



ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

(of) March 16, 2015

Tulare County Human Resources & Development

Front Testing Room

2900 W. Burrel

Visalia, CA 93291

10:45 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marlene Chambers

Sharon DeMasters

Marsha Calhoun

Dick Johnson

Sharon Lamagno

Kyle Melton

Grace Schraa

Cheri Taylor

Maggie Woodhouse

Suzann Wray

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Fern Haller

Mary Krieg-Vasquez

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GUESTS & ALTERNATES PRESENT:

Albert Cendejas, CSET

Dr. David Wood, Guest

Scott Harvey, KCCOA

STAFF PRESENT:

Laura Silva, K/T AAA Director

Brooke Sisk, Administrative Specialist

Ashli Austerman-Cole

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1. **Call to Order** – Sharon DeMasters, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:50 a.m.
 2. **Public Comments** – None.
 3. **Approval of Minutes** – Sharon Lamagno moved for the approval of the minutes of the December 1, 2014 and January 26, 2015 meetings. Dick Johnson seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous to approve. There were no abstentions.
 4. **Announcements and Correspondence**
Brooke Sisk reported on the 46th Annual Senior Day in the Park event, to be held on Friday, May 1, 2015 at Mooney Grove, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The theme is, “Country Fair.” The entertainment includes a trick roper/cowboy poet, line dancing, and Elvis. Also on display will be antique farm equipment, show cars, and a Dust Bowl-era truck. Additionally, the event includes a cake walk, Bingo, and exhibitor information booths.

Sharon DeMasters announced a senior pancake breakfast on April 10th at the Armona Center, sponsored by Kings County IHSS and Public Authority. Supervisors Fagundes, Pedersen, and Neves will be on hand to help cook the meals. Everyone is welcome. Suggested donation is \$5. There will also be a few exhibitor outreach booths.

Ms. DeMasters announced Friendship Day on May 22nd, to be held at the Civic Auditorium in Hanford, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Lunch will be served.

Marlene Chambers announced that Hanford Seniors, Inc. and the Hanford Recreational Department will be having a breakfast on Monday, March 23rd at the Recreation Department building.

Cheri Taylor announced that on Friday, April 17th PADS is sponsoring a free, Caregiving Conference, at El Nuevo restaurant, in Porterville, from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. There will be several guest speakers.

Albert Cendejas reported that income tax returns are still being processed by volunteers with the VITA program in both Kings County (weekdays) and Tulare County (Saturdays) until April 15th.

Brooke Sisk reported that a meeting will be scheduled soon for the Senior Day in the Park subcommittee on transportation. An invitation will also be sent to members of the Advisory Council's Transportation Committee once that meeting is scheduled.

Sharon DeMasters reported that there is a (TCAG) Public Hearing on unmet transportation needs today (March 16, 2015) at the Convention Center.

5. **Milestone Updates** – Sharon DeMasters reported that former Council member, Sam Hurtado, had passed away on January 8, 2015.
6. **Council Membership** – Kyle Melton, Membership Chair, reported that currently there are two vacancies on the Council, and that the Council has received two applications for appointment, Mr. Benjamin Cordova and Dr. David Wood. He requested a motion to recommend both candidates for appointments. Marlene Chambers motioned to formally recommend the candidates for appointment, Dick Johnson and Cheri Taylor seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
7. **California Senior Legislature (CSL)** – CSL Senator, Don Turner, said in putting together possible legislative proposals, there are usually letters of support included. He questioned if it is appropriate for the K/T AAA Advisory Council to support local proposals, specifically the Death with Dignity proposal and an a proposal advocating insurance coverage for certain medications for sexual dysfunction. Brooke Sisk said it is something that can be researched to find out if there is precedence. Cheri Taylor said this is an issue that will be coming up more and more as the baby boomers age and for many will be considered taboo but that it needs to be discussed. Mr. Turner said he will put together the proposal(s) along with information on groups that support or oppose the idea. He noted it would be helpful to have support from the mental health community, since in many ways these are mental health issues. Mr. Turner said guidelines for submitting proposals request information up front regarding groups or organizations that may present opposition to any specific proposal.
8. **Kings County Community Gleaning** – Scott Harvey from Kings County Commission on Aging (KCCOA,) gave a presentation on a new gleaning program. The program utilizes the K/T AAA nutrition delivery van, which was donated to KCCOA. KCCOA staff “re-created” a Community Gleaning program. The program serves seniors, but volunteers from many different community organizations contribute help to the program, including farmers, packing houses, and community gardens, etc. Kings County Behavior Health also supports this effort. A part-time employee coordinates produce collection and the volunteers who help. Mr. Harvey said the Mental Health component is really about engagement, as involvement helps to prevent isolation, while at the same time contributes to the good nutrition of the seniors who receive the produce. Benefits are that healthy food gets to people who need it most, plus it encourages community collaboration. Eventually, the program will be expanded to include Home Delivered Meal (HDM) recipients.

9. **Additional Member Comments** – Dick Johnson asked about getting a K/T AAA name plate and name tag. Brooke Sisk said staff is working on getting new items ordered.
10. **Adjourn** – Meeting ended 11:45 a.m.

NEXT:

**Governing Board Meeting
July 20, 2015
10:00 a.m.
Tulare County Office of Education
Board Room
2637 W. Burrel Avenue
Visalia, CA 93291**

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**Advisory Council Meeting
July 20, 2015
Time: TBD
Tulare County Office of Education
Board Room
2637 W. Burrel Avenue
Visalia, CA 93291**