



Meeting Minutes

COMMITTEE ON AGING

Wednesday, July 19, 2017, 4:00 P.M.

Council Chambers, City Hall

10890 San Pablo Avenue

El Cerrito, CA 94530

This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible

ROLL CALL:

Members present: Margot Allen, Katherine Cesa, Shirley Cressey, Kenneth Epley, Jennifer Haller, Kimi Honda, Dr. Pansy Kwong, Steve Lipson, Kim Marlia, Nola Veganes Chavez

Members Absent: Janet James, Callie Major, Joanna Kim Selby

Members Excused: Karen Christian

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approve the minutes of June 21, 2017 meeting.

The minutes were amended with the following corrections: Jennifer Haller noted that September 22, 2017 is Fall Prevention Day in Item 5H. Katherine Cesa noted that the time of the meeting was listed on the agenda and minutes as 4 pm and should be 3 pm. Shirley Cressey moved and Jennifer Haller seconded the motion to approve the minutes as amended with Margo Allen and Kenneth Epley abstaining.

2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Eileen Jones introduced herself as an interested member of the public.

Carol Kehoe introduced herself as a candidate for membership of the Committee on Aging

3. COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISON ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: *Janet Bilbas and/or Mayor Abelson may report on matters of general interest to the El Cerrito Committee on Aging, Council policies, priorities and significant actions taken by the City Council.*

Mayor Abelson reported that the West Contra Costa Unified School District Board of Directors did not respond to the City Council's request to meet in open session and discuss the extension of the Open House Senior Center lease. The Senior Center will need to vacate its premises by June 30, 2018.

Council received a presentation on homelessness at its last Council meeting. It identified finding permanent homes for the homeless as the core problem.

There was discussion over the future of the library. One proposal suggests a library at Plaza BART with a library downstairs and housing upstairs. The funding issue will need to be returned to the taxpayers.

Janet Bilbas reported on the progress made on locating a new site for the OHSC. She visited St. John's on Portola Drive, which is a large space used as a dance studio but would need a lot of upgrading for our use. She called the El Cerrito Royale, which is open to having some classes at their site. Future site visits include: St. John's—currently is the site of an Adult School Program; the Veteran's Hall, which has a wood floor; Masonic Lodge on Stockton; and Eagles Hall on Carlson and Central.

3. NEW BUSINESS

a. Senior Center issues: Creation of Subcommittee to Address Open House Senior Center Lease Loss

It was decided that a signup sheet be circulated for those available to assist in the search for a new OHSC site. These would be members whom Janet Bilbas would be able to call on to, for e.g., attend a meeting, help evaluate a prospective site, or make phone calls.

b. Discuss Community Action for a Sustainable El Cerrito (Help El Cerrito Protect the Climate!) Dr. Pansy Kwong distributed a flyer from the Community Action for a Sustainable Alameda. It was decided that she contact Maria Sanders, Environmental Services Manager to discuss the next step in distributing this information.

4. REPORTS

(Reports by Members of the Committee. The Committee may discuss individual report topics and refer or schedule issues for future action. Each report is limited to a maximum of 5 minutes.)

- A. Housing Subcommittee:
Margot Allen reported that Hana Gardens has received over 700 inquiries and is not yet taking applications. She commented on other senior housing facilities such as Altheim Senior housing in Oakland. Janet Bilbas said that she will be attending the Belmont Village opening in Albany.
- B. Transportation Subcommittee: None
- C. Legislation (State & Federal): Dr. Pansy Kwong talked about SB562, the Healthy California Act.
- D. Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council: None
- E. West County Senior Coalition: Katherine Cesa reported that at the last West County Senior Coalition, Paul Krantz, director of Meals on Wheels talked about the prospect of loss of federal funding. The federal subsidy of Meals on Wheels is about 35%.
- F. Health Care Subcommittee: Dr. Pansy Kwong warned: 1) that blood pressure monitors may not be accurate; 2) certain types of breast implant with a textured surface may contribute to a rare type of breast cancer and 3) vitamin D tests are probably not necessary; 4) Life Scan tests may not be an accurate assessment of health and may lead to false positives
- G. Membership Subcommittee: Jennifer Haller moved to accept Carole Kehoe as the new Committee on Aging member. Nola Veganes-Chavez seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
- H. Guest Speaker Subcommittee: Jennifer Haller announced future workshops at the Open House Senior Center: Mindful Meditation on July 26, 2017; Fall Prevention on September 22, 2017; Balance Training on September 29, 2017; and Medicare Updates on October 25, 2017. She invited Committee on Aging members to give their ideas for classes/presentations.
- I. Technology: Steve Lipson talked about ICE (In Case of Emergency), contact information which can be added to your cell phone with and without an application.

5. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- A. Resource Fair—October 4, 2017, Community Center
- B. Update on locations for Open House Senior Center

6. ADJOURN REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETING

The next Committee on Aging meeting is Wednesday, August 16, 2017 at 3:00PM at City Hall, Council Chambers, 10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, California.

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COMMUNICATION ACCESS INFORMATION

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