lecture at Torrance Memorial Medical Center entitled, "Food is Medicine" on April 16.

There was a discussion of the New Horizons complex. Gail Standley, Civic Affairs Chairperson for New Horizons stated that there was no current outreach program in the complex for those that were shut-in or isolated.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand announced that 2 of the 3 Torrance Travelers tours had sold through, but that the Princess Diana tour had not sold enough tickets and would probably be cancelled.

Chairperson K. Davis noted that she would not be at the May meeting.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that she would add the Annual Report to the agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 p.m. to the regular meeting on Tuesday, May 14, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizens Center.

Approved as Amended May 14, 2013 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
