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**Executive Director**  
Sandra Fitzpatrick

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

June 16 - 17, 2015

Embassy Suites Hotel Downtown San Diego

### TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2015

Commissioners toured St. Paul's Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) Program in Chula Vista.

#### I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Walker called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. Commissioner Walsh led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### II. Roll Call and Establish Quorum

**Commissioners Present:** Virgie P. Walker, Donna Benton, Betsy Butler, Steven Castle, Julie Conger, Paul Downey, Lucille Fisher, Stuart Greenbaum, Marian Last, Barbara Mitchell, Gail Nickerson, Bob Petty, Carmen Reyes, Jane Rozanski, Rita Saenz, Jean Schuldberg, Ed Walsh

**Commissioners excused:** David Sanchez

**Staff:** Sandi Fitzpatrick, Carol Sewell, Marcella Villanueva

**Guests:** Kathy Randall, Ellen Schmeding; Bob Prath, Camille Cowlshaw, Denise Price, Mark Sellers, Denise Nelesen.

A quorum was established.

#### III. Introductions

Commissioners and guests introduced themselves.

#### IV. Approve Agenda

The June 16-17, 2015, CCoA General meeting agenda was reviewed.

M/S/C (Downey/Last)

**TO APPROVE THE JUNE 16-17, 2015 CCOA GENERAL MEETING AGENDA.**

#### V. Approve Minutes from April 1-2, 2015 meeting

The April 1-2, 2015 CCoA General meeting minutes were reviewed.

M/S/C (Downey/Rozanski)

**TO APPROVE THE APRIL 1-2, 2015 CCOA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES.**

## **VI. Public Comments**

Bob Prath, AARP, discussed AARP's work on Age-Friendly Communities. Commissioner Rozanski announced she would be retiring later in the week and announced her ongoing commitments to aging policy and community issues.

## **VII. Comments from the Chair**

Commissioner Walker thanked Commissioner Downey for the use of his facility.

## **VIII. Welcome to SERVING SENIORS**

Commissioner Downey welcomed CCoA to the Gary & Mary West Senior Wellness Center and described the organization's benefactors, Gary & Mary West, and their \$100 million commitment to improving the health of seniors in San Diego.

## **IX. Staff Report**

### **A. Activities**

Fitzpatrick provided the staff activities report.

### **B. Logistics for Chico Meeting**

Fitzpatrick reviewed the meeting directions and logistics for the Chico meeting in September.

## **X. WORKING LUNCH**

### **XI. Presentation: *Role of Triple-A Council of California***

Kathy Randall, President of the Triple-A Council of California and President of Aging & Independence Service's Advisory Council, thanked the CCoA for the opportunity to speak and described the Triple-A Council of California and its mission. She encouraged the commissioners to reach out and make a connection to the local advisory councils.

### **XII. Presentation: *Innovations at Aging & Independence Services (AIS)***

Commissioner Downey introduced speaker Ellen Schmeding, Director of San Diego County's Aging & Independence Services. Ms. Schmeding reviewed the many service innovations at AIS.

#### **A. AIS Brief overview**

Ms. Schmeding reviewed the county health and human services agency's primary goal of improving the health and safety of older and dependent adults through a focus on healthy aging and prevention.

#### **B. Veterans Services and Supports in San Diego County**

San Diego's County Office of Military & Veterans Affairs provides comprehensive outreach and support services for veterans.

#### **C. Advocacy in the Elder Justice Arena**

Denise Nelesen reported on AIS "Acutely Vulnerable Adult" (AVA) Protocol SCAM Toolkit, developed to identify vulnerable adults at risk of abuse, which won the National Association of Counties award, and AIS' anti-fraud campaign, "Don't Get Hooked."

**D. Residential Care for the Elderly Rating System**

Mark Sellers discussed AIS' a new system for rating residential care facilities for the elderly using data from Community Care Licensing, the District Attorney and the Long-Term Care Ombudsman, and quality measures identified through stakeholder input. The system is expected to be available on-line for consumers in the Fall 2015.

**E. Alzheimer's Project**

Planning for increasing numbers of Alzheimer's patients is a priority of County leadership; collaboration is underway to find funding to provide resources and family supports.

**F. Community Based Care Transitions Update**

AIS is involved in Care Transitions partnership with 13 hospitals, to manage care and support programs in order to prevent re-admissions.

**XIII. Executive Committee Report**

Commissioner Walker provided the Executive Committee Meeting report.

**A. California Senior Legislature Bill Proposal re tax check offs**

Sewell reported on Executive Committee's review of a CSL tax check-off proposal and the recommendation to postpone action until the measure is under consideration by the Legislature.

M/S/C (Conger/Nickerson)

**TO APPROVE THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION TO SEND A LETTER INDICATING CCOA WOULD WITHHOLD ACTION UNTIL THE PROPOSAL HAS BEEN INTRODUCED IN THE STATE LEGISLATURE.**

**B. Planning for 2016 activities**

Fitzpatrick discussed meeting planning for 2016 and the impacts of potential changes in membership, opportunities that may arise with the White House Conference on Aging, and options for attending the C4A conference and the annual SCAN Foundation Summit.

**XIV. Unfinished Business**

None.

**XV. Closed Session**

3:15 p.m. closed session

**XVI. Recess**

Meeting recessed at 3:33 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2015**

Vice Chair, Marian Last reconvened the meeting at 9:02 a.m.

**XVII. Federal Policy Committee Report**

Commissioner Mitchell provided the Federal Policy Committee meeting report.

**A. Older Americans Act Reauthorization**

Several new cosponsors had added onto the OAA legislation. The committee recommended sending a letter to the new cosponsors to encourage them to bring it forward for vote.

M/S/C (Mitchell/Saenz)

**TO SEND A LETTER TO THE NEW COSPONSORS ENCOURAGING THEM TO BRING THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT REAUTHORIZATION BILL FORWARD FOR VOTE.**

**B. White House Conference on Aging**

July 13<sup>th</sup> has been selected for the WHCoA at the White House, with the President expected to attend and deliver executive orders on aging initiatives. Commissioner Downey and CDA Director Connolly have been nominated to attend.

Commissioner Mitchell reviewed the four policy briefs released in advance of the WHCoA.

- 1. Retirement Security Policy Brief**
- 2. Elder Justice Policy Brief**
- 3. Healthy Aging Policy Brief**
- 4. Long-Term Services and Supports Brief**

**C. The Supplemental Security Restoration Act of 2015**

The committee reviewed the new Supplemental Security Restoration Act of 2015 (HR 2442 – Grijalva), introduced in May.

**D. Medicare Formulary Improvement Act**

The committee reviewed CMS' proposed change to limit access to life-saving, high-cost drugs for conditions such as mental illness, AIDS, epilepsy, cancer.

M/S/C (Mitchell/Conger)

**TO SEND A LETTER TO SENATOR GRASSLEY SUPPORTING HIS LEGISLATION TO PROTECT ACCESS TO HIGH-COST DRUGS UNDER THE MEDICARE FORMULARY AND URGING THE INCLUSION OF HEPATITIS C DRUGS IN THE PROTECTED CLASS OF COVERED MEDICATIONS.**

**E. Comparison: President’s Budget vs. Republican Budget**

The committee reviewed the budget proposed by the House of Representatives, which continues sequestration cuts, in comparison to the President’s proposal to increase funding for numerous programs. Hoping for compromise to reduce or eliminate sequester cuts without further increases.

**F. H.R. 2 The Medicare Access and CHOP Restoration Act of 2015**

Commissioner Mitchell reported on federal action to improve reimbursements for Medicare and Medicaid physicians.

**XVIII. Legislative Advocacy Committee Report**

Commissioner Downey provided the Legislative Advocacy Committee report.

**A. Update: SB 547 (Liu); AJR 8 (Brown); ACR 33 (Brown)**

SB 547 (Liu) - Department of Community Living – has become a two year bill to allow a more thorough discussion and vetting.

AJR 8 (Brown) – the Older Americans Act Resolution was approved with 111 co-sponsors. The Commission was successful in adding language calling on Congress to take action.

ACR 38 (Brown), the Task Force on Family Caregiving resolution was sent to the Senate.

SB128 (Wolk) – the end of life bill – passed the Senate with amendments to specify procedures to assure the mental stability of the terminal patient requesting medications, and that only the patient may make the request.

**B. Legislation Update**

Sewell provided legislative handout.

**XIX. Elder Justice Committee Report**

Commissioner Conger provided the Elder Justice Committee report.

**A. ACR 71 (Dodd) Elder Abuse Awareness Month**

CCoA and CEJC’s resolution naming June as Elder Abuse Awareness Month is moving through the Legislature.

**B. Adult Protective Services Increase**

Budget request to increase the APS training budget was denied; the Legislature approved budget language making permanent the APS Liaison position created in the 2014-15 budget.

Discussed article “The Challenge of Elder Abuse” from the *California Lawyer*.

**XX. Operational Procedures & Bylaws Committee Report**

Commissioner Nickerson provided the Operational Procedures & Bylaws report.

**A. Gauging Aging: Mapping the Gaps Between Expert and Public Understandings of Aging in America**

Commissioner Nickerson discussed the report examining new ways to describe aging.

**XXI. New Business**

**A. State Budget Update**

Fitzpatrick provided state budget update, reporting that funds for the Caregiver Resource Center were increased by \$2 million and the Long-Term Care Ombudsman program gained \$2.4 million.

**XXII. Commissioner Comments**

Commissioners commented on touring St. Paul's PACE center and discussed inviting the director of CalPACE to present at an upcoming Sacramento meeting.

**XXIII. Presentation & Tour SERVING SENIORS**

Commission Downey, President and CEO of Serving Seniors, provided a presentation on the center's programs and tour of the Gary & Mary West Senior Wellness Center.

**XXIV. Next Meeting: September 17-18, 2015 in Chico**

The next CCoA meeting is September 17-18, 2015 at the Hotel Diamond in Chico.

**XXV. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.