



The Unified Voice for Older Adults in Yolo County

Advocacy Committee

MINUTES

Thursday, August 6, 2020, 10:00am – 12:00pm

VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL

PRESENT: Christine Dicker (Partnership Healthplan), Charlotte Dorsey (BBCAN, CA Senior Legislator), Elaine Roberts Musser (Yolo Co. Commission on Aging), Elizabeth Lasensky (Davis Commission on Aging), Patti Huston (YHAA Board member), Pam Miller (Agency on Aging-Area 4), Kaelea Lucas (Resources for Independent Living), Saira Delgado (Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry office), Nia Jones (Congressman Matsui's office), Nancy Schaelin-Zipse (senior advocate), Fran Smith (CARA representative), Brandi Bluell (Resources for Independent Living), Mary Schleeter (AAA4), German Ayon (AAA4), Anson Houghton (AAA4), Aaron Lotta (Congressman Garamendi's office), Curleen Langman (YHAA, CSUS intern), Dawn Myers (YHAA Board and Yolo Adult Day Health Center), April Wick (Resources for Independent Living), Debra Palmer (Winters and Yolo Commissions on Aging), Emily Miyaoka (RIL), Sheila Allen (YHAA Executive Director)

- 1. Welcome, introductions and approval of agenda** Agenda approved by acclamation.
- 2. Approval of the minutes of 7/2/20 MOTION:** Move to approve as written by Elizabeth Lasensky, Charlotte Dorsey 2nd, passed unanimously.
- 3. Status of Follow up items from 7/2/20**
 - a. Send letter of support to Senate side-AB 2047 *done*
 - b. Send committee RIL Emergency Power Shut Off Support flier *see attached*
- 4. Guest Speaker-Congressman John Garamendi-DEFERRED TO NEXT MONTH**
- 5. Reports from elected officials' offices**
 - a. Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry (Saira Delgado) AB 2047 (Alzheimer's/dementia considerations to be included in emergency planning) is being held in Government Organizational Committee so not going through this legislative session. Very limited number of bills going through, office started with 20 bills introduced and down to 3-4 piece left going forward. She plans to bring this legislative issue back next year. The legislature on a mad dash to the finish. Committee hearings are through end of the month (one hearing per committee with only with limited bills). Briefing about issues related to skilled nursing facilities and other long term care facilities by CA Dept. of Public Health (CDPH). They have launch a new COVID-19 page:

Yolo Healthy Aging Alliance - The Voice for Older Adults in Yolo County
Supervisor Jim Provenza, Chair - Sheila Allen, Executive Director
600 A Street, Suite C, Davis, CA 95616 530-757-5583 www.yolohealthyaging.org

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/ncov2019.aspx>. Focus of legislature is EDD-record high unemployment. Census-moved deadline up to end of Sept. Asking for help to spread the word in the community to complete your census and census scams. In person canvassing is limited and now cut further. We are trusted messengers-get the word out.

- b. Assemblymember McCarty (Sydney Whitesel) not present to report.
- c. Senator Dodd (Lysette Marshman) not present to report.
- d. Senator Pan (Karen Abrego) not present to report.
- e. Congressman Garamendi (Aaron Lotta) 2020 Census-census bureau recently announced will be cutting the data collection timeframe short by one month because they need additional time to complete the analysis of the data. Congress wanted to give them additional time but census director did not ask for it. Sept. 30 is current deadline to complete your census. Relief legislation so health and aging service funds getting to state. Negotiations making progress for next federal relief act Heroes Act. Have over \$700,000 of testing funds that have not been released. Helping with Medicare questions or strange communications. Postal Service-buy some stamps-new Post Master General changing procedures so that rural people could have to wait 7-10 days for mail including medications. Common Cause-in support of Post Office. HR 6560 Unite Act – Peace Corp to become contract tracing services.
MOTION: Move to support HR 6560 by Charlotte Dorsey, Fran Smith 2nd, passed unanimously.
- f. Congresswoman Matsui (Nia Jones) Census- No response follow up is supposed to start this month. Post office-she signed onto letter requesting that funds for post office be included in the next relief package. What advocates can do: buy stamps, call into her office to tell support for post office. Relief Bill will be higher than \$1 trillion but not finalized yet. HR7463 “Assisted Living Facility Coronavirus Reporting Act” (Matsui-co-sponsor) State to report data on assisted living facilities and other requirements in order to receive COVID funds. Next Stimulus Act-it may include funding for home and community based care. Her office has not been hearing much from community on this. Would like to hear more.

6. Report from YHAA Advocacy-Legislative Subcommittee (Debra Palmer, chair, members: Elizabeth Lasensky, Nancy Schaezlein-Zipse, Charlotte Dorsey) (See attached bill tracker.)

2020 Census Address of residence reported for April 1-where you would have been. Locally, there is a big issue related to students who were transitioning to remote learning and may have moved away by April 1. RIL has been doing phone banking to remind non-respondents. **FOLLOW UP:** Provide committee with flier to distribute to networks reminding about census and response maps.

CARES Act-Families First Funds were to be spent first. If state used less than 25% of Families First funds then will only receive 75% of CARES funds which was unexpected. Resources for Independent Living received \$125,000 for rental assistance program, bought PPE and mae office safe for return of consumers. ADRC will also be receiving some COVID funds.

HEROES Act-will probably be renamed and be combined with HEALS Act. Unclear how and when this will move forward. For advocacy, focus on programs or services or subsections rather than a particular piece of legislation that may not move forward. Suggested programs and policies that are currently included:

- ADRC transition services
- Community Based Services
- Skilled Nursing Facility Infection Control with oversight
- Increase Skilled Nursing Facility reimbursement to decrease crowding

- “Green House Project”
- Addressing nutrition desserts
- Housing protection
- Technology for older adults including internet “Telehealth infrastructure”

FOLLOW UP: Invite Christie Skibbins from Yolo Meals on Wheels to next meeting to hear about current program, needs, barriers, funding.

SB862 (Dodd) being held-will not move forward this year. Plans to re-introduce next year.

- 7. The California Collaborative for Long Term Services (CCLTSS)** (Patti Huston) “Long Term Care at Home” through DHCS moving forward with implementation in 2021. Will require new licensing category. Jacey Cooper, CA Medicaid Director describes it as a higher level of coordination and care management. Concerns: 1- Appears to be a replication of MSSP and lower level than CBAS care coordination, 2-Who the care managers will be working for to address the needs of the client, 3-Services discussed were medical model, 4-not funding programs that could address these issues, e.g.: ADHC, 5- infrastructure exists-why not fund already existing programs and supports, 6-still describe as “cost-neutral” although no costs or budgets presented.
- 8. Agency on Aging Area 4 update** (Pam Miller/Mary Schleeter) Providing meals to Yolo homeless seniors in hotels 65 people. Vacancy on the AAA4 governor board for Yolo Co. Consider applying.
- 9. Report from California Senior Legislature** – (C. Dorsey) Northern CA Caucus-having electronic connection issue. Labeling Legislation: Prescription Drug Task Force created, report due by Nov. Zoom meetings improves participation. Supporting updating Brown Act to allow continued use.
- 10. Report from California Association of Retired Americans (CARA)** (Fran Smith) Priority bills list almost all went away with focused, shortened session. Senior Vote
- 11. YHAA report on current projects:** (Sheila Allen)
 - a. Phone Friends for Seniors** for information or to sign up as volunteer or to receive a call: [https://www.yolohealthyaging.org/phone-friend-forms Con](https://www.yolohealthyaging.org/phone-friend-forms-Con)
 - b. Update on Yolo Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC)** First state grant received, designated as “emerging”, applying for additional funding from Dignity.
 - c. Healthy Parks-Healthy People**-educate providers and public on health benefits of nature
 - d. Expansion of Yolo Adult Day Health Center**-news in coming month.
 - e. 2020 Census**- last day to complete online is Sept. 30 <https://2020census.gov/>
- 12. Announcements and upcoming events**
 - a. YHAA 10th Anniversary Fundraiser**-Rescheduled-Sunday, Oct. 4, 4pm-Virtual.
Winters Aging Commission is surveying needs for assisted living. New low income senior housing complex slated to be opened in the fall.
 - b. West Sacramento “Take a Walk”** Charlotte and Jim encouraging older adults to walk.
 - c. RIL** received a grant from PG&E and ILC to distribute emergency power backup. 5 people in Yolo Co. received so far. Link on website: PSPS tab. RIL assists to sign up for medical baseline program. Empowerment Town Hall this fall-training how to stay safe in a disaster and go-kits.
- 13. Future Agenda Items – September- Congressman Garamendi-rescheduled**
- 14. Next meeting date:** Thursday, September 3, 2020, 10am-noon via Zoom