 ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

(of) October 16, 2017 Meeting

**Hanford Senior Center, View Road Apartments**

**602 91/4 Avenue, Hanford, CA 93230**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Marlene Chambers

Benjamin Cordova m

Betsey Foote

Dan Fox

Grace Henn

David Wood

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Marsha Calhoun

Sharon Lamagno

Kyle Melton

Bobbie Wartson

Suzann Wray

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Juliet Webb, K/T AAA Director

Jamie Sharma, Aging Services Manager

Matthew Kredit, Administrative Specialist

Israel Guardado, Analyst

Nancy Aldaoud, Administrative Aide

Christine Tidwell, Administrative Aide

**GUESTS & ALTERNATES PRESENT:**

Albert Cendejas, CSET

Janice Esrey, senior resident

1. **Call to Order** – Dr. David Wood, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:43 a.m.
2. **Introductions of Guests and Council Members** – Introductions were done by the meeting attendees. (See above.)
3. **Public Comment** – Albert Cendejas announced a call out for volunteers to help with the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. Volunteers will receive training in order to provide tax assistance to low income families and seniors needing help preparing their tax return.

Additionally, he said that for Make a Difference Day, CSET is spearheading a variety of projects and events throughout Tulare County. Volunteers interested in helping can find more information at CSET.org.

1. **Approval of Minutes** – For the approval of the minutes of the September 18, 2017, meeting, Dan Fox motioned to approve; the motion was seconded by Marlene Chambers. The minutes were approved. Dr. Wood and Betsey Foote abstained from voting.
2. **Announcements and Correspondence** – None
3. **Milestone Updates** – There were no milestone updates.
4. **Report on the Triple-A Council of California Mtg.** – Dr. Wood reported on attending the TACC meeting in Sacramento noting that it was informative and friendly.Another TACC meeting is scheduled for later this year, on December 5th and 6th, in Sacramento. He said that expenses are reimbursed if anyone is interested in participating. Dr. Wood said his effort is to encourage and increase the participation of each and every Council member to his or her interest level and ability. He said he will, by default, attend TACC, if necessary, but he’d rather have a variety of members participate at the State-level involvement.

Dr. Wood said TACC is an interesting and informative meeting. It meets quarterly and he said he would happily entertain a volunteer to go to represent the K/T AAA Advisory Council.

Additionally, he reported that the AAA from Napa and Solano Counties had created a presentation: *Schemes, Scams, and Frauds*, a handout on how to recognize elder fiscal abuse and how to be protected from being victimized. It is available for distribution. A second presentation that he reported on was, *Senior Center Without Walls*, a program that one can join as a consumer to interact with others on what is basically a party-line phone call. The issues discussed during the call vary. Groups “meet” regularly and it creates a way to alleviate isolation, especially for seniors living in rural areas, like Three Rivers or Porterville or the outskirts of a community. He said, if anyone wants further information, let staff know.

A comment was made that one of the K/T AAA service providers, Valley Caregiver Resource Center hosts a local program modeled after *Senior Center Without Walls*. The program is funded by Tulare County Mental Health dollars and is available to Tulare County clients. In this connection, Dr. Wood reiterated the idea that part of the purpose of the Advisory Council is to be information liaisons to our communities about various resources available.

On a separate issue, he said that he will be turning 70 years old in two years and at that time he will be stepping back from and finishing up with any Council and Committee responsibilities. He said he is announcing his intent now so that each and every Council member can think about whether or not he or she wants to step up into a more active leadership role, including participating in the California Senior Legislature (CSL).

1. **CA Assoc. of Area Agencies on Aging (C4A)-Los Angeles –** Dr. Wood put a call out to the Council for volunteers willing to attend the C4A Annual Meeting and Allied Conference taking place in Los Angeles November 14-16, 2017. K/T AAA covers travel and lodging expenses. Council members Betsey Foote and Benjamin Cordova volunteered to attend.

Dr. Wood asked that those Council members attending the meeting report out at the next Council meeting on the highlights of the conference. He said the more members who attend available conferences, the better our representation will be.

1. **California Senior Legislature (CSL) Participation –** Dr. Wood commented that he is the Senior Senator by default because K/T AAA lost its prior Senator Representative, Don Turner. Sharon Lamagno has held the CSL Assembly seat for PSA 15. He said he is not certain she is able to continue. Christine Tidwell said that Ms. Lamagno had indicated that she probably would not be attending the CSL meetings this year.

Dr. Wood said the CSL is interesting as it is an organization composed of seniors and that any senior from Kings or Tulare County can actually choose to run for the positions. The CSL meets and approves (similar to the regular State Senate and Assembly) legislation that is relevant and appropriate to seniors; for example, the California Death With Dignity Act originated with the CSL. It was approved and forwarded from the CSL to the State legislature for consideration and action. The CSL proposes legislation relevant to seniors. As Chair, he asked Council members to consider if anyone would be interested in taking on the CSL responsibility. The CSL terms are 4 years, with the last election in 2014, so May 2018 will be the next official election.

1. **Discussion of Candidate Nominations for Chari /Vice Chair (December Elections) –** Every alternate calendar year, nominations are taken for Council Chair and Vice Chair candidates. At the very latest nomination will be taken in November, with elections at the December Council meeting. Council member, Dan Fox said he would like to Chair the Transportation Committee, but because he has been called back to work with Tulare County, much of his time will be taken up with that, and now making the other positions beyond what he can do at this time.

Dr. Wood said that he appreciates that, noting also there are opportunities at local levels for Council members. At the November meeting, nominations will be brought forward, with the elections conducted in December.

1. **Staff Reports** – Jamie Sharma, the Aging Services Manager said most staff report topics have been covered. Matthew Kredit, K/T AAA Administrative Specialist, reported out on budget matters of One-Time-Only money coming into the K/T AAA contracts from the California Department of Aging contracts, equaling about $90,000 which is distributed to K/TAAA sub-contractors. He noted this is a smaller amount than in recent previous years.

Israel Guardado reported that in the opposite direction, the Title V program, instead of getting additional funding, was cut by approximately $9,000. This will have an effect on the number of participants able to be enrolled in the program.

On another note, he said K/T AAA will be going out for Request for Proposals (RFP) for the services offered in Kings County and part of the process is having an Evaluation Committee Panel review submissions. In the past, staff has asked members of the Advisory Council to help with those evaluations. He will be reaching out again to the Council members for help in evaluating the bid information received for the services. If anyone is interested in serving on the Evaluation Panel, please let staff know as he is currently developing a list.

1. **Development of November Council Agenda** –Items will include: Nominations for Council Chair and Vice Chair; further consideration of Committee memberships, Transportation, Membership, Area Plan, Budget, and Contract (ABC) committee. Dr. Wood said what is needed is a broader representation in terms of the Council and critical issues facing seniors.

The date of the November Council meeting was also confirmed – the Council calendar had the November and December dates as still unconfirmed. Monday, November 20, 2017 and Monday, December 18, 2017 were confirmed for the last two meetings of the year. Additionally, historically, the Council has combined its December meeting with a recognition luncheon. St. Anthony Retreat was recommended. Staff will work to arrange a reservation for December 18, 2017.

1. **Additional Member Comments** – No additional comments.
2. **Adjourn** –The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.