

Mayor's Commission on Aging  
City of Oakland Human Services Department  
Lionel J. Wilson Building  
150 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 4340  
Oakland, CA 94612  
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### **City of Oakland Mayor's Commission on Aging**

January 8, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.  
City Hall, Hearing Room One  
One Frank H. Ogawa Plaza  
Oakland, CA 94612

#### **Minutes**

1. Call to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairperson Bryan Ricks
2. *Quorum Met* (See Exhibit A)
3. **Approval of minutes**

*Motion to approve minutes by Vice Chairperson Martha (Mattie) Scott, second by Commissioner Michael Coleman*

4. **Agenda Modification and Approval:**

- Correction on Retreat date: Wednesday, February 5, 2020
- Update of community center liaison assignments
- Krista Lucchesi, Director Mercy Brown Bag Program will not present

It was moved that the Agenda Modifications be approved.

5. **Public Comments (Limit 3 minutes). Please fill out a speaker card**

- *None*

6. **Mercy Brown Bag Program (Krista Lucchesi)**

- *Chairperson Bryan Ricks*, the commission wanted to get information around the challenges the hunger organizations are facing. The commission is a strong advocate for this program, Meals on Wheels, Spectrum, and Mercy Brown Bag who provide meals to our seniors. There is a short fall of funding. The Sugar Sweetened Beverage tax was a big help. Looking forward we need a more sustainable solution to support these organizations.
- *Scott Means, HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Manager* has been working with the Local Food Providers, who meet at the United Seniors at the Eastmont Mall. The focus

of discussion has been on sustainability and how the cost has gone up. The senior centers are having a time having operational and management money just to keep the lights on and buy tissue. There is not enough money for operations in getting food to people. The ongoing support of the Sugar Sweetened Beverage Act is not a continuous means of support it is putting a lot of stress on the providers. There is a lack of communication regarding the funding. The Cannabis tax adjustments will create a revenue deficit. Communication is a problem; the providers do know how they are going to sustain the programs. There is talk about money set aside based on fees for people parking in disabled parking spaces. It was quite a lot of money that has been absorbed in the City budget and we do not know where the money is.

- *Commissioner Dianna Garrett* asked how the money was distributed and dedicated to seniors.
- *Scott Means HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Manager*, the money was controlled by the commission. The commission had a community grant that people applied for. The Sugar Sweetened Beverage funds will be instituted for funding. But this should be on top of what is still being collected for the parking fees (the set aside money).
- *Chairperson Bryan Ricks* stated that during the Life Enrichment Committee Meeting that the funding is still there and a willingness to relook at giving it back to the commission. This would be a good place to start talking to Councilman Taylor about making that happen.
- *Scott Means HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Manager* agreed that talking with Councilman Taylor and other members of the council. There needs to be more transparency regarding what the council's intent is for the funds. This will help the community - based organizations and nongovernment organizations adjust their service strategies or their funding strategies and what is appropriate in moving forward with the City.
- *Chairperson Bryan Ricks* asked going back to the Cannabis tax is there a projection on whether the reduction and tax rate will result in an increase of sales or would there be an offset of loss. By reducing the tax will that create more revenue.

- *Scott Means HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Manager* stated that it is still being analyzed.
- *Chairperson Bryan Ricks* stated that the commission needs to develop an action plan in order to make recommendations to the city.
- *Vice Chairperson Martha (Mattie) Scott* asked if the commission would get background information through an email before the retreat on the hunger programs and the number of people that they are serving and some of the fiscal issues that they are facing.
- *Chairperson Bryan Ricks* stated there was a project to break down the hunger shortage there was a projection of cost that was developed in conjunction with some organizations. It has been three (3) years and cost have changed but there is some background information available.
- *Scott Means HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Manager* will reach out to Wendy Petersen who works with the organizations to see if they would come together and give us information regarding background information on the hunger program.
- *Chairperson Bryan Ricks* asked if any of commissioners have any questions regarding what has been discussed.
- *Commissioner Shannon McDonnell* asked if we can information about the cannabis tax and how much it was reduced and reductive revenues and what other groups have claim to that tax.
- *Scott Means HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Manager* stated that information is in the City Adopted Budget. A substantial amount was programed for Parks and Recreation.
- *Commissioner Asha Beene-Clarke* asked if we could get information regarding the set aside money.
- *Scott Means HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Manager* has been trying to find out
- *Chairperson Bryan Ricks* stated that he and Commissioner Dianna Garrett will meet with Councilman Taylor next Friday to discuss the set aside and get some clarification.
- *Commissioner Dianna Garrett* asked if the set aside was that something we passed as voters.
- *Tracy Jensen HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Policy Analyst* the Commission on Aging had the authority over the set aside money. The commission received Two ninety thousand dollars (\$290,000) to four hundred thousand dollars (400,000) per year. Center for Elders Independence received a portion of the funds. For at lease eight (8)

years the Commission on Aging received fifty thousand dollars (50,000) a year. The direction of the funding was eliminated in 2011-2013. In 2015 the funds were eliminated and redirected.

- *Commissioner Dianna Garrett* asked if the inception of the increase for the parking tax was voter approved?
- *Tracy Jensen HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Policy Analyst* thought it was a resolution. She will research and get back to the commission.
- *Commissioner Dianna Garrett* asked was there a resolution to change the direction of the tax.
- *Tracy Jensen HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Policy Analyst* said no, and she will work with Scott and report to the commission before the next meeting.
- *Chairperson Bryan Ricks* final comment on the subject, if that was voter approved the monies should still be there.
- *Vice Chairperson Martha (Mattie) Scott* stated that it would make a difference if it was a tax or a fee.
- *Scott Means HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Manager* stated that if it was an approved budget process the council would not need a resolution. There will be more to come.

## **7. Age Friendly Cities/Livable Oakland**

- *Chairperson Bryan Ricks and Scott Means HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Manager* discussed Age-Friendly Cities/Livable Oakland and decided that the commission should shift gears and look at it as an initiative not, a platform to meet our needs as a commission. Items of hunger, housing, communication are part of what we do as a commission. The focus in 2020 is to ensure the commission has sustainable programs for seniors. Not just for one year.
- *Commissioner Dianna Garrett*
  - Communication
    - there will be a kickoff to come up with a scope of work
    - There is a meeting setup with Eden I&R have her come to present what they are doing in Berkeley.

## **8. Community Center Liaison Assignments**

- Chairperson Bryan Ricks
- DOSC – Commissioners Michael Coleman, Jacqueline Phillips, Tomye Neal-Madison
- EOSC – Commissioners Jenifer Seibert, Toni Gomez

- NOSC – Vice Chairperson Martha (Mattie) Scott, Commissioner Cheryl Moore
- WOSC – Commissioners Shannon McDonnell, Asha Beene-Clarke

## 9. Food Program

- Chairperson Bryan Ricks

### **Mercy Brown Bag and SMASH (Youth) Programs**

Councilman Taylor will come in to assist in removing some of the barriers the commission is faced with. There is a parking, out of the box program that is trying to provide food for people who do not have easy access to food. There will be more of a report in February.

## 10. Announcements and updates from Human Services Department

- *Scott Means Aging and Adult Services Division Manager and Tracy Jensen Policy Analyst*
  - RFP - Sugar Sweetened Beverage one - time only funds of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1000,000).
    1. Shared Housing Program
    2. Food Program
      - Completion – End of the Fiscal Year
      - Competitive, there are three (3) local possible players that could apply for it.
- *Commissioner Shannon McDonnell* asked about the process of the grant review because she sits on the California Arts Council grant review panel and a couple others, are the criteria and the system of grading the grants have they been written, is this what the city uses for every application?
- *Scott Means HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Manager* said it varies depending upon the grant. Along with Tracy, we will work something up so that there can be another level of review by the panel.
- *Chairperson Bryan Ricks* wanted to invite Sylvia Stadmire to be on the Sugar Sweetened Beverage Panel. Are there any volunteers?
  - **Sugar Sweetened Beverage Review Panel**
    1. Chairperson Bryan Ricks
    2. Sylvia Stadmire (Scott will contact)
    3. Commissioner Shannon McDonnell
    4. Commissioner Cheryl Moore
- *Scott Means HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Manager* stated that it will take a couple of weeks to prepare the RFP draft to present.
- *Scott Means HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Manager*

AC Transit has a strategic plan for legislative programs that they are trying to push in 2020. The Department of Transportation was given an opportunity to provide input while entering acting with the Mayor's office and they said that they need to talk to Human Services Department about this. The Mayor's office contacted Scott Monday evening. They accepted everything that Scott recommended.

1. The City would like to work in partnership with AC Transit and not only Federal funding for Paratransit and accessibility services. The Commissioner on Aging and The Commissioner on Disabilities can provide help on input on the needs of resources for the general population.
2. They have information about compliance with ADA, but it was not connected to the strategy's disaster and emergency preparedness.
3. County is looking out to the State for California Human Health Services Regional Centers of the East Bay. There needs to be a link with other county and local providers like East Bay Paratransit, Oakland Paratransit for the Elderly and Disabled (OPED), Measure B and other transportation supported organizations.

They did discuss ADA access and Paratransit services as something they need to fully fund in advance not backfill as the need arises.

- *Chairperson Bryan Ricks* asked if this includes regular bus line transportation and being ADA compliant.
- *Scott Means HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Manager* stated that this is for general population.
- *Chairperson Bryan Ricks* stated that there is a need for seniors regarding transportation, should the commission be looking at this as part of the focus as well as housing and hunger?
- *Scott Means HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Manager* it is there is talk about changing some of the laws around transit centers and housing and it all connected.
- *Chairperson Bryan Ricks* added if we see a lot of high-rise buildings being built around the transit centers it goes back to affordable housing.
- *Scott Means HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Manager* stated that small or micro decisions may not have major public interest but could have major impact. They changed the bus route along Foothill Blvd. There was a senior facility there. In order to access their bus, they had to walk down a long block and cross a four (4) lane diagonal crosswalk with no stop signs. Because the decision was made at an administrative level is a problem and needs to be looked at.

- *Commissioner Martha (Mattie) Scott* a couple of the commissions function is to get aging onto everybody's check lists and to breakdown settling within a lot of endeavors, we can help.
- *Commissioner Asha Beene-Clarke* We must talk about transportation on a grander scale because it will create senior isolation. Just want to make sure that seniors do have access to AC Transit and other transportation making sure that they have accessibility.
- *Chairperson Bryan Ricks* attended a Chamber of Commerce meeting talking about the future in transportation in Oakland. The focus is on removing private vehicles and how it affects Livable Oakland.
- *Commissioner Shannon McDonnell* this a good opportunity for the commission as we look at changes to Paratransit and AC Transit, it would be great if the communications committee could be aware of the changes to get word out to the seniors.
- *Commissioner Martha (Mattie) Scott* It was encouraging when AC Transit came to the listening sessions.
- *Commissioner Asha Beene-Clarke* wants to think about what she needs to be focusing on to be most effective.
- *Chairperson Bryan Ricks* stated to be most effective the commission should dial in to the priorities and understand where the commission can make the most impact and go with those.
- *Commissioner Asha Beene-Clarke* have we identified a facilitator for the retreat?
- *Scott Means HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Manager*, the Director of Libraries was in discussion with the ADA Division about the work they are doing, and the ADA Division recommended that she should reach out to the commission because of the Age Friendly Cities Initiative. Scott go an unsolicited request to come representing the Commission on Aging to talk to their Commission. Scott and Mattie will meet with the Director of Libraries February 24<sup>th</sup> or March 30<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 – 7:30.
- *Vice Chairperson Martha (Mattie) Scott* will get back to Scott.
- *Scott Means HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Manager* there is one other announcement, The Howard Terminal Project Proposal meeting Saturday, January 11, 2020 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., at Preservation Park 1233 Preservation Park Way, Oakland, CA 94612. The Howard Terminal Community Benefits agreement will be developed collaboratively by the steering committee and community members.
- *Vice Chairperson Martha (Mattie) Scott* suggested that someone from the commission attend and speak up and say Aging when it is appropriate.

- *Commissioner Michael Coleman* has been following this very closely because they are going to build a Gondola from his corner to Jack London Square. He will attend the meeting but not as a representative of the commission.
- *Scott Means HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Manager, The Retreat*, Scott will reach out to Valerie Coleman. If she is not available Teresa who did it last year is open to do it again. The commission will need three (3) bids for the facilitator. Scott proposed that we have three (3) consultants for the retreat, who will help in the work in general, in planning, implementation of programs pertaining to the Mayor's Commission on Aging, Sugar Sweetened Beverages and other initiative in Oakland. Throughout the year the commission can use each one of them for various work throughout the year. There is one other person of interest whose focus is on Case Management and implementation of health programs at senior centers. If the Commission has any suggestions. We also worked with a consultant through our survey.
- *Commissioner Dianna Garrett* suggested Lisa LaMagna with Generations Now and will send Scott her contact information.
- *Vice Chairperson Martha (Mattie) Scott* asked if someone was going to the Howard Terminal Meeting.
- *Commissioner Cheryl Moore* said that she would attend
- *Vice Chairperson Martha (Mattie) Scott* wanted to confirm if Scott is attending the meeting at with the Director of the Library Commission Meeting, March 30, 2020. It would be great to have more than one person there.
- *Scott Means HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Manager* if Scott is not able to attend the meeting, he will have a representative from the department attend. He will also get the location of the meeting and let everyone know.
- *Chairperson Bryan Ricks* Invitation by Dianna Garrett is going to people that we want to invite. A lot of people will be interested in attending. Wants to capture everyone we want to have in attendance.
- *Commissioner Dianna Garrett* suggest that the commission discuss who to invite.
- *Scott Means HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Manager* made a prescriptive request to the coalition of people that are in the food programs. Each would have representatives from their group so that they can give the commission more of an idea of how the commission can better assist them.
- *Chairperson Bryan Ricks* listed the Senior Center Directors, Livable Oakland Initiative, Council Member from Piedmont, City of Oakland Council Member Dan Kalb, District 1,

Representative from the Mayor's office, Yvonna Cazares, Alex from Council Member McElhane District 3, Scott will follow-up with someone from the County, Berkeley Age Scott will follow-up Friendly, San Leandro Age Friendly Commission,

- *Commission Question – How does this work?*
- *Tracy Jensen HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Policy Analyst* stated the Mayor's Commission on Aging has a platform. You report to the City Council, on behalf of the Mayor's Commission on Aging which is very powerful. So, when you advocate for Age Friendly or develop steps to get to Age Friendly by presenting it to the council they will be listening and come to the retreat. Many of you have been in contact with council members which is critical. That how Oakland works and The Commission speaking to council and presenting your report to the committee and then to the full council. The council can and will hopefully respond positively.
- *Chairperson Bryan Ricks* stated that the commission navigate the waters according to what is relevant and not compare to other areas.
- *Vice chairperson Martha (Mattie) Scott* stated that it can be remarkably community based.

#### **11. Reports/Announcements/Commissioners**

- *Chairperson Bryan Ricks* there are two things
  - The Ethics Training must complete and sign up by January 13, 2020
  - Form 700 is part of the training
- *Commissioner Tomye Neal-Madison* has two announcements
  - Human Services Department/Senior Companions having an Art Exhibit at 150 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza (see flyers for more details)
  - The Lake Merritt has been a meet up location for seniors for informative or fun gatherings since September (see flyers for more details)
- *Vice Chairperson Martha (Mattie) Scott* is meeting with the Bay Area Development Manager for the Parkinson's Foundation on January 17, 2020, to discuss the needs of the community and those affected by the disease.
- *Tracy Jensen HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division Policy Analyst* has two (2) announcements
  - Jendayi Santana has come back to Human Services Department, Paratransit/OPED and is no longer the West Oakland Senior Center Director. There will be an interim Director, the former Director Dorothy Poston for a limited time.

- I have asked the Senior Center Directors will send their agendas for their Advisory Council Meetings to Terry so that she can make sure you will have advanced notice for the center you are representing.
- *Chairperson Bryan Ricks* if there are no more announcements thank you for your time today. Looking forward to seeing you at next months retreat. Have a great start in 2020.

## **12. Meeting Adjourned**

**Exhibit A – Mayors Commission on Aging Meeting – December 4, 2019**

**Roll Call**

Quorum Established Yes X  Members Present 9	Present	Excused Late	Arrived Late	Leave Early	Absent	Excused	NonVoting Status
<b>Chairperson</b> Bryan Ricks	X						
<b>Vice Chairperson</b> Martha (Mattie) Scott	X						

**COMMISSONERS**

Asha Beene-Clarke	X						
Michael Coleman	X						
Dianna Garrett	X						
Toni Gomez						X	
Shannon McDonnell	X						
Cheryl Moore	X						
Tomye Neal-Madison		X					
Jacqueline N. Phillips	X						
Jennifer Seibert						X	