

1300 National Drive, Suite 173
Sacramento, CA 95834

Telephone: 916-419-7591
E-Mail: CCoA@cco.ca.gov
Web Site: www.ccoa.ca.gov



Executive Director
Karol Swartzlander

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Via Zoom

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2021

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Schmeding called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. Villanueva led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call and Establish Quorum

Villanueva called roll.

Commissioners Present: Ellen Schmeding, Marcy Adelman, Joaquin Anguera, Cheryl Brown, Kim Carr, Erika Castile, Anni Chung, Joe Cislowski, Janet Frank, Brendalynn Goodall, Meea Kang, David Lindeman, Debbie Meador, Faisal Qazi, Sedalia Sanders, Dana Toppel

Commissioners Absent: Shelley Lyford, Rita Saenz

Staff: Karol Swartzlander, Carol Sewell, Marcella Villanueva

Guests: Anastasia Dodson, Lee Pullen, Michael Costa, David Wilder, Adam Willoughby, Kim McCoy Wade, Brenda Schmitthenner, Jason Flatt

A quorum was established.

3. Approve Agenda

M/S/C (Brown/Adelman)

TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 1, 2021 CCOA GENERAL MEETING AGENDA.

APPROVED

Abstentions: None

4. Approve Minutes from August 6, 2021 meeting

M/S/C (Adelman/Meador)

TO APPROVE THE CCOA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 6, 2021.

APPROVED.

Abstentions: None

5. Public Comments

Lee Pullen of Marin County Area Agency on Aging introduced himself.

6. Chair's Comments

Commissioner Schmeding reported that CCoA joined SAGE, Justice in Aging, California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform (CANHR) and Openhouse in signing-on to an LGBT Residents Right Amicus letter. The Commission also signed on to Justice in Aging's letter supporting the home and community-based funding provisions in the federal Better Care Better Jobs Act.

Commissioner Schmeding and Swartzlander met with Mental Health Oversight and Accountability Commission Executive Director Toby Ewing to explore opportunities for possible future collaboration.

7. End of Year Legislative Update

Commissioner Adelman provided the Commission's end of year legislative update.

8. Master Plan for Aging (MPA) Committees and Workgroups Reports

Chair Schmeding invited Commissioners assigned to MPA stakeholder advisory committees and workgroups to provide updates.

a. Review of MPA Committees and Workgroups

Swartzlander reviewed committee memberships and asked for members to provide an update on additional participation.

b. Updates

Commissioner Castile, Disability and Aging Community Access Advisory Committee, reported the Committee discussed workforce, healthcare labor shortages prior to COVID, and needed training for home care or adult day programs. New approaches to recruitment and accelerated training opportunities were also discussed.

Commissioner Lindeman, Data Exchange Framework Stakeholder Advisory Group, discussed a new data exchange from AB 133, designed to create a common data framework across the state. Commissioner Lindeman will advocate for data on social determinants of health, among other issues affecting older adults and hopes this effort will be a roadmap for change.

Commissioner Brown, MPA Equity Workgroup, stated the Workgroup is meeting and focused on equity issues.

Commissioner Adelman, MPA Equity Workgroup, reported on elevating the discussion of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identification (SOGI)/LGBT data collection through her work with the Workgroup.

Swartzlander, Aging and Disability Resource Connection Advisory Committee, provided an update on the work of the Committee.

9. Staff Report

Swartzlander thanked Villanueva for facilitating CCoA's move and shared photos of the new office. She reported on development of a new Operational Planning framework and thanked Commissioners Cislowski and Frank for their work on drafting a corresponding workplan with measurable outcomes.

CCoA has the flexibility to meet virtually through December. The December meeting is scheduled and committee meetings are scheduled to finalize the work plan. Annual elections will be held at the November 2021 final meeting – all seats are up for election.

Chair Schmeding's goal is for the Commission to have an in-person meeting in Sacramento in January 2022.

10. California Association of Area Agencies on Aging (C4A) Update

Michael Costa, Executive Director, C4A

Executive Director Costa discussed C4A's perspective on the the California Department of Aging (CDA) Hubs and Spokes proposal and the organization's commitment to aging independently and in optimal health in the community. He reported that C4A supports investments to strengthen the full scope of services and funding enabling the area agency on aging network to move forward.

a. Discussion

Commissioner Brown noted the Master Plan for Aging Stakeholder Advisory Committee had considered opportunities for approaching aging & disability as a unit.

b. Public Comment

None.

11. Feature Commissioner Janet Frank

Commissioner Adelman introduced Commissioner Frank and reviewed her work on geriatric and gerontology workforce issues, Gerontology school accreditation and older adult mental health.

12. Exploring Dementia Risk Among LGBTQIA+ Populations

Jason D. Flatt, PhD, MPH, Associate Adjunct Professor, Institute for Health & Aging, University of California, San Francisco

Dr. Flatt discussed his work on dementia risk and LGBTQ population, noting the higher rates of dementia in the community and difficulties around access and care. Lifetime of stigma and discrimination predisposes to health disparities. Dr. Flatt is working on an equality in caregiving study.

a. Discussion

Commissioner Brown asked what was done to ensure participation of the African American Community in the study. Dr. Flatt noted that advisory boards, have included members who are African American but also LGBTQ organizations. Built community advisory boards in diverse communities across the nation to assure inclusiveness.

b. Public Comment

David Wilder typed a question into the chat – to be sent to Dr. Flatt.

13. Hubs and Spokes for Aging and Disability Initiative Overview; Aging/Long-Term Services and Support Budget Investments; Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Spending Plan Update

Kim McCoy Wade, Director, California Department of Aging

Anastasia Dodson, Deputy Director of the Office of Medicare Innovation and Integration, California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)

Director McCoy Wade thanked CCoA for partnering in the Hubs and Spokes effort. She described the initiative as a way to strengthen leadership and the service delivery system as recommended by the Master Plan for Aging. Hubs and Spokes is a framework and is not intended to be the same in every community. Final comments on the concept are due by October 15th and CDA will release its report in December.

a. Discussion

Pullen commented that he sees the initiative focusing in on what's best for aging and disability in California and a way to work on what works now and make it even better.

Commissioner Brown commented that Director McCoy Wade's leadership is crucial to bringing diverse viewpoints together.

Commissioner Cislowski asked about rebranding efforts under discussion at the Department of Aging.

Deputy Director Dodson commented on the range of work to be done by the new Office of Medicare Innovation and Integration. The small staff will partner with DHCS' teams on dual eligible, Medicare only data, policy analysis and beneficiary needs and will work to narrow the focus to immediate priorities and policy issues in the next few months.

Commissioner Castile asked how much money had been allocated for the workforce effort and to what sector? McCoy Wade said each department has different workforce initiatives which include things like stipends for voluntary training programs and tiered wage strategies for In Home Supportive Services caregivers and caregivers for individuals who are developmentally disabled. Commissioner Frank noted the importance of workforce incentives and noted the need for gerontology training to be included in the workforce effort.

b. Public Comment

None.

14. Structure and Service Delivery for California Area Agencies on Aging

Kate Wilber, PhD, Professor of Gerontology, University of Southern California (USC)
Leonard Davis School of Gerontology

Haley Gallo, PhD Candidate, USC

Dr. Wilber and Ms. Gallo discussed their research into Area Agency on Aging (AAA) structures. Dr. Wilber's research focused on the two AAAs in Los Angeles County and current efforts to consolidate into a single, stand-alone agency. Ms. Gallo surveyed AAAs across California to identify areas of overlap, cost-efficiency, service equity and consumer direction.

a. Discussion

Commissioners commended the research and commented on specific focus areas.

b. Public Comment

None.

BREAK 3:30-3:45 p.m.

15. California Third District Court of Appeal on the LGBT Long-Term Care Facility Residents Bill of Rights (SB 219)

Kathleen M. Sullivan, Ph.D., Executive Director, Openhouse

Dr. Sullivan reviewed the history of SB 219 (2017) and provisions regarding respect in use of gender terminology and gender assignment in room placements. A recent court decision to overturn the law was being challenged through an Amicus letter objecting to the ruling and issues around stigmatization and poor care that makes many LGBT elders hide their identity. She thanked the Commission for agreeing to sign on to the letter.

a. Discussion

Commissioners discussed the ruling and thanked Dr. Sullivan for her work.

b. Public Comment

None.

16. Review Revisions to the 2021-2023 CCoA Operational Planning Framework and Draft CCoA Operational Planning Work Plan

Swartzlander presented the work of the Operational Planning and Bylaws Committee to finalize the 2021-2023 Operational Planning Framework and Draft CCoA Operational Planning Work Plan.

a. Discussion

Commissioners discussed the draft plan and requested the opportunity to review and comment before finalization.

b. Public Comment

None.

c. Action: Adopt revised 2021-2023 Operational Planning Framework and Work Plan

Swartzlander noted the next steps would be to accept Commission feedback through October 11, convening the Operational Procedures and Bylaws Committee to review and finalize both the Operational Planning Framework and Work Plan, with the Executive Committee to formally adopt the Framework and Work Plan for action.

17. Breakout Session

Commissioners will discuss and identify opportunities, challenges and recommendations related to the Hubs and Spokes for Aging and Disability Initiative.

Chair Schmeding introduced the goal of breakout groups on the Hubs and Spokes concept to help staff develop the Commission's recommendations on the initiative.

Commissioners reported out on Breakout session discussions and recommendations, including the opportunity to expand the aging services network and to showcase best practices before policy-makers, challenges of serving rural and isolated communities, the importance of including the disability community, and the ongoing issue of homelessness.

a. Public Comment

None

18. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.