

Eastern Sierra Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Meeting

Inyo County Social Services Office, 920 N. Main St., Bishop
Mono County Conference Room, 74 N. School St., Bridgeport
Inyo County Health & Human Services, Hurlbutt-Rook Community Hall, Tecopa

January 9, 2013

Minutes

Advisory Council Members Present: Roger Rasche, Matt Kingsley, Rachel Lober, Selma Calnan, Saul Sanabria, Christie Martindale, Jim Copeland

Attendees at Bishop meeting site: Jean Turner, Gina Ellis, Kathryn Williams, Linda Arcularius

Attendees at Bridgeport meeting site: Megan Foster

Attendees at Tecopa meeting site: None – unable to connect

1. Call to Order of the Advisory Council

Chairperson Roger Rasche called the meeting to order at 10:33 a.m.

2. Introductions

Introductions were made by those in attendance at the two meeting sites.

3. Public Comment

Selma Calnan reported that the United Methodist Church would be holding a program at their facility on January 29, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. The speaker will be Jill Batchelder of the Eastern Sierra Transit Authority. She will define her duties as a transit planner.

4. Election of Officers

Roger Rasche nominated Jim Copeland as Chairperson, Selma Calnan moved to close the nominations for Chairperson. Roger Rasche nominated himself for Vice-Chairperson, Christie Martindale moved to close nominations for Vice-Chairperson. There was no opposition to the nominations. Nominations to approve appointments as recommended carried unanimously.

5. Administrative Staff will facilitate discussions and provide information on the following:

A. Membership Orientation

ESAAA Director, Jean Turner, thanked all members for their willingness to be part of the Advisory Council. She presented each of the members with orientation binders and gave an overview of the contents contained in the binder. The following corrections/revisions were requested:

Selma Calnan requested that mobility be added to the values section of the binder where safety and security are mentioned.

Linda Arcularius asked that her e-mail address be revised to HLarcularius@gmail.com on the Governing Board contact sheet.

Christie Martindale asked that her phone number be changed to 760 937-4304 on the Advisory Council contact sheet.

The documents will be corrected and sent out for members to change out those in their binders.

B. Issues and planning for 2013

Selma Calnan spoke about the value of volunteers noting that they provide assistance to staff, and can aid in acquiring additional funding. Jean Turner said that the program is moving forward with a new volunteer program.

Jim Copeland said that he received a request for home served meals in Benton. Jean Turner responded saying that Highway 6 meals come from the Antelope Valley Senior Program, and that Benton does have a Community Center, but not a separate Senior Center. She added that no congregate meals had been provided/reported there for the previous two years.

C. Community Needs Assessment

Jean Turner spoke about the Community Needs Assessment saying that they had been distributed and reviewed at the senior centers. She spoke about the use of the data collected in the Needs Assessment and how it is used for the Area Plan that must be updated each year. Christie Martindale of Toiyabe Indian Health Project and Jim Copeland of the Benton Paiute Tribe said they would be interested in helping with the distribution of the Needs Assessment in the future. Matt Kingsley asked about the strategy for outreach to the Hispanic population. Jean spoke about strategies that had been used in the past. Suggestions for further outreach may be discussed at the next meeting. Saul Sanabria asked about services for the deaf and mute, adding that he provides such services. Jean said that the Area Plan update was due in early May.

I. Frontier and Remote Area methodology for funding

Jean said that Frontier and Remote Area methodology for funding that was included in the meeting packet is new, and is currently out for a comment period.

II. Census data

Linda Arcularius mentioned that Glenda Hermaston of the California USDA could be a good person to follow up with. Jean said that she had not asked the Governing Board if they would like to redistribute the funding, or keep it as it is currently in the four-year Area Plan. She invited Advisory Council members to attend a workshop with the Inyo County Board of Supervisors on January 22, 2013 to go over the highlights of the senior program.

III. Utilization trends

Jean reviewed the data on the utilization trend. She will double check the numbers for West Bishop with the Planning department.

6. Verify 2013 meeting dates

- Wednesday, April 17, 2013
- Wednesday, July 10, 2013
- Wednesday, October 30, 2013

Jean reviewed that dates as listed on the agenda and added that although there are only four dates shown for the year that could be subject to change depending on issues that may arise. It was discussed and agreed that Wednesdays work well for meetings. The location of the meetings was discussed. Christie Martindale said that the Toiyabe office in Lone Pine has a videoconferencing unit that could be used for meetings. A comment was made that it would be very helpful to have a videoconferencing unit in Walker, and that perhaps the Mono County Board of Supervisors could be approached about the subject. Roger Rasche asked if it would be possible to have a combined meeting of the Advisory Council and the Governing Board in June; Jean will look into it. Jean noted that

although the next meeting is tentatively set for April 17, there is a chance that it could be sooner.

A request was made to add a section to the orientation binders for the Brown Act. Also, a brief session on the Brown Act with a one or two page cheat sheet was requested to be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Jean Turner spoke about the Ombudsman program saying that it would be coming in-house in March. She recognized Kathryn Williams for her 15 years of work with the Ombudsman program, and the Ombudsman Advocacy Services of Inyo-Mono for their 22 years of service. She went onto to say to by bringing the program in house, the program is able to bring in funds from the Behavioral Health program to have people watch for signs of depression or other issues. She spoke about bringing in a trainer and added that the training would be open to volunteers, staff and the Advisory Council.

The meeting adjourned at 11:53 a.m.