

# California Commission on Aging

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GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor

Executive Director  
KAROL SWARTZLANDER

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2023**

### 1. Call to Order, and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Brown called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m.  
Commissioner Adelman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 2. Roll Call, and Establish a Quorum

**Commissioners present in person:** Marcy Adelman, Joaquin Anguera, Cheryl Brown, Erika Castile, Anni Chung, Joe Cisowski, Janet Frank, David Lindeman, Debbie Meador, Faisal Qazi, Ellen Schmeding, Dana Toppel, Rita Saenz

**Commissioners absent:** Sedalia Sanders

**Commissioners attending virtually:** Brendalynn Goodall, Meea Kang, Shelley Lyford, David Campos

**Staff attending in person:** Peter Anderson, Marijke Melman, Karol Swartzlander, Patrick Smith, Marcella Villanueva

**Guests attending in person:** Kathleen Kelly, Salamah Locks, Lee Notowich, Kifer Hu, Winnie Yu, Kathleen Sullivan, Grace Li, Cindy Kaufman, Shireen McSpadden

**Guests attending virtually:** Tita Bladen, Gloria Sanchez, Diana Lopez, Kathleen Sullivan, Liz Fuller, Zak Ford, Maria Skelton, Rhea Brown

### 3. Approve Agenda

M/S/C (Adleman/Meador)

**TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2023, GENERAL MEETING AGENDA.  
APPROVE.**

Abstentions: None

### 4. Approve the CCoA General Meeting Minutes from May 9, 2022

M/S/C (Adelman/Frank)

**TO APPROVE THE MAY 9, 2023, GENERAL MEETING MINUTES.  
APPROVED.**

Abstentions: None

### 5. Public Comment

### 6. Chair's Comments

Chair Brown recognized and thanked Commissioners Marcy Adelman and Robert Holgate for hosting a spectacular dinner on the previous evening. Chair Brown welcomed new Commissioner David Campos, and recognized outgoing Commissioner Kim Carr, and thanked her for her service. It was announced that Chair Brown and Commissioner Debbie Meador were reappointed to the Commission. Commissioners were encouraged to speak at meetings of their local governments, city councils, and

commissions to discuss the CCoA and the recent activities, accomplishments, and upcoming efforts.

### **7. Executive Committee Report**

Chair Brown reported the Executive Committee ratified Nominating Committee appointments: Commissioners Schmeding (Committee Chair) Goodall and Saenz.

### **8. Legislative Advocacy Committee Report (Commissioner Adelman and Coleman)**

Updates were provided on CCoA's following three bills. **AB 770 (Kalra)** has been held in the Suspense File in the Assembly Appropriations Committee since May; CCoA is looking to move the bill forward in January. On September 1, 2023, **AB 820 (Reyes)** was held in the Suspense File in the Senate Appropriations Committee due to a large cost estimate; it could be taken off suspense in January if the bill is amended. **SB 544 (Laird)**, which would amend the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act is moving forward with amendments, including a sunset clause in two years. There is also budget trailer bill language (SB-143 State government) to extend the Governor's emergency declaration providing meeting flexibilities under Bagley-Keene until December 31, 2023.

Commissioners questioned whether the Behavioral Health Services Act (SB 326, Eggman) sufficiently includes emphasis on older adults and LGBTQ+ suicides. Since CCoA submitted a letter with feedback on the bill, there have been further amendments. It was suggested that the current bill provisions be reviewed, and additional input be considered before September 14.

### **9. Federal Advocacy Committee Report (Commissioner Castile and Coleman)**

The CCoA Older Americans Act revisions letter was submitted and is on the CCoA website, filed under Advocacy Correspondence 2023.

Federal Tag 699 (F699), which requires facilities to provide trauma-informed, culturally competent care for residents was discussed. Currently, there is no formal training for trauma-informed care. Licensing requires some form of assessment and provides for caregivers to be informed of all types of traumas, not just COVID-19.

Commissioners discussed Title 22 80595 regarding infection control and prevention. Residential care facilities are asked to enforce this provision, even though they lack adequate background or formalized training. Commissioners emphasized the need to support increased education of frontline caregivers. Commissioners also stressed that family caregivers need support and resources in trauma care, particularly in LGBTQ+ and Native American communities.

### **10. Presentation: Update on the State's Caregiver Resource Center**

**Kathleen Kelly**, Executive Director, Family Caregiver Alliance, discussed the family caregiver support program with 11 centers throughout the state. She emphasized the necessity of collecting data to drive planning and decision-making. Comparisons of CA data to national numbers were shared. She noted that CareNav is a client record

system that family caregivers can use since it provides data for the Resource Center's strategy and policy.

### **11. Presentation: Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)**

**Anni Chung**, President and CEO; **Kifer Hu**, Director of Employment Training and Economic Development; and **Winnie Yu**, Director of Programs and Administration, all of Self-Help for the Elderly, provided an overview of the organization and specifics on the employment branch. Self-Help for the Elderly strives to contribute to longer, healthier, and more purposeful lives for seniors and serves over 40,000 seniors annually in five Bay Area counties. The Employment Training branch provides job skills training and placement. A total of 80% of their participants obtain employment and retention services are provided every quarter to assist individuals to remain employed. Challenges to employment include lack of work experience in the United States, language barriers, cultural and age discrimination, and lack of resources in their primary language.

### **12. Presentation: Openhouse**

**Kathleen Sullivan**, Ph.D., Executive Director, Openhouse, discussed the organization's mission, vision, and theory of change, focused on building community by centering the voices of LGBTQ+ seniors. This community of seniors shares common experiences that present challenges in later life. Through housing, social services, training and partnerships, and community engagement, Openhouse has had a significant impact. A total of 3,500 elders are served each year. Openhouse is working on adding 187 more units of housing at 1939 Market Street near the current location.

### **13. On Lok/Openhouse hybrid Program for All-inclusive Care for the Elderly**

**Grace Li**, M.H.A, Chief Executive Officer, On Lok, shared the organization's history. Founded in 1971 in Chinatown's North Beach community. On Lok has been supporting seniors for 52 years. On Lok was one of the country's first adult day health care programs and strives to enable older adults to age at home and in the community. On Lok created the PACE model (Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly), which is now available nationwide. Today, On Lok offers a continuum of services anchored in the 30th Street Senior Center, On Lok/Openhouse Community Day Services, the Aging Mastery Program, and CalAIM. On Lok partners with Openhouse to run the first LGBTQ+ Adult Day Program, providing activities, hot lunches and personal care, and transportation to and from the location.

### **14. Master Plan for Aging (MPA) and Related Stakeholder Advisory Committees**

#### **a) Aging and Disability Resource Connection Advisory Committee**

Commissioner Saenz reported that the Committee has been working on the business plan for the ADRC, with stakeholder input and research, which will be finalized soon and shared with the public. The Committee's next activity will be to identify priorities. Karol Swartzlander shared that a new ADRC Committee folder will be available on OnBoard for meeting notes and resources.

#### **b) Behavioral Health Task Force**

Commissioner Adelman shared that the Task Force had a workshop in June where a general obligation bond funding for mental health and substance use facilities was discussed. The bond proposal will be on the March 2024 statewide general election ballot. The goal is to raise \$2.2 billion dollars to provide resources, resident support needs, and acute care.

c) California Aging and Disability Research Partnership (CADRP)

Commissioner Lindeman reported that CADRP is measuring MPA progress on a few key measures as well as reporting data on equity. The Partnership is making efforts to conduct more research on the issues of housing, workforce, and behavioral health.

d) California 2030

A future-ready California Aging Network will need to proactively prepare to serve a larger, older, and more diverse population of older Californians. To prepare, CDA launched CA2030 and is convening leaders in aging to identify opportunities for Area Agency on Aging (AAA) network-wide advancement and enhancement. CA2030 is focused on six areas: (1) Governance; (2) Programs and Services; (3) Funding Sources and Capacities; (4) Key Performance Measures; (5) Branding, Communications, and Outreach; and (6)

Collaborative Consulting is now synthesizing all the research materials, including the stakeholder interview synthesis, Area Agencies on Aging interview synthesis, network profile report, promising practices research, trends and projections research, and results of the Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults (CASO) survey.

e) Elder and Disability Justice Coordinating Council

Commissioner Schmeding reported that the Council met in June and discussed three different scenarios of elder abuse and how they could be addressed. A group is forming to develop a roadmap to create a state-level public guardian position. Recommendations are being formed concerning visitation guidelines for long-term care facilities to be used in the event of a future pandemic.

f) Equity in Aging Advisory

Chair Brown reported that she is awaiting a reappointment. Commissioner Adelman did not apply for reappointment.

## **15. Presentation: The DAS annual Action Plan and items which focus on the Commission's areas of interest**

**Cindy Kaufman**, Deputy Director of Community Services, San Francisco Department of Disability and Aging Services (DAS), discussed DAS overlap with CCoA priorities in their Strategic Plan and Annual Report. DAS strives to streamline all Californian's access to public and private long-term services and supports and advance

informed decision-making and choice to meet an individual's unique needs, goals, and preferences. DAS goals include equity; inclusion and accessibility; strong workforce and collaboration; employment and economic security, health, and well-being.

**16. Presentation: Intersection and Collaboration to Identify Solutions for Homeless Older Adults in San Francisco**

**Shireen McSpadden**, Executive Director, of the San Francisco Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing, reviewed efforts of her organization to address homelessness, particularly older adult homelessness. Through five major interventions: outreach, shelter, prevention and problem-solving, rapid rehousing, and permanent supportive housing, and partnership with other city agencies, the city-wide goal is to reduce the total number of homeless by 15% and those on the street by 50% in the next five years.

**17. Presentation: Statewide Adult Protective Services Master of Social Work Training Program**

Due to illness, the presentation was rescheduled for the November 9, 2023, General Meeting.

**18. Staff Report - Karol Swartzlander, Executive Director, CCoA**

OnBoard has been launched; training and technical support are available. The CCoA website is being redesigned. Several outreach presentations have been made since the last General Meeting including the Riverside Commission on Aging and Menifee Senior Advisory Committee. CCoA is working with the CA Consortium for Public Health Informatics and Technology to locate data research interns. CCoA will partner with California State University, Sacramento (CSUS) to convene a state-wide Gerontology Event in partnership. Other Updates:

- The next Triple-A Council of CA (TACC) General Meeting will be held on September 7, 2023.
- CA Foundation on Aging (CFoA) will help fundraise for and plan CCoA's anniversary event.
- 50th Anniversary Planning Committee members include Brendalynn Goodall, Ellen Schmeding, Cheryl Brown, Monique Paris, and Alex Davis. A proposed venue is Mix in Sacramento. The committee will be working on fundraising, developing a program, and the goal of establishing an educational grant program.
- Behavioral Health Committee members include Janet Frank, Chair, Marcy Adelman, Erika Castile, Faisal Qazi, Laura Trejo, LA County AAA Director. The first meeting will focus on the Governor's Behavioral Health Modernization proposal. CCoA staff have been working on an analysis for distribution.

- Work Force Development Committee is on hold due to current work on the K-14 Lifespan Curriculum Project.

## **19. November Election Timeline and Nominations Committee**

### **Karol Swartzlander, Executive Director Review Action Items**

CCoA's November 9, 2023, General Meeting will include the annual election. Documents outlining the Nomination Committee duties and timeline for 2023 were shared. Any interested Commissioner, including current officers, must submit a statement of interest to the CCoA office by October 2, 2023.

## **20. Review Action Items**

Swartzlander reviewed follow-up action items: drafting a letter focused on the Behavioral Health Services Act (SB 326, Eggman); continuing 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary event planning; and initiating the development of a CCoA Alumni network.

## **21. Commissioner Comments**

None.

## **22. Public Comment**

None.

## **23. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 3:25 pm