



ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

February 24, 2014

11:00 a.m.

Exeter Senior Center

301 East E St.

Exeter, CA 93221

Meeting to begin at 11:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marlene Chambers

Sharon DeMasters

Dick Johnson

Kyle Melton

Susan Mudge

Grace Schraa

Cheri Taylor

Don Turner

Sharon Lamagno

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Beckie Cortez

Fern Haller

Mary Krieg-Vasquez

Maggie Woodhouse

STAFF PRESENT:

Laura Silva, K/T AAA Director m

Brooke Sisk, Staff Analyst

Christine Tidwell, Administrative Aide

GUESTS & ALTERNATES PRESENT:

Albert Cendajas, Program Coordinator

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1. **Call to Order** – Sharon DeMasters, Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.
 2. **Public Comments**
 - Albert Cendejas reported that Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) will be available at all the senior sites. Ms. DeMasters reported that this service will also be available at the Kings County sites. Mr. Cendejas said that, if needed, Kings County residents can sign up for assistance with the VITA volunteers helping at the Tulare Senior Centers.
 - Cheri Taylor announced the Rock-A-Thon event at the Porterville Adult Day Services (PADS) to be held on February 28 to March 1, 2014. This is an annual fund-raising event. Additionally, on April 12, 2014 at the Porterville Lanes there will be a “Bowling for PADS” fund raiser. Later in the year, there will be a Run-A-Thon in Plaza Park, in Visalia on June 14, 2014. More information to follow.
 3. **Approval of Minutes** – Marlene Chambers motioned to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2014, meeting, as presented. Dick Johnson seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.
 4. **Announcements and Correspondence** – No Announcements Reported.
 5. **Milestone Updates** – No Updates.

6. **Planning Discussion** – This discussion began with a question being posed: What subjects need to be looked at and where is assistance most needed.

Albert Cendejas, Senior Program Coordinator with C-SET, said that especially in the last several months it has become evident that transportation is one of the largest needs of the senior community. He noted that in organizing a Valentine's Day gathering for the seniors, the logistics of transporting seniors from one site to another loomed large. Eventually C-SET vans were used to carry seniors from Earlimart to Lindsay, but up until the last moment, transportation to the event was an unresolved issue. One of the goals of the event was to encourage socialization and to allow the seniors to attend a larger group event, to encourage more socialization.

Cheri Taylor suggested that research be done to see if the Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG) has any assistance it can lend or ideas on how to better accommodate this type of transportation need. Also, she suggested contacting area churches to inquire if they have any type of volunteer service that could be dovetailed for this purpose.

Sharon DeMasters suggested there may be transportation grants available, for either bus passes or for the purchase of a designated vehicle to be explicitly used for this purpose.

It was also suggested that the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) may be able to assist. The question of liability remains an issue in most cases. The need for transportation remains an on-going issue and it was recommended that this is a possible topic for an ad hoc committee to tackle.

Additionally, Sharon DeMasters suggested that this might be a topic that could be brought to the California Senior Legislature (CSL) to be considered for solutions.

Grace Schraa also suggested that rent control, especially as it relates to mobile home park situations, could also be a topic for the CSL. CSL Assemblymember, Sharon Lamagno said there are such prospective bills, but the CSL has not been able to get sponsoring legislators for them.

7. **Committee Selections** – Committees are as follows:

- Membership: Marlene Chambers, Dick Johnson, Kyle Melton (Chair)
- Senior Sites: Sharon DeMasters, Fern Haller, Marlene Chambers, Sharon Lamagno, Albert Cendejas (C-SET), Grace Schraa, Maggie Woodhouse, Beckie Cortez
- ABC (Area Plan, Budget, and Contracts): Fern Haller, Don Turner, Cheri Taylor, Sue Mudge
- CA Senior Legislature (CSL): Grace Schraa, Kyle Melton, Dick Johnson

8. **California Senior Legislature (CSL)** – Sharon Lamagno summarized the responsibilities of the CSL membership, saying the CSL works on proposals that benefit seniors and their caretakers. CSL members “walk the halls” with proposals the CSL is seeking sponsorship for, to encourage legislators to take up the cause of the various bills. The large annual meeting is held in October. Other smaller meetings are held throughout the year. The CSL elections are held every four years, and will be held in May, 2014. (The CSL committee, as noted above, will be responsible for reviewing each candidate's information and to make sure each has submitted all the correct paperwork, prior to the May 19th election).

9. **Meeting Calendar for 2014** – After a short discussion clarifying some of the meeting calendar information, Cheri Taylor moved that the Council meeting calendar for 2014 be accepted, Marlene Chambers seconded the motion and a unanimous vote approved it.
10. **Staff Reports** – It was noted that the ABC committee will most likely need to meet in April to review the Area Plan.
11. **Additional Member Comments** – No additional comments.
12. **Adjourned** – On a motion from Don Turner, seconded by Kyle Melton, the meeting was adjourned.

NEXT:

Governing Board Meeting

March 17, 2014

10:00 a.m.

Tulare County Human Resources & Development

Front Testing Room

2900 W. Burrell

Visalia, CA

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Advisory Council

March 17, 2014

Professional Development Center

4031 West Noble

Visalia, CA 93277