



**Recreation Department**

**Staff Liaison**

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**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON AGING**

**Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at 3 p.m.**

VIA TELECONFERENCE

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<https://elcerrito.webex.com/elcerrito/onstage/g.php?MTID=e0b829f1cf305bd80bbcf9f9b1784495f>

**Event Number:** 187 437 7040

**Event Password:** COA31721

**Join by Phone:** 1-408-418-9388

**Access code:** 187 437 7040

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**3:18 p.m. CONVENE REGULAR MEETING**

**1. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Chair Jennifer Haller, Vice-Chair Steve Lipson, Members Buddy Akacic, Katherine Cesa, Shirley Cressey, Kenneth Epley, Janet James, Carol Kehoe, Dr. Pansy Kwong, Kim Marlia, David Van Etten, Pamela Wagner, Bruce Yow

**Absent:** Joanna Kim-Selby, Nola Veganes-Chavez

**Also Present:** Bridget Cooney, Staff Liaison

**2. COMMITTEE MEMBER/STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Staff Liaison Cooney reported that BART is responsible for the maintenance of the trash cans at the bus stop temporarily re-located from Del Norte Bart to Key Blvd and Potrero per the encroachment permit. Public Works has a follow up meeting with BART and will discuss this matter with them.

Liaison Cooney reported that outdoor Zumba and Zumba Gold classes have started at the Korematsu Basketball courts. Pre-registration is required.

Fitness Swims and Water Walking times in the Activity Pool have been added to the schedule. Pre-registration is required.

The El Cerrito Tennis Club received a grant from USTA and installed a water filling station outside the Arlington Clubhouse.

**3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

*No comment.*

**4. COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISONS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS**

Staff Liaison Cooney reported that the Park and Recreation Commission are working to put in four permanent pickleball courts and one full-size tennis court at the Castro Tennis court location.

Liaison Cooney reported that the State Auditor's report of the City's finances was made

available to the public and was discussed at the City Council meeting on March 16, 2021. Interested committee members are invited to review the information on the City's website.

**5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**Moved/Second:** Member Akacic/Member Cressey

**Action:** Adopted the minutes with corrections from the Committee meeting on **February 17, 2021**

**Ayes:** 13 **Nos:** None **Abstention:** None

**6. PRESENTATION ON COVID-19 VACCINATION ROLLOUT IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY**

Heather Cedermaz, MSN, FNP-C, Contra Costa Public Health Clinic Services, COVID-19 Community Education & Information Nurse Practitioner Division Head presented an update on the COVID-19 vaccination rollout in Contra Costa County.

**7. DISCUSS AND PASS A MOTION TO REORGANIZE THE COMMITTEE ON AGING STANDING COMMITTEES**

Chair Haller led a discussion to reorganize standing committees. It was proposed that the following standing committees and membership on those committees be approved.

- Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council (Members Lipson, Selby & Wagner)
- Communications (Chair Haller & Member Veganes Chavez)
- Disability (Member Kehoe)
- Health Care (Member Dr. Kwong)
- Housing (Members Akacic, James & Wagner)
- Legislation (Member Dr. Kwong)
- Membership (Members Cressey & Marlia)
- Senior Food Programs and Resources (Member Yow)
- Technology (Vice Chair Lipson & Members Van Etten, Yow)
- Transportation (Members Cressey, Epley & Wagner)
- West County Senior Coalition (Members Cesa, Kehoe & Wagner)

**Moved/Second:** Member Kehoe/Member James

**Ayes:** 13 **Nos:** None **Abstention:** None

**8. COMMITTEE ON AGING STANDING-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*Sub-Committee Reports are limited to three minutes per sub-committee.*

- a. Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council (ACOA) (Lipson & Selby): Vice Chair Lipson reported that AB383 to hire a mental health administrator working with seniors is moving through the assembly.

Vice Chair Lipson reported that the Master Plan on Aging has been published online and includes a local playbook. The Area Agency on Aging plan has been updated with the goal of developing partnerships with non-profits and volunteer organizations to meet seniors needs in the county.

- b. Communication (Chair Haller): Chair Haller thanked committee members for Senior Snippet contributions. Chair Haller reported that the 60+ newsletter is no longer being mailed due to budgetary constraints. The estimated pre-pandemic cost to print and mail the newsletter was over \$1,500. The newsletter is currently

available online and as a handout given to approximately seventy CC Café meal recipients. Chair Haller reported speaking to Recreation Director Jones regarding the matter. Recreation Director Jones agreed to looking into the possibility of including the newsletter as an insert in quarterly East Bay Sanitary mailers.

- c. Disability (Kehoe): Member Kehoe reported that an ad hoc committee was formed to investigate acquiring benches at various locations in El Cerrito. Members Kehoe, Wagner and Yow as well as Council Liaison Abelson met to discuss the issue. Recreation Director Jones spoke with member Kehoe regarding types of benches to be considered as well as options for raising funds to acquire benches. Vice Chair Lipson and Chair Haller recommended that the Bench ad hoc committee meet again to prepare a recommendation for the Committee. The item will need to be put on a future Committee on Aging agenda with desired action. It was recommended that the proposal include the type of benches desired, suggested locations of the benches, and a plan for fundraising for the committee to review and vote on.
- d. Health Care (Dr. Kwong): Member Dr. Kwong reported that people have put off preventative health checks due to the pandemic and doctors are concerned with a potential increase in cancer. Dr. Kwong encouraged committee members to get their regular health screening tests done.
- e. Housing (Akacic & James): Member Akacic reported that the Tenant Protection Task Force results are in and the report is available to interested committee members.

Member James shared information from John Gioia's office regarding money available to tenants and landlords to help pay rent and utilities in Contra Costa County. Funds can be used for unpaid rent and utilities between April 1, 2020 through the end of March 2021. There is an application process and income requirements to receive the funds.

- f. Legislation (Dr. Kwong): No report
- g. Membership (Cressey & Marlia): No report
- h. Tech (Lipson & Van Etten): No report
- i. Transportation (Cressey & Epley): Member Cressey reported that legislation AB917 requiring mandatory cameras for buses was moving forward. If it passes, it will require cameras on all buses to take pictures of vehicles blocking bus stops.  
  
Member Epley reported that there are no updates to the bus bench project at San Pablo Ave and Potrero or the bus shelter at San Pablo Ave and Moeser Lane.
- j. West County Senior Coalition (Cesa, Kehoe, Lipson): Member Cesa reported that at the February West County Senior Coalition meeting there was a presentation regarding COVID-19 vaccinations.
- k. Senior Food Programs & Resources (Yow): Member Yow reported that he volunteers with the Contra Costa/Solano County Food Bank and hopes to bring an awareness to the program to seniors in El Cerrito.

**9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 3pm
- Reorganization of the Committee on Aging (per City ordinance, select Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee on Aging for 2021-22)
- Ad Hoc Bench committee recommendations - TBD

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Jennifer Haller adjourned the meeting at 4:54 p.m.

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular Committee on Aging meeting of March 17, 2021 as approved by the Committee on Aging.

  
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Jennifer Haller, Chair

  
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Bridget Cooney  
Bridget Cooney, Staff Liaison