 ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

(of) June 24, 2019

(\*Rescheduled from June 17, 2019)

Government Plaza/RMA Main Conf. Room

Visalia, CA 93277

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Cecilia Bobst

Marlene Chambers

Dan Fox

Betsey Foote

Sharon Lamagno

Ms. Bobbie Wartson

Dr. David Wood

Suzann Wray

**MEMBERS ABSENT**:

Grace Henn

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Jamie Sharma, Aging Services Manager

Israel Guardado, Analyst

Sjahari Pullom, Administrative Specialist

Bonnie Quiroz, Senior Advocate

Christine Tidwell, Administrative Aide

**GUESTS & ALTERNATES PRESENT:**

Carolyn Davenport, Council applicant

Ann Sullivan, Guest

Mary Thomas, Guest

Albert Cendejas, CSET

1. **Call to Order** – Dr. David Wood, Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.
2. **Introductions of Council Members and Guests** – As above.
3. **Public Comment** – None
4. **Approval of Minutes** – Dan Fox motioned to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2019, meeting; the motion was seconded by Ms. Bobbie Wartson and the minutes were approved by voice vote with no discussion or corrections.
5. **Announcements and Correspondence** – Ms. Bobbie Wartson reported on a Health Fair held in May, organized by KCCOA. She said it was well attended. She noted that one of the exhibitors offering “genetic testing” turned out to be a scam. Although she had been alerted the day prior that the company was not bona fide, she allowed the vendor to attend in order to confront him - warning him not to take any information from the senior participants. The people manning the booth were taking photos of seniors’ Medicare cards. The police were called and pictures of the offending exhibitor booth and those manning it, were forwarded on to the HICAP office to be reported to the State authorities to be dealt with at a higher level.

Ms. Bobst, Site Manager of the Dinuba Senior Center, said she has had a similar experience with organizations wanting to come to the senior center in Dinuba. It was noted that the people manning the booth aren’t always aware that it is a scam they are involved in and promoting. They are employees of a company they believe to be genuine.

Ms. Wartson also reported out on the 2019 Friendship Day which she said was a good event with approximately 300 attendees. Supervisor Craig Pedersen also visited the event. *Elvis* (Jeremy Pearce) was part of the entertainment lineup and lunch was served at the event.

1. **Milestone Updates** – Ms. Wartson said that KCCOA has finally received all the funding that was due to it from Kings County and in accordance with funding contract criteria. She thanked Ms. Jamie Sharma and Dr. Wood for the support they showed at the Kings County Board of Supervisors meeting at which these funding issues were addressed.
2. **Triple-A Council of California (TACC)** – Ms. Wartson reported on the June 15th TACC meeting. The group developed priorities for California’s Master Plan on Aging, which included: housing for seniors, nutrition, and transportation to name a few of the highest priority topics. There were a total of 62 priorities submitted for consideration. She said that the AARP organization had given a presentation. The results of an AARP survey showed that people want to stay in their homes and communities as long as possible as they age and that homes and communities are not always developed to accommodate the aging aspect of life, so communities are not necessarily aging friendly in terms of transportation, grocery shopping, parks, etc. Also, the video, “Lives Well Lived,” was shown and comments shared.

Additionally, in conjunction with TACC, Ms. Wartson attended the statewide *Elder Abuse Awareness Conference* in Sacramento which she said was informative, but the event was not long enough and it was suggested that it should be lengthened to at least a half day event. Ms. Wartson is on the Ombudsman Board which was instrumental in organizing the event, so that suggestion will be submitted.

Dr. Wood said that previously Tulare County HHSA won a State award for its submission of an Elder Abuse Prevention Logo and there is an upcoming National LOSS Team Conference that is being hosted in Tulare County. He suggested the idea of this area creating and developing a conference sponsored by the K/T AAA in conjunction with the HHSA to address Elder Abuse Awareness - and invite people to come to Central California, (in the interest of K/T AAA assuming a position of leadership.)

Ms. Sharma also suggested a “Train the Trainer “workshop to inform other local programs, such as IHSS, AP, and APS about the information brought back from the State event.

In relation to this topic, Ms. Wartson reported that during the Friendship Day event, the Kings County District Attorney gave a 25 minute presentation, and HICAP also presented on Medicare scams circulating.

1. **2018-2019 Tulare County Grand Jury Final Report –** A draft response to the Grand Jury was supplied to the Council members with a request for feedback and any other ideas to include. K/T AAA was asked to respond to a report on, *Elder Abuse: Everyone’s Business.* The final response will be presented to the Governing Board at its July meeting.
2. **Orientation Manual and Council Bylaws** – Council members, Dr. Wood, Marlene Chambers, and Dan Fox reviewed the current Orientation Manual and found it to be well crafted and not in need of changes. Mr. Fox commented that he compiled a list of committees that Council members can chose from for their first and second choice as to committee membership preference. The Chair will be the last word as to assigning committees.

Regarding the Council Bylaws, last updated in 2013, the action today is for the Council to confirm its approval of the Bylaws as they are currently written in an effort to update its approval of them as of June 2019. The Chair entertained a motion to signify the Council’s review and approval of the Orientation Manual and the Council Bylaws and signify that neither requires any substantial changes. Suzann Wray motioned to approve; Sharon Lamagno seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

1. **Annual Report** – This was a review of the Annual Report draft document, section by section, as presented by Dr. Wood. He noted that consistently filling the Council seats is a chronic challenge that hinders some of the projects and committees that the Council members might otherwise engage in if there was a fully-appointed Council. Comments, additions, and modifications were requested. A decision was made to not include an appendix of Council Agenda from previous meetings. This decision was based on that it might be too much information to include - making the report overwhelming to read. Pictures of various events will be included, as will visuals such as charts, etc. to make it more visually appealing.

The Chair said he would like to turn the project over to a work group at this point. Ms. Sharma said that staff could help to format the report into a nice, readable document. Sharon Lamagno and Marlene Chambers volunteered to participate in the workgroup; Suzann Wray also volunteered on a tentative basis depending on the meeting days of the Report Committee. Dates are to be determined. Completion date is set for October – to be presented to the Governing Board at its October meeting. It will be reviewed at the August Council meeting as an agenda action item. The idea is to create the report as a landmark document, created in such a way that it can be updated annually without too much difficulty.

1. **Staff Reports**

* The July Council meeting was scheduled to follow the July Governing Board meeting to make it more convenient for Council to attend. The Governing Board meeting will be at 1:30 p.m. on July 22nd at the Government Plaza building, 5957 S. Mooney Blvd; RMA conference room; with the Council meeting to follow at 2:30 p.m. Vice Chair Marlene Chambers will preside at the Council meeting in the absence of Dr. Wood, who will not be able to attend due to a conflicting appointment.
* A decision was made to hold Council meetings at more central locations versus holding them at area senior centers in order to facilitate meeting attendance. It was suggested that individual Council members (or teams) make regular visits to the various senior sites to talk and visit with the seniors in order to make the Council available to the seniors. This would be a more cost effective and probably a better way for the Council to be visible. The visits can be reported out at the Announcements and Correspondence agenda item.
* Several candidates have applied for appointment to the Council. Candidate applications were referred to Suzann Wray, Membership Chair.

1. **Development of the August 2019 Council Agenda** – Agenda items will include further review of the draft Annual Report if there are any modifications; and candidate applications will be acted on for nomination to move applications forward for appointment.
2. **Additional Member Comments** –

* Cece Bobst announced that there will be a Health and Safety Fair in September and she is trying to arrange for a health provider to conduct screening, but has had difficulty setting this up and would appreciate any suggestions. Ms. Sharma will work with Ms. Bobst to help find someone for this upcoming health fair.
* Ms. Wartson announced a Save-the-Date for September 20 at Burris Park in Kings County for the Kings County Picnic in the Park.
* Dr. Wood recommended that the Council agenda routinely and consistently have an agenda item listed as: *“Pending Events”.*
* Ms. Sharma said that there will be an upcoming Tulare County Board of Supervisors meeting in Pixley with a proposal included to create a Veterans Advisory Committee. She announced that if anyone is interested to participate, or knows anyone who may be interested to let them know of this new opportunity.

1. **Adjourn –** The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.