

SENIOR SERVICES COMMISSION

Minutes

Regular Meeting

June 8, 2010

A. CALL TO ORDER

The Senior Services Commission meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jacobs at 9:17 a.m.

B. ROLL CALL AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioners present                      D. Thibeault, J. Jacobs, N. Kobashigawa, R. Fischer, N. Rowe, P. Davis and L. Villareal Yu

Commissioners absent:

Staff present:                      Jocelyn Peterson, Senior Services Supervisor  
Jaci Gutierrez, Acting Senior Services Coordinator  
Caroline Gambala, Office Manager  
Julie Doi, Deputy City Attorney

The minutes from the May 11, 2010 meeting were approved.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

D. PRESENTATION

Carole Wadsworth and Laurie Davis from Camarillo Hospice provided a brief overview of their program and the services they offer to our Oxnard seniors. Camarillo Hospice began 32 years ago and has 50 volunteers who provide in-home support and respite care to families; no medical care is provided. Of those 50 volunteers only two volunteers service the Oxnard community. They are always seeking additional assistance. They do not charge for their services and they will work with a family who has a family member with a life long illness, and not just in the last 6 months of their life. Camarillo Hospice facilitates the weekly farmers market each Saturday morning as this helps to support their programs and services.

Commissioner's Davis and Kobashigawa both provided presentations on the Oxnard Senior Vegetable Garden. They spoke of the great work and bountiful gardens that the seniors have. They commented on the need for more garden plots (they have a waiting list) and the possibility of a permanent restroom facility. Commissioner Rowe, Kobashigawa and Davis will work together to inquire of the Fire Department in securing additional garden plots.

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E. NEW BUSINESS

Discussion was held concerning recognizing and honoring of local centurians. Currently, the practice has been to honor those individuals who have reached the 100 year milestone and are senior center participants. Discussion focused on those individuals 100+ years of age who do not attend our programs/services or centers. It was decided that Commissioner Fischer would follow-up with a current request for recognition on his own. Acting Senior Services Coordinator Jaci Gutierrez provided an overview of the duties and responsibilities of the Advisory Councils that each Senior Center has. They work with the center directors to plan, organize and implement programs, services, speakers, special events, etc. that each center has throughout the year.

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F. OLD BUSINESS

Jaci Gutierrez, Acting Senior Services Coordinator spoke of the fun that was enjoyed by those in attendance at the Silver Fox Senior Prom and the South Oxnard Senior Center Tea party. Both events were held in honor of May being Older Americans month and were well attended. Jaci also shared with the Commissioners about the upgrades and enhancements to the Senior Nutrition program and the Wilson Center Kitchen. A grant from the VCAAA (Ventura County Area Agency on Aging) will provide a new refrigerated truck for the home-delivery program at Food Share, new kitchen appliances and expansion of the Pump program (Pick Up Meal Program).

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G. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS/COMMISSION BUSINESS

Commissioner Rowe reported on updates from the VCAAA Advisory Council meeting. She reported that elections were held for the Senior Legislature and the incumbents were re-elected. With the elimination of State funding and programs, seniors will be placed at risk in care facilities and of becoming homeless.

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H. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.