



## ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

July 22, 2013

Professional Development Center (PDC)

4031 W. Noble Avenue

Visalia, CA 93277

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marlene Chambers  
Beckie Cortez  
Sharon DeMasters  
Fern Haller  
Dick Johnson  
Mary Krieg-Vasquez  
Sharon Lamagno  
Cheri Taylor  
Don Turner

### STAFF PRESENT:

Laura Silva, Aging Srvcs. Mgr.  
Marla Phillips m  
Brooke Sisk  
Bonnie Quiroz  
Christine Tidwell

### GUESTS & ALTERNATES PRESENT:

Carla Treuting, California Senior Legislator  
William Tidwell, Council Alternate  
Maggie Woodhouse  
Grace Schraa

### MEMBERS ABSENT:

Kyle Melton

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1. **Call to Order**  
Cheri Taylor, Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.
  2. **Public Comments** – Laura Silva, Aging Services Manager, introduced C-SET personnel who are integral in taking over the Tulare County senior services at C-SET, including, Carla Calhoun, C-SET Deputy Director; and, Albert Cendejas, and Nora Carrillo, Senior Program Coordinators. There was also a round of Advisory Council member introductions.
  3. **Approval of Minutes** – Marlene Chambers motioned to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2013, meeting, as presented. Dick Johnson seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.
  4. **Announcements and Correspondence**
    - Marlene Chamber reported that the city of Lemoore has started a Tuesday night (farmers) market on Main Street from 2 – 9 p.m. which will run through the end of October.
    - Cheri Taylor announced that Porterville Adult Day Services (PADS) is having a “Trinket and Treasures” yard sale on August 3, 2013 from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Donations for the sale will be accepted the Friday prior to the sale.
    - Also, Ms. Taylor announced the PADS *Christmas in September* event on September 21, 2013, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. There are only 100 seats and they fill up fast. This year’s theme is Hawaiian. A lunch is served. The table-top Christmas tree (fund raising) raffle tickets are \$5 each.
    - Sharon Demasters said to mark the calendar for September 20<sup>th</sup>. This will be the Hanford Buris Park picnic.
    - Mary Krieg-Vasquez announced that HandOn is organizing a September 8th Memorial Race in Fresno (2 mile and 5K). Individuals or organizations and small business can sign

up for this race. It gives the opportunity to volunteer together and support local organizations. Last year the event had about 650 runners.

**5. Milestone Updates**

- Cheri Taylor officially welcomed Mary Krieg-Vasquez and Beckie Cortez on as new members to the Advisory Council.
- Mr. Tidwell commented that the minutes do not always include the alternates that are in attendance at the Council meetings.
- Ms. Taylor reported that Council member Betty Oswald has resigned the Advisory Council.

**6. Confirmation of New Council Member** – Marlene Chambers announced that she had received completed Council applications from Grace Schraa and Maggie Woodhouse. Both applicants also serve on the Kings County In-Home Supportive Service (IHSS) Public Authority Board, and have just completed the Ombudsman Program with the Kings County Commission on Aging (KCCOA). She said both are very strong advocates for seniors. Ms. Chambers motioned that Ms. Woodhouse and Ms. Schraa be recommended to the Governing Board for appointment to the Advisory Council. Sharon Lamagno seconded the motion which was voted unanimously.

**7. Area Plan Update (APU) Amendment Changes** – Marla Phillips explained that prior to the Council meeting, a meeting was held with the Council’s *Area Plan, Budget, and Contracts* (ABC) committee to review the amended Area Plan Updated for fiscal year 2013-14. The amended plan will be submitted to the State after it is approved by the Governing Board. Although K/T AAA just submitted an APU, with the addition of C-SET as a contractor for K/T AAA in Tulare County, it necessitated changes to the Area Plan. Public Hearings are scheduled for July 31, 2013 at Hanford Senior Center (View Road), and August 1, 2013 at Tulare Senior Center at 9 a.m. for both locations.

**8. Update on the Transition of Senior Services to C-SET** – Laura Silva said that in Tulare County the only services the Agency has retained as direct services are the Multi-Purpose Senior Services Program (MSSP) and the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP). All other senior services for Tulare County have been contracted to C-SET, including the seven nutrition sites, home-delivered meals, and Information Services, and Outreach, etc. (III-B). K/T AAA will retain oversight, but C-SET is the provider. As of July 1, these services have been transitioned over to C-SET. The nutrition site services, hours of operation and the days open remain the same.

Ms. Calhoun of C-SET said it was exciting to take on this contract because C-SET’s mission is to support youth, families, and community. She said they have a number of programs in place that serve youth and adults, and some seniors. It was felt that this will give the opportunity to meet the needs of more seniors and provide more services, and it will help to ensure that the seniors in Tulare County are able to access those services.

She noted the church that previously served as the Goshen Senior Center is undergoing large-scale renovations which necessitated the Nutrition program re-locate. (Space was found at the Church of God in Goshen). She also noted that discussion is ongoing regarding moving the Porterville Senior Center from its current location to the Santa Fe Depot location. C-SET will be going out to bid for a legal services provider and for a nutrition program meal provider, for both congregate and home-bound client meals.

Albert Cendajas clarified that Royal Dining, the provider of meals the K/T AAA had been using, suddenly gave notice that it was discontinuing its services. Fresno Economics Opportunity Commission (EOC) has stepped in to temporarily provide meal services. He said that fortunately all the current feedback regarding the meal quality for EOC meals has been positive.

Additionally, utilities assistance applications will also be available to seniors at the centers and to home-bound clients. C-SET has also taken over the K/T AAA 800 number. Tax preparation assistance will also be incorporated during tax season. It was noted that periodic surveys will be conducted to tailor services to the needs of the seniors and to gauge improvements. Mr. Cendajas said that a Senior Services tab will soon be accessible on the C-SET web site to help direct people to services and information. Senior Center *Open Houses* will be scheduled, starting in the fall to invite people into the centers.

Ms. Taylor said that PADS is having a Caregiver Conference on Friday, October 25, from 8am to 4 pm. She suggested that C-SET have a table at the event to distribute its literature, and to use the event to inform people about what it is C-SET is doing. Many “senior” organizations will have tables there.

9. **Review of Advisory Council Mission and Purpose** – Ms. Taylor said that the K/T AAA Advisory Council flyer needs some changes from its last printing, but she said the information is important and she would like to see it get reprinted. She reviewed the Council mission and purpose information with the Council.
10. **Establish a Meeting Schedule for the Remaining Months of 2013** – It was noted by Christine Tidwell that the Bylaws change indicate that quarterly meetings are required, but that more frequent meetings could be scheduled, and that is seemed to be the general understanding that the Council would schedule meetings every other month to allow for committee meetings in the months when no Council meeting was scheduled.

It was decided that the next Council meeting will be on October 21, following the scheduled Governing Board meeting. The Senior Site action committee will meet in the in-between months. There will be no meeting in November. The December meeting will be a holiday party (date pending) but will include the nomination/election of new officers. New officers will take office at the first meeting of the new year. The January 2014 meeting will follow the Governing Board meeting, also scheduled on January 27, 2014 at the Tulare County Board of Supervisors building, conference rooms A/B. The 2014 calendar will be created at that meeting.

The Chair, Ms. Taylor appointed Mary Krieg-Vasquez, Dick Johnson, and Beckie Cortez to be the Council Nominating Committee for the new slate of officers. Currently, Ms. Taylor is Chair, Sharon DeMasters is Vice Chair. The Parliamentarian is appointed by the Chair. Ms. Taylor said that by January, the Council may have a better understanding of what action committees might be needed. She requested C-SET staff to let the Council know if there is an area that is noticed which may require an action committee, and to keep the Council informed.

11. **California Senior Legislator (CSL) Report** – Carla Treuting, California Senior Legislator, reported that several bills have been passed or are on the verge of being passed, including a bill that extends the voluntary income tax contributions sunset clause to January 1, 2020. (The CSL receives the bulk of its funding from donations via state income tax returns).

Additionally, a bill has passed that will help ensure lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender seniors (LGBT) to get respectful and competent elder care by integrating LGBT cultural competency instruction in the training received by residential care facility administrators.

Regarding elder abuse reporting, Sharon DeMasters said there is a different flow of how to abuse is reported when a client is in a nursing home. She said will bring a flow chart of reporting steps and process, including what responsibility lay with the facility.

Ms. Taylor inquired from Ms. Silva as to if there is any information on the passage of the Older Americans Act or if it is possible to bring information back to the Council regarding it.

12. **Staff Reports** – Ethics Training reminder and Form 700, Statement of Economic Interest, reminder, both of which need to be completed by each Council member.
13. **Additional Member Comments** – Sharon DeMasters said that when the Council looks for new members, they need to keep in mind there is a “*minority*” requirement. There should be an effort to keep the Council balanced, and in ratio, if possible, to the population of the area. Ms. DeMasters said she will contact Yee Vue at the Valley Caregiver Resource Center to see if he has any ideas on how to recruit Hmong candidates.
14. **Annual Awards and Celebration of Membership** – Awards were given as follows: a certificate for three years of dedicated service to Marlene Chambers; an engraved crystal to Don Turner for thirteen years of dedicated service; and an engraved crystal to Council Chair, Cheri Taylor, in recognition for her twelve years of dedicated service. Cake and ice cream were served.
15. **Adjourned** – The meeting was adjourned.

**NEXT:**  
**Governing Board Meeting**  
**January 27, 2014**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**Tulare County Board of Supervisors**  
**Conference Rooms A/B**  
**2800 W. Burrell**  
**Visalia, CA**  
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**Advisory Council (To Be Announced)**