

# California Commission on Aging

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GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor

Executive Director  
KAROL SWARTZLANDER

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2024

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

### 1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Establish a Quorum

Chari Brown called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

Villanueva called roll.

**Commissioners Present:** Marcy Adelman, Cheryl Brown, Joe Cislowski, David Lindeman, Ellen Schmeding, Dana Toppel

**Commissioners Absent:** Debbie Meador

**Staff:** Leza Coleman, Karol Swartzlander, Marcella Villanueva

**Guests:** None

A quorum was established.

### 2. Approve Agenda - Action

M/S/C (Lindeman/Adelman)

**TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 10, 2024, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA.**

**APPROVED**

Abstentions: None

### 3. Approve Executive Committee Minutes from August 9, 2023 - Action

M/S/C (Schmeding/Adelman)

**TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 9, 2023, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES.**

**APPROVED.**

Abstentions: Dana Toppel abstained.

### 4. Public Comment

None

### 5. Chair's Report

Chair Brown noted the key focus of today's meeting is the formulation of CCoA policy priorities for action in 2024-25.

### 6. CCoA Policy Priorities for 2024 – Action

Swartzlander outlined priorities for the current year, including the older adult workforce and K-14 lifespan curriculum project. Kim McCoy Wade introduced CCoA to the Labor Workforce Development Agency and the Department of Education regarding these priorities.

Swartzlander requested input on additional topics the Executive Committee would like to consider. Suggestions included: caregiving workforce including a review of salary levels and new training protocols; integration of services (as a focus for 2025 or 2026); applications of Artificial Intelligence (including benefits and privacy/security concerns; nutrition, given the huge retraction of funding experienced with the end of the pandemic); housing and the unhoused with a focus on interim solutions such as shelters while long-term solutions are being developed, and elevating create solutions like home-sharing.

Coleman shared that Commissioner Tim Perry proposed a focus on elder abuse and suggested a listening tour with attorney generals and district attorneys.

Commissioner Adelman expressed interest in incarcerated older adults who need behavioral health services and committed to researching further.

M/S/C (Schmeding/Adelman)

**THE CCOA'S TOP THREE PRIORITIES FOR 2024 ARE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS, AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, WHILE FOLDING IN ELDER JUSTICE TIM PERRY RESOLUTION/SENIOR NUTRITION/AI/LIFESPAN CURRICULUM. APPROVED.**

Abstentions: None

**7. California State Budget Deficit: Recommendations and Priorities - Action**

Swartzlander provided an overview of the Governor's 2025 proposed budget, noting there were not huge cuts on aging services. Staff will draft a thank you letter to the Governor for Chair Brown. Commissioners also discussed the ongoing need to monitor the implementation of the Master Plan for Aging initiatives.

**NO ACTION TAKEN**

**8. CCoA Sponsored Bills and Legislative Priorities – Discussion**

Coleman provided a legislative update.

A. [AB 770](#) (Kalra D) Residential care facilities for the elderly

Kalra's staff accepted the CCoA staff recommendation to abandon AB 770 and start fresh. The new RCFE expansion bill would increase the number of residents in small facilities from six to nine or 10. Coleman reported that Smith is working on a housing report that could inform potential legislation for 2025.

B. [AB 820](#) (Reyes D) State boards and commissions: seniors

AB 820, which would add older adult representation to state boards and commissions, was held in appropriations last year due to a \$100K price tag. If needed, the bill can be amended to remove the specific state body estimating a \$100K cost to allow for representation on the other proposed boards and commissions.

C. Amend CCoA statute in the Older Californians Act

CCoA will sponsor a bill to modernize the state statute related to CCoA practice, adjusting the number of Commissioners from 25 to 18 based on historical practice, and removing obsolete language.

## 9. Staff Updates

A. CCoA January General Meeting Preview

Coleman previewed the January 25 CCoA General Meeting, which focuses on briefing legislative staff on aging and disability policy. The primary goal of the meeting is to introduce subject matter experts to legislators and legislative staff for consultation on aging and disability issues. Approximately 250 attendees are expected.

B. Proposed Standing and Special Committee 2024 Schedule – Action

Swartzlander provided a high-level overview of proposed committee meetings throughout the year.

### **NO ACTION TAKEN**

C. CCoA May 2024 Forum – Proposed Topic – Action

Commissioners approved Swartzlander's recommended topic, older adult workforce, May CCoA forum.

**NO ACTION NEEDED** – workforce development is already a priority.

D. CCoA 50th Anniversary Event June 26, 2024

Chair Brown reported that West Health has committed to being a sponsor of the anniversary event. Chair Brown suggested inviting Secretary of State Shirley Webber to serve as keynote speaker, noting her legislative expertise and understanding of older adults and California issues. The CCoA team identified a fundraising goal of \$400,000, with potential advertising opportunities for those unable to sponsor the full amount.

E. Gallop Clifton Strengths Training

Swartzlander and Coleman reported participating in a Gallop Clifton Strengths training program. All remaining staff will be enrolled in future months.

F. New Travel Policy and Procedures

Swartzlander noted that travel policies have changed, and guidance will be updated.

G. Informatics and Technology Interns

Swartzlander reported there has been no progress on securing interns through the California Consortium for Public Health Informatics and Technology.

## 10. Closed Session

NO CLOSED SESSION. THE CONSIDERATION OF PERSONAL MATTERS WAS TABLED DUE TO LACK OF SUFFICIENT TIME. CLOSED SESSION WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE FEBRUARY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING.

A. Consideration of Personnel Matters Pursuant to Government Code Section 11126(a)(1).

**11. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m.