

MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION ON AGING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2009

BARTLETT SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Craft at 9:30 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Callen, Cardella, Draper, Kimmel-Dagostino, Kraemer, Thomas, Craft

Staff: Wand

3. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INSPIRATIONAL

Commissioner Cardella volunteered to provide the inspiration for future meetings.

4. ACCEPT AND FILE AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Callen moved, Commissioner Thomas seconded, to accept and file the Affidavit of Agenda Posting for its meeting of February 10, 2009. The motion carried unanimously.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Commissioner Cardella moved, Commissioner Thomas seconded, to approve the minutes of the Commission on Aging meeting of January 13, 2009 as read. The motion carried unanimously.

6. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

- Vickie Hershberger, Torrance Memorial Medical Center
- Phil Ross, Torrance Public Library

7. SENIOR CITIZENS CONCERNS

A. City Council

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino reported that Torrance has been named the 23rd safest city in the U.S. for cities with a population of 100,000 or more. She announced an Air Force Band Concert scheduled for February 18, 2009 at the Armstrong Theatre. She also indicated that the contract for the three taxi companies (Senior Taxi Program) had recently been approved. The Ethics Committee was also discussed.

Commissioner Callen provided the new Commissioners some background on the activities of the Commission on Aging.

B. Housing

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino reported that the Mobile Home Rental Subsidy Program is scheduled to begin this month.

Commissioner Cardella reported that construction has ceased on the Sunrise Assisted Living facility on the corner of Hawthorne Boulevard and Rolling Hills Road.

Restrictions on Senior Housing developments were discussed.

C. Health

No report.

D. Transportation

Various transportation options available for seniors were discussed including the Senior Taxi Program, the van operated by Torrance Memorial Medical Center, and the Torrance Transit bus system.

E. Cable

Commissioner Callen discussed the show he hosts, *Senior Scene*, which can be viewed on CitiCABLE 3. He indicated that he is currently working on a "Portrait of a Senior" segment, which will highlight the life of Peter O'Brien. Commissioner Callen and Commissioner Craft provided some background on Public Access Television.

F. Focal Point Program

Commissioner Cardella reported on Focal Point Statistics for the months of December and January.

December:

- Total number of calls received – 93
- Total number of documented calls – 35
- Miscellaneous calls – 58
- Total number of walk-ins – 16
- Total number of call-backs – 19

Of the 35 documented calls,

- 37% were in regard to Housing
- 20% were in regard to In-Home Services
- 17% were questions about Legal issues

January:

- Total number of calls received – 93
- Total number of documented calls – 38
- Miscellaneous calls – 55
- Total number of walk-ins – 18
- Total number of call-backs – 32

Of the 38 documented calls,

- 53% were in regard to Housing
- 37% were in regard to In-Home Services
- 5.3% were questions about Legal issues

Commissioner Cardella also reported that a new volunteer has joined the Focal Point Program, replacing long-time volunteer Carl Caprio. She also indicated that earthquake preparedness was discussed at the January Focal Point meeting.

G. Elder Abuse/Fraud

Commissioner Cardella reported on a current scam wherein individuals are receiving letters pertaining to the reassessment of their homes and are being asked to send money to receive services to assist them in receiving money back.

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino discussed another scam wherein perpetrators prey on seniors and try to convince them to transfer money from their bank accounts.

Commissioner Kraemer indicated that scams most common to seniors were recently listed in the Daily Breeze.

Various other scams were discussed by Commissioner Craft and Commissioner Draper.

8. ORALS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino discussed Young Seniors memberships renewal. She also announced CERT Training scheduled for March 7, 14 and 21, 2009.

Guest Vickie Hershberger announced upcoming educational programs sponsored by the Torrance Memorial Medical Center. She distributed materials advertising various programs and events. Ms. Hershberger also discussed the benefits of being an "Advantage" member at Torrance Memorial; membership is free and is open to anyone 50 year of age or older.

Guest Phil Ross announced that a grand reopening of the main floor was recently held at the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library. He announced several other programs and services available through the Torrance Public Library.

Ms. Wand announced that the recently held Chinese New Year Celebration was a big success and commended Recreation Supervisor Cindy Snodgrass for her coordination of the event. Ms. Wand also reminded all about the luncheon for retired Commissioner Irene Griffith to be held immediately following today's meeting.

12. ADJOURNMENT TO NEXT MEETING

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m. to the next regular meeting of Tuesday, March 10, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. in the Holster Conference Room at Bartlett Senior Citizens Center.

Approved as Submitted March 10, 2009 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
