



Karol Swartzlander, Executive Director  
Gavin Newsom, Governor

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, June 27, 2024

Location: 2880 Gateway Oaks Drive, Room 395, Sacramento, CA 9583

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

Commissioner Brown called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m.

### 2. Roll Call and Establish a Quorum

Commissioners present: Davis, Jauregui, Goodall, Brown, Lindeman, Meador, Schmeding, Qazi, Frank, Cislowski, Adelman, Lyford

Commissioners attending virtually: Campos, Castile

Staff present: Swartzlander, Coleman, Smith, Melman, Anderson

**A quorum was established.**

### 3. Approve June 27, 2024 General Meeting Agenda

M/S/C (Meador/Schmeding)

TO APPROVE THE JUNE 27, 2024, MEETING AGENDA.

**APPROVED.**

Abstentions: None

### 4. Approve the CCoA General Meeting Minutes from May 1, 2024

M/S/C (Schmeding/Lindeman)

TO APPROVE THE MAY 1, 2024, MEETING MINUTES

**APPROVED.**

Abstentions: None

**5. Comments from the Public on Issues not on this Agenda**

None

**6. Chair's Comments**

Chair Brown complimented the staff and Commissioners on a successful gala event. New Commissioners Davis and Jauregui were welcomed and outgoing Commissioners Kang, Chung, Sanders, and Anguera were thanked for their service. Commissioners Davis and Jauregui introduced themselves.

**7. Anniversary Event Debrief**

Commissioners and staff agreed that the June 26 gala was a resounding success and beyond expectations. The event showcased the Commission, increased the visibility of its activities, brought together representatives from diverse fields around a common goal, and provided an opportunity to celebrate. Commissioners discussed how to carry forward the momentum generated by the anniversary gala. Suggestions included:

- launching a podcast;
- motivate other donors;
- continuing to support an ongoing gerontology scholarship program;
- keeping partners and sponsors connected to the work of the Commission;
- hosting a forum around a specific priority;
- keeping connected to our sponsors and keeping them in the loop;
- expand the organizations we reach out to for fundraising (banking, entertainment industry, technology);
- connect with Grantmakers in Aging;
- planning a Commissioners' retreat; and
- moving forward with the K-14 Lifespan Curriculum.

The Executive Committee will discuss the next steps and report back to the Commission.

Executive Director Swartzlander noted that the Commission collected \$193,200 through sponsorships and donations, \$60,000 for scholarships, and approximately \$31,000 to initiate a K-14 Lifespan Curriculum project and other CCoA priorities

## 8. CCoA Committee Reports

### A. Executive Committee Report

The Committee approved the new committee structure.

### B. Legislative Advocacy Committee Report

Smith reported that the Commission has taken a position on 44 bills, of which 28 are still alive, and that the Governor has signed one. Smith provided an update on the following Commission-sponsored bills, which are moving through the legislative process in their respective second Houses in the Legislature and are expected to move to the Governor for signature:

1. AB 1993 (Kalra) Residential care facilities for the elderly

Amended in Assembly Appropriations to eight beds. The bill will be heard in Human Services on Monday. CCoA is working to address some opposition from realtors. There is also some opposition from the state Fire Marshal in spite of the fact that the bill does not change safety standards.

2. AB 2207 (Reyes) State boards and commissions: seniors

This bill adds older adult representation to six boards and commissions. It may need to be amended to match AB 2680 by the Alzheimer's Association which would add a representative from the CA Commission on Aging to the Alzheimer's and Related Diseases Commission. The Health Workforce Education and Training Council (HCAI) may be removed from the bill due to their estimated cost of \$100,000 in a tight budget year. CCoA will work with the author's office to remove HCAI if they don't amend the cost. The bill is headed to the Senate Health Committee on consent and is expected to move forward.

3. AB 2620 (Bains) California Commission on Aging

This bill would reduce the number of Commissioners from 25 to 18, reflecting historical precedence, as well as other revisions. This bill is expected to pass.

4. SB 1249 (Roth) Mello-Granlund Older Californians Act

The bill passed the Assembly Aging and Long-term Care Committee and Chair Brown and Commissioner Schmeding testified. C4A has announced its support for SB 1249, as amended. The bill updates the Older Californian's Act. Should the bill pass, the California Department of Aging (CDA) would develop regulations to guide the process of applications for designation and potentially revise the interstate funding formula. The bill aims to establish statewide core programs and performance measures and ensure coordinated data collection. The proposed changes to the Older Californian's Act will better align with Older Americans Act updates, due by 2026.

C. **Behavioral Health Committee Report**

Commissioner Frank shared that the committee hopes to partner with CDA and their contractor in the analysis of Proposition One which unifies mental health and substance abuse under one title of behavioral health. The shared goal is to make sure older adults are not left behind. The committee is working with the California Department of Healthcare Services to obtain data on how many older adults are being served statewide for behavioral health. Commissioner Lyford offered access to the West Health Data Science Team which is studying similar data nationwide. Proposition One could benefit older adults particularly as it supports full-service partnerships which include housing with behavioral health support. A concern is that those with mild cognitive impairment, including dementia-related diseases, might be overlooked if the focus is only on serious mental illness.

D. **Elder Justice Legislative Subcommittee Report**

No report was provided in the absence of Commissioner Perry.

Swartzlander mentioned a possible partnership with the Attorney General's office in the Division of Medicare and Medicaid fraud around elder justice issues.

Commissioner Brown noted the importance of legislation by Senator Dodd to protect

older adults whose houses are being foreclosed without the owner's knowledge through requiring notification by the banks. The importance of notifying individuals when an account change is made was discussed as well as other consumer protections. Commissioners discussed how to further support the two-year bill.

**9. CCoA Updated Committee Structure (Swartzlander & Smith)**

Swartzlander discussed the new structure of special committees, standing committees, and subcommittees, and solicited input from commissioners regarding appointments by the Chair. The four standing committees are Executive, Legislative Advocacy, Operational Procedures and Bylaws, and Research and Policy Development. Potential future topics in alignment with policy priorities were discussed. Each Commissioner is asked to serve on at least one committee.

The Gerontology Scholarship Program would fall under the Executive Committee. Funds are managed through the CCoA component fund with the CA Foundation of Aging. Focus will be on Gerontology majors (\$5,000) and minors (\$2,500). Commissioners discussed ongoing fundraising efforts to grow the fund.

**10. Adoption of the CCoA Operational Plan 2024-2026**

Swartzlander gave a progress report on the Operational Plan as an ongoing framework including the addition of priorities. The plan will continue year over year with updates as needed. A work plan will be developed with a timeline. The Operational Plan is currently available on OnBoard. Swartzlander will send out a new draft for review by the Commissioners after accommodating input from Commissioners Frank and Cislowski. The Operational Plan can be approved by the Executive Committee or at a General Meeting.

**11. Review 2024 Policy Priorities and Timeline**

Swartzlander announced that the timeline has not been finalized and will be presented at the next meeting. The suggestion was made to set a timeframe for reviewing priorities and

setting milestones throughout the year.

## 12. **Discuss Legislative Priorities for 2024-2025**

Smith discussed the fall schedule and noted that any legislative ideas should be initiated this fall before the Legislature convenes in December. Commissioners are encouraged to bring ideas forward for discussion and prioritization. It was suggested that ten good legislative bill concepts is a good target. Staff were asked to create a guide for bill concept development to assist the Commission on forming ideas for bills in our priority areas. Staff were asked to identify new and retiring Legislative Members who may be interested in issues impacting older adults.

Commissioner Frank suggested a bill requiring the collection of detailed data of older adults' utilization of behavioral health services in California. Considering that the Bagley-Keene revisions are due to expire in 2026, staff strongly encourage that CCoA carry a new bill seeking to make the revisions permanent or at a minimum extend the sunset into the future.

## 13. **State Stakeholder Advisory Committees and Workgroup Reports**

### A. **Behavioral Health Task Force**

Commissioner Adelman stated that the Task Force is now focused on the Crisis line (988), with response time as a primary issue, and local prioritization of issues. Education on older adult issues may need to be provided to crisis counselors.

### B. **Elder and Disability Justice Coordinating Council**

Coleman gave an update regarding the division of the Council into three subcommittees. Conservatorship, Adult Protective Services, and Legal Services.

### C. **California Aging and Disability Research Partnership**

Commissioner Lindeman discussed the Research and Development Committee's focus on Medicare data and other sources and the development of a dashboard by West Health, CDA, and others that includes behavioral health, housing, and workforce data. Preliminary outcomes from the LGBTQ+ report will be released in

August or September. Senator Laird mentioned putting together an LGBTQ+ task force. CCoA should express interest in the task force's response to the forthcoming data, as well as any hearings and proposed bills.

**D. Aging and Disability Resource Connection Advisory Committee**

Swartzlander reported there are no updates to share.

**14. Staff Report**

**A. Housing Report**

Swartzlander noted that the report is posted on OnBoard for Commissioner review.

**B. Communications**

Melman noted that communications have been put on hold due to Gala planning but will be a priority moving forward.

**C. October 21, 2024, General Meeting, San Bernardino**

Swartzlander noted the next meeting will be convened in San Bernardino.

**15. Review Action Items**

- Smith will share the latest version of our four bills with the Commissioners.
- Commissioner Frank and Lindeman will write thank you notes to Sponsors.
- Gala videos will be shared on Social media, the CCoA website, and in an AgeWatch recap.
- The Executive Committee will discuss and provide a list of actions to carry forward the momentum from the Get Loud event (see #7 above).
- Swartzlander will solicit interest from Commissioners on which committees they wish to serve.
- Staff will obtain the Legislative Calendar for 2024-25 and work backward to schedule CCoA outreach. Bills can be proposed as early as December.
- Commissioners Jauregui and Brown will meet to discuss venue and tours for the October 21 General Meeting.



- Staff will reach out to Senator Dobb on how CCoA can support his bill protecting homeowners from home theft through bank fraud.
- Staff will connect with Senator Laird concerning the LGBTQ+ task force.
- Staff will identify new and retiring Legislative Members who may be interested in issues impacting older adults. Commissioners could reach out to candidates in their districts to encourage attention to aging issues. The Executive Committee could reach out to foundations (like West Health) who are already doing this type of outreach and find out their methodology.
- Melman will provide a one-page policy priority document for Commissioners to share with Legislative Members in their district including candidates and/or staff can send to all candidates and all Members once elected.

**16. Commissioner Comments**

Commissioners all praised staff for the gala event.

**17. Public Comment**

Rubina Chaudhary noted that Olive Community Services in Orange County was happy to be a sponsor of the Gala and praised the work of the Commission staff.

**18. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm