



ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

October 21, 2013
View Road Senior Center
602 91/4 Avenue
Hanford, CA 93230

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marlene Chambers
Sharon DeMasters
Dick Johnson
Mary Krieg-Vasquez
Don Turner
Maggie Woodhouse

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Kyle Melton
Beckie Cortez
Sharon Lamagno
Cheri Taylor
Grace Schraa
Fern Haller

STAFF PRESENT:

Laura Silva, Aging Services Manager m
Bonnie Quiroz
Christine Tidwell

GUESTS & ALTERNATES PRESENT:

Carla Treuting, California Senior Legislator
William Tidwell, Council Alternate
William Munoz, Office f Rudy Salas
Gloria Bajarquez
Mary Alice Escarsega
Albert Cendejas

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1. **Call to Order** – Sharon DeMasters, Council Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:06 a.m.
 2. **Public Comments**
 - Ms. DeMasters welcomed the guests that were present and invited attendees to take advantage of the fruit and snacks available for the meeting.
 - Don Turner announced that November is nationally recognized as Caregiver Month. Many organizations acknowledge Caregiver Month with a resolution and he suggested the Advisory Council also do this. Mr. Turner motioned that an emergency action item be added to the agenda in order for the Council to vote a declaration and proclamation that the K/T AAA Advisory Council recognizes November 2013 as Caregiver Month. Marlene Chambers seconded the motion to add an emergency action to the agenda. This was approved unanimously. On a motion by Maggie Woodhouse, seconded by Dick Johnson, the Council voted to be a participating organization in recognizing November as Caregiver Month.
 3. **Approval of Minutes** – Marlene Chambers motioned to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2013, meeting, as presented. Dick Johnson seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.
 4. **Announcements and Correspondence**
 - Marlene Chambers announced that on November 11, 2013 the City of Lemoore will have a Veterans Day parade. There will be food, information booths, and various kinds of activities, including celebratory services beginning at 11 a.m. at

the fairgrounds and continuing until 6 p.m., at which time the parade is set to begin.

- Mary Krieg-Vasquez announced that RSVP will have several entries in the Candy Cane Lane parade this year. The purpose is to encourage volunteerism and to spread the word that volunteering is fun and crosses generational lines. Seniors and grandchildren can volunteer together. This parade is a chance to participate out in the community.
- Ms. DeMasters announced the annual Thanksgiving Day dinner in Lemoore, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for which volunteers are being recruited. On the day prior to Thanksgiving, volunteers are needed to help prepare meals. Mr. Munoz mentioned that because various food vendors will be delivering food for the event, volunteers are needed to help unload and store the food, as well as to help cook the next day. For further information, please call: 585-1034.
- Carla Treuting announced that the senior group in Three Rivers has re-named its monthly bulletin: *The 55 Plus Club* rather than *The Senior's Club*. She said it is attracting more people who are just past the age of 55.
- Ms. Treuting also announced her resignation as Senator with the California Senior Legislature (CSL) as of the end of December.
- In relation to RSVP volunteer availability, Ms. Krieg-Vasquez said she is starting an RSVP e-blast which will be broadcast on a monthly basis (she noted that over two-thirds of the senior volunteers have an active email address.) She mentioned the importance of having lead time prior to an event to ensure there is adequate time to recruit and place volunteers. There is a large volunteer base of over 1,000 volunteers in Kings and Tulare Counties.

5. **Milestone Updates** – There were no milestones to report.
6. **Health Care Reform and Affordable Care Act** – Laura Silva introduced Albert Banuelos, the Medi-Cal Program Specialist who is lead for the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in Tulare County. Mr. Banuelos gave a brief introduction on what the (ACA) is and then opened the discussion for questions. The ACA went into effect October 1, 2013. People who do not qualify for Medi-Cal can pre-enroll for services to begin the first of the year. For seniors over the age of 65, they should see no difference and no impact – there should be no change. What will change is for their spouses under age 65, which today have no linkage into the Medi-Cal program. As a result of the Medi-Cal expansion, spouses will be eligible to receive benefits under the ACA because certain restrictions have been eliminated. California has its own website, coveredca.com, which is easy to navigate and user friendly. The direct phone number is: 800-300-1506. ACA is based on having the minimum essential coverage. Those who have Medicare have met the requirement of the law.
7. **Update on the Porterville Senior Center Re-location** – Ms. Silva said there is no set date for re-locating the Porterville Senior Center. The City of Porterville has voted to give a 90-day notice to the current tenants of the Santa Fe Depot site. Oversight of the building will be assigned to the Parks and Recreation Department. K/T AAA and C-SET staff will be meeting with them to plan what improvements and repairs need to be made at the Santa Fe site and to get a more precise date for the move. Ms. Silva said she hopes to be able to make an announcement soon about when the re-location will occur.
8. **Report on Tulare County Senior Services** – Albert Cendejas, Senior Program Coordinator at C-SET asked if there were any questions regarding the information he had reported to the Governing Board.

Ms. DeMasters commented that it seems things are working out very well in Tulare County with the transition of services to C-SET. Ms. Silva said there has been great progress considering the short amount of time during which the services were transitioned and up and running. It was noted that Kings County Commission on Aging (KCCOA) staff have organized a training to help C-SET staff understand the role of Ombudsman, which is a program KCCOA is in charge of for the K/T AAA.

9. **Government Shutdown Impacts on K/T AAA** – Ms. Silva said the K/T AAA was fortunate in that all its contractors were able to operate with no negative impact from the government shutdown. She noted that K/T AAA spoke with each contractor independently to strategize priorities, since the Government was not going to be providing any Federal funding during the shutdown. The only funding to be passed forward during that time was State funding. The only State funding within the K/T AAA programs is in the Congregate (C-1) and Home-Bound (C-2) Nutrition Programs. K/T AAA worked with its contractors to understand what the strategies would be and how long they could each sustain operations. Fortunately, the Government opened things back up. Had it continued much longer the K/T AAA would have had to figure an alternate strategy.
10. **California Senior Legislator Report** – Carla Treuting said that she and Sharon Lamagno will be attending the CSL session beginning October 28th and which lasts the duration of the week. The CSL representatives meet in various committees to hear the pros and cons of proposals.
11. **Staff Reports** –
 - Farmers Market – Christine Tidwell announced that K/T AAA has received the redemption rates for the 2013 Farmers Market Coupons. K/T AAA has the second highest redemption rate at 54.67 percent of all the PSA's in California. The highest redemption rate is PSA with redemption of 56.96 percent.
 - Nominating Committee (Mary Krieg-Vasquez, Becky Cortez, and Dick Johnson) will develop the slate of candidates for Chair and Vice Chair. Elections will be in December at the last meeting of the year. New officers will begin terms in January 2014.
12. **Additional Member Comments** – None
13. **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. Burrel
Visalia, CA

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Advisory Council January 27, 2014
(Immediately following the Governing Board meeting)
11:00 a.m.

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Visalia, CA