



Commission on Aging of Mariposa County

Post Office Box 99 / Mariposa, CA 95338

(209) 966-2000

-MINUTES-

April 28, 2021

Video Conference

Members Present: Brenda Sweeney; Linda Pribyl; Don Fox; Dale Silverman; Dayna Hannagan; Sarah Montoya

Members Absent: Sue Overstreet - Excused

Staff Present: Jason Allen; Diana Ziegenfuss

BOS Liaison: Rosemarie Smallcombe

Guest Speakers: Eric Sergienko; Kristin Millhoff

Guests: Judy Burden; Tom Sweeney; Nina Rhodes; Sue Halstead

Recording Secretary: Don Fox and Jason Allen

1. Call to Order and Introductions:

- a. The meeting was called to order @ 10:02 AM by Brenda Sweeney, Chairperson. (To accommodate the time constraints of the guest speakers, the meeting's order was changed. The presentation from the Executive Director of the Area 12 Agency on Aging was moved to the top of the agenda, followed by the presentation from Mariposa County's Public Health Officer.)
- b. Welcome Dayna Hannagan, our newest Commissioner! Dayna is filling an At-Large position, so now our membership has reached 7. Three positions are still vacant.
- c. The Chairperson reminded the group about the Commission on Aging's 4 main objectives: 1. To identify problems/opportunities affecting seniors and to work on solutions to propose to the Board of Supervisors, 2. To work with the Area 12 Agency on Aging as an advocate for seniors, 3. To communicate with the senior population regarding resources available to help meet needs, 4. To recruit new Commission members. The Commission is supposed to have 10 members: 1 from each supervisorial district and 5 At-Large members. District 3 is still unrepresented and 2 At-Large positions are still open.

2. Public Comments:

- a. N/A - No comments were made.

3. Presentation - COVID-19 Vaccine Update by Mariposa County Health Officer, Dr. Eric Sergienko:

- a. California has 4 counties in the least restrictive tier. Mariposa is currently in orange tier.
- b. There has been a recent surge in cases related to an Easter church service, but continued forward transmission from this has been stopped due to effective contact tracing and quarantine efforts.
- c. As of 4/27, Mariposa has 3 hospitalized cases. JCF has been transferring the majority of positive cases requiring hospitalization to facilities in the Valley better able to provide care for these patients.

- d. 48% of Mariposa residents age 16 and over have received at least one dose of a vaccine.
 - e. Johnson & Johnson vaccine has been cleared & suggested for continued use, it is currently being offered again. In Mariposa, the J&J vaccine has been administered to 425 people as of 4/28.
 - f. Wastewater testing from El Portal revealed 1 viral variant. The viral load was small and believed to have originated with a visitor/tourist. The health department is continuing surveillance and monitoring the situation.
 - g. Myturn.ca.gov can now be used to sign up for getting a vaccine.
 - h. Regarding Mariposa Highschool, if any student in a class tests positive, the rest of the class is quarantined as a safety measure. Steps are being taken to limit transmission and keep everyone as safe as possible.
 - i. Of the last 20 cases, 19 were unvaccinated. 1 case had received the vaccination only a few days before developing symptoms and was thought to be in a pre-symptomatic state at the time the vaccine was given.
4. Approval of January 27, 2021 Minutes: Attachment A
- a. Dale made motion to approve, Linda seconded, all members approved.
5. Approval of October 28, 2020 Minutes: Attachment B
- a. Linda made motion to approve, Don seconded, all members approved. Dayna and Sarah abstained from voting on the October 2020 minutes because they were not Commission members at the time and were not in attendance at the meeting.
6. COA Commissioners' Reports:
- a. District 1: No comments made.
 - b. District 2:
 - i. Regarding senior meals in the North county, the Coulter Café is not a viable option as they are unable to move forward with accepting Calfresh for Seniors, and the mandated nutrition

requirements of a government subsidized partnership are too onerous for the Café to take on.

- ii. A group of citizens have met with County officials and the Executive Director of the Area 12 Agency on Aging (A12AA) to discuss Northside Senior Nutrition. The Director of Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) has indicated that she would like to move forward with a near-term senior nutrition program on the northside, similar to the one in operation on the southside. She is in the process of securing resources for a county-wide assessment of food insecurity, but in the short term has requested that the volunteer citizens group gather information regarding the approximate number of people who would attend a northside senior nutrition program. Since the southside is currently doing a drive-through hot lunch program, due to the constraints of the pandemic, she would also like the volunteers to assess if the northside residents would be interested in a similar drive-through program. The citizens group is working on acquiring that information for the Director.
- iii. Much discussion ensued regarding the need for a widely distributed standardized survey to ensure that the northside would be adequately covered when the data are presented to the Director. Discussion also covered the need for meal delivery to homebound seniors. Hot meals are unable to be delivered to seniors outside of a 3 ½ mile radius from where the food is prepared. If a senior lives beyond that radius, frozen food can be delivered. Brainstorming ensued regarding a volunteer force that might be available for delivery. Questions also arose regarding the Don Pedro area which is covered by two counties: Mariposa and Tuolumne. The Executive Director of the A12AA noted that the Sierra Senior Providers of Tuolumne County can deliver to residents of Mariposa County through contractual relationships. She also noted that grants may be available to help through Meals on Wheels of America. In-home Supportive Services (IHSS) may

also be able to help. The Executive Director also advised that she would get information on the Older Americans Act out to the Commission.

- iv. Dale moved that an ad hoc committee be formed to continue work on the northside senior nutrition program. The ad hoc committee would be made up of the 3 commission members from the northside: Dale, Dayna, and Brenda. Don seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- v. The JCF medical clinic on the northside is scheduled to re-open on May 3. There will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Robin Fry has returned as the clinic's healthcare provider.
- vi. The Commission on Aging received a request from a community member for support for her "Walk to End Alzheimers-2021". Please visit that site and type in Bobbie Cavazos to offer support. Dale advised that with Bobbie's permission she will post on the Mariposa County Seniors Facebook page to further secure support for Bobbie's efforts. Brenda will check with Bobbie for her permission, and get back to Dale on this.
- c. District 3: No comments made.
- d. District 4:
 - i. Senior Coalition is working on abuse prevention for elders and dependent adults.
 - ii. The skilled nursing facility at JCF, also called the Ewing Wing, recently received a 5 star rating. The Ewing Wing is approximately a 28 bed facility. They have had 0 COVID positive cases.
- e. District 5: No comments made.

7. Area 12 Agency on Aging Report:

- a. The Executive Director of the A12AA gave a presentation on Governor Newsom's "Master Plan on Aging". This plan covers the time period from 01/2021-01/2030.
- b. There are 5 main goals stated:

- i. Attaining housing for all ages and stages.
 - ii. Seeing health reimagined.
 - iii. Inclusion and equity not Isolation.
 - iv. Caregiving that works.
 - v. Affording aging and economic security.
- c. It will take several years to tailor this plan to the needs of the community. The process can start by talking to community members about what is and is not working. There will be a collaboration with counties to review housing needs.
- d. County & state trainings on this will be coming in the near future.
- e. It was requested that Jason send a link to Mariposa County's Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) for Commission members to review. Dr. Sergienko commented on overlap between the CHIP and the Governor's Master Plan in the area of "Health Reimagined". Telehealth, health vans, and "systems of care" (wrap-around services for the elderly) will help bridge the gap for rural healthcare going forward.

8. Old Business:

a. Community Outreach:

- i. Check out the Mariposa County Seniors Facebook page created by Dale! There are currently 75 followers. This is where the majority of the outreach is conducted. Please take time to post on this page if you can, the more useful information we can post the better. We don't get many comments but there have been lots of likes so we know people are looking.
- ii. Dale offered to publish an article in the paper about the new Facebook page.
- iii. On May 4th is the virtual senior rally.

b. Bylaws:

- i. Non-substantial changes were made by Terri P. The word deputy was removed in a few places. With a pending

change to remove the word deputy from one more place,
Dale motions to approve, all seconded, all approved.

- ii. The Commission also voted to send the completed, revised Commission on Aging Bylaws to the Board of Supervisors for a resolution to adopt.

9. New Business:

a. Unmet Needs:

- i. Transportation was identified as a need. Discussion ensued regarding Mari-Go and Medi-Trans. Per Diana Z. people 60 and over can get transportation without a voucher. They just need to fill out a one- time form.
- ii. Transportation is working on outreach, not many know this service exists.
- iii. Dale will send Diana Z. information regarding the Yosemite Express, the newspaper of the north county, so information about transportation options can be published there, as well.

- b. Directory for Senior Resources: Jason will work on compiling a list of senior resources for Dale to publish by way of the new Facebook page and print media.

10. Adjournment: @ 11:52AM

11. Next Scheduled Meeting: July 21, 2021 at 10:00 AM