

California Commission on Aging

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GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor

Executive Director
Karol Swartzlander

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Via Zoom

JANUARY 21, 2022

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Schmeding called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. Villanueva led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call and Establish Quorum

Commissioners Present: Ellen Schmeding, Marcy Adelman, Chery Brown, Anni Chung, Joe Cislowski, Janet Frank, Brendalynn Goodall, Meea Kang, David Lindeman, Shelley Lyford, Debbie Meador, Faisal Qazi, Rita Saenz, Sedalia Sanders, Dana Toppel

Commissioners Absent: Kim Carr, Erika Castile

Staff: Karol Swartzlander, Marcella Villanueva

Guests: Blanca Castro, Eric Dowdy, Lucas Evensen, Tony Gonzalez, Carrie Graham, Randy Pollack, Jamie Levine, Josh Lewis, Courtney Roman, Adam Willoughby, Liz Fuller, Doug Dickstein, Beverly Townsel, Samantha Pellon, Wendy Pangilinan, Laura Trejo, Sharon Wolff, Michael Reiser, Carol Hubbard, Brenda Schmitthenner, Heather Harrison

A quorum was established.

3. Approve Agenda

Chair Schmeding noted two corrections to the agenda: the CCoA General meeting minutes of October 1, 2021, were already approved at the November 12, 2021, meeting, and therefore, will be removed from agenda item number 4 and agenda item number 15, California Welfare Director's Association: Adult Protective Services Training will be moved to agenda item number 16, Budget request.

M/S/C (Lyford/Frank)

**TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 21, 2022, GENERAL MEETING AGENDA AS AMENDED.
APPROVED.**

Abstentions: None

4. Approve the CCoA General Meeting Minutes from October 1, 2021, November 12, 2021, and December 1, 2021

M/S/C (Brown/Lyford)

TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 12, 2021, AND THE DECEMBER 1, 2021, CCOA MEETING MINUTES.

APPROVED.

Abstentions: Commissioner Saenz

5. Public Comments

Randy Pollack introduced himself.

6. Strengthening the Direct Care Workforce

Courtney Ramon, Senior Program Officer, Center for Health Care Strategies

Courtney Ramon provided an overview of Michigan's Direct Care Workforce (DCW) analysis and the Center for Healthcare Strategies Report, including State Scan Highlights and Key Considerations to Strengthen the DCW, such as building a centralized training infrastructure and developing a virtual online DCW career platform.

a. Discussion

The cost of turnover to the employer is significant; people leave the direct care workforce for higher paying jobs.

Commissioner Frank would like to see community college participation with DCW.

b. Public Comment

None.

7. Chair's Comments

Chair Schmeding provided an update on the Master Plan for Aging's one year anniversary celebration, January 21. Chair Schmeding and Commissioner Brown were guest speakers.

Commissioners Schmeding and Cislowski were both interviewed for reappointment to the Commission.

Chair Schmeding introduced and highlighted feature Commissioner Debbie Meador's work and nearly 30-year career in the oversight of state and local government programs and operations. Chair Schmeding thanked Commissioner Meador for her leadership support to CCoA staff in completing the State Leadership Accountability Act (SLAA) report. Commissioner Meador has agreed to come out of retirement for a few months and work as a retired annuitant for the Commission to help with legislation and state reports until the Legislative Director position is filled.

8. CCoA Committee Reports

a. Executive Committee

Chair Schmeding reviewed the proposed 2022 priorities and Commissioner Kang's legislative proposal to the full Commission.

It is still unclear if Bagley Keene flexibilities will be extended beyond January 31, 2022, for State agencies.

Tentative Proposed Meeting Schedule is as follows:

- March 2022: Sacramento/Grass Valley (Virtual)
- May 11-13, 2022: C4A/CCoA Conference, Glendale (Hybrid)
- Late August or September 2022: San Francisco (Hybrid)
- November 2022: San Diego (In-Person)

9. Master Plan for Aging (MPA) Committee and Workgroup Reports

a. Disability and Aging Community Living Advisory Committee

Commissioner Castile was not in attendance; therefore, no report was provided.

b. Equity in Aging Advisory Group

Commissioner Brown reported a main concern for workforce in the disability community.

c. Aging and Disability Resource Connection Advisory Committee (Swartzlander)

No report provided.

d. Data Exchange Framework Stakeholder Advisory Group Meeting

Commissioner Lindeman reported the next meeting will be held on January 25.

10. Staff Report

Swartzlander provided the staff report and reviewed a CCoA 2022-23 Budget Change Proposal request for two new full-time positions and an increase in federal fund authority. The request for a retired annuitant position to assist with legislative support was approved.

A California Foundation on Aging (CFoA) update provided. New CFoA officers are as follows: Brenda Schmitthenner, Chair, Jean Schuldberg, Vice Chair, and Barbara Mitchell, Treasurer.

Swartzlander introduced CCoA's new student intern, Beverly Townsel, who will focus on developing an advocacy, outreach, and communications toolkit.

Swartzlander reminded Commissioners to complete their Form 700 Statement of Economic Interest by the deadline of April 1 and to stay current on their Ethics Training.

11. CCoA Work Plan and 2022 Priorities

a. Discussion

Swartzlander reviewed the proposed 2022 CCoA Work Plan Priorities.

b. Public Comment

None.

c. Approve 2022 Priorities

No action taken.

12. Update on California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM), Home and Community Based (HCBS) Spending Plan and Office of Medicare Innovation and Integration

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

Anastasia Dodson provided an update on CalAIM noting the initiative would include substance abuse and behavioral health services and the importance of health plan partnering with community-based organizations to provide services. The HCBS Spending Plan received federal approval and implementation is occurring across several departments. Given the importance of dementia to the older adult dual eligible population and cuts across Medicare and Medicaid, the Department of Health Care Services is working with the Department of Public Health to distribute provider toolkits.

a. Discussion

Commissioner Adelman stressed the importance of including Sexual Orientation Gender Identification (SOGI) demographic data.

b. Public Comment

None.

Break

3:02 p.m. -3:16 p.m.

13. Update on the Master Plan for Aging and Governor's Proposed 2022-23 Budget **Kim McCoy Wade, Senior Advisor on Aging, Disability and Alzheimer's, Office of the Governor Gavin Newsom**

Susan DeMarois, Director, California Department of Aging

Kim McCoy Wade shared the governor's perspective reflected in on the California Department of Aging (CDA) Budget Fact Sheet, available on CDA's website. She noted the Administration's commitment to a world class home and community care system that provides service choices, clear narrative, strong workforce, and affordability.

Susan DeMarois announced two upcoming CDA webinars and encouraged Commissioners to attend: Direct Care Workforce Current Investments on February 1 and an All Stakeholder Meeting on February 3. CDA will also kick off a Webinar Wednesday Series, beginning in March. DeMarois requested at least one Commissioner participate each month. CDA is also planning for regional town halls and legislative roundtables.

a. Discussion

Kim McCoy Wade noted a goal of having older adults and individuals with disabilities serve on various types of stakeholder committees to bring visibility to aging and disability issues.

b. Public Comment

None.

14. 2022 Legislative Update/Forecast

Elizabeth “Liz” Fuller, Chief Consultant, Assembly Aging and Long-Term Care Committee

Liz Fuller previewed her expectations for the upcoming legislative cycle.

15. Consideration of Legislative Proposals

a. California Welfare Director’s Association: Adult Protective Services Training

Moved to agenda item 16 – Budget Request.

b. Regulation of Six Bed Facilities (Commissioner Kang)

Commissioner Kang reviewed a proposed bill concept focused on six bed Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly and requested CCoA sponsorship.

Swartzlander reviewed AB 1618 which would establish the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Office of Healthy Brain Initiative to conduct all department activities relating to Alzheimer’s Disease. AB 1618 also updates the membership of the Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders Advisory Committee, to include among others, CCoA.

i. Discussion

Several Commissioners requested amending the language related to CCoA membership to include “background and/or lived experience”.

ii. Public Comment

None.

16. Consideration of Budget Requests

a. Geriatric Behavioral Health Specialist Position

Commissioner Frank reviewed a proposed budget ask for Geriatric Behavioral Health Specialist Position that would be sponsored by CCoA.

b. California State Association of Public Administrators, Public Guardians and Public Conservators (PA/PG/PC): State Augmentation of County Operations

Swartzlander discussed a PA/PG/PC budget support request for \$200 million ongoing state funding to augment, not supplant, county spending to assist PA/PG/PC services statewide and help manage current caseloads of identified core populations for a total of \$458 million annually.

California Welfare Director's Association: Adult Protective Services Training

Swartzlander reviewed the proposed budget ask of \$4.6 million State General Fund (SGF) [\$4.1 million SGF to APS, and \$500,000 for PA/PG/PC training] plus matching Title XIX funds of \$4.6 million, for a total annual budget of \$8.2 million. CWDA requested CCoA co-sponsor this budget request.

- **Public Comment**

None.

- **Vote**

M/S/C (Sanders/Frank)

TO APPROVE SUPPORT OF LEGISLATIVE AND BUDGET REQUESTS.

APPROVED.

Abstentions: None

17. Discussion: Workforce Development Track for California Association of Area Agencies and Aging Conference

a. Breakout Session Reports and Discussion

Commissioners discussed workforce needs to support older adults and people with disabilities and how to encourage older adults to continue to be engaged in the workforce. Suggestions included: utilize innovative outreach strategies; diversify the direct care workforce and strengthen the pipeline through community colleges; and provide livable wages, bonuses, and skills training.

b. Public Comment

None.

18. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 5:11 p.m.