



TACC – TRIPLE-A COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

2880 Gateway Oaks Dr., Suite 390, Sacramento, CA 95833

Phone 916-419-7591

E-Mail ccoa@coa.ca.gov Website www.tacc.ccoa.ca.gov

TACC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Via Zoom

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2023

1. Call to Order – Bobbie Wartson, TACC President

President Wartson called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

President Wartson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Welcome New TACC Members

President Wartson welcomed new TACC members Verlaine Elinburg, PSA 14, Diane Spain, PSA 27, and Swamini Bajpai, the new alternate for PSA 7.

4. Roll Call and Establish a Quorum

Marijke Melman conducted the roll call.

TACC Members Present:

PSA 6 – Diane Lawrence

PSA 7 – Swamini Bajpai

PSA 10 – Maureen Heath

PSA 10 - Martha Artiles (alternate)

PSA 12 Lynn Standard Nightengale

PSA 15 – Bobbie Wartson

PSA 18 – Karen Gorback

PSA 19 – Helen Romero-Shaw

PSA 23 – Stephen Huber

PSA 26 – Paul Branson

PSA 27 – Diane Spain

PSA 28 – Richard White

PSA 29 – Tita Bladen

PSA 30 – Joyce Gandelman

PSA 32 – Richard Kuehn

Staff: Karol Swartzlander, Leza Coleman, Marcella Villanueva, Marijke Melman

Guests: John Pointer, Carol Sewell, Cynthia Scarborough, Amanda Lawrence, Minerva Garcia, Salamah Locks

A quorum was established.

5. Approve Agenda

M/S/C (Joyce Gandelman/Richard Kuehn)

TO APPROVE THE MARCH 23, 2023, TACC GENERAL MEETING AGENDA.

APPROVED

Abstentions: none

6. Approve Minutes of the December 8, 2022, TACC Meeting

M/S/C (Diane Lawrence/Richard Kuehn)

TO APPROVE THE TACC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 8, 2022.

APPROVED

Abstentions: None

7. Public Comment for items not on the agenda

Karol Swartzlander commented that Michael Costa was expected to update TACC on California Association of Area Agencies on Agency (C4A) activities. Paul Branson, PSA 26, called to attention Bill AB 540 to stabilize funding for senior and disabled transportation.

8. President's Remarks (President Wartson)

None.

9. May 1, 2023, TACC Meeting, John Pointer of the California Senior Legislature and C4A Annual Conference

John Pointer provided information about Senior Rally Day, May 2, 2023, and invited TACC members to participate. The event will follow a Master Plan on Aging theme and be held in a virtual format. California Department of Aging (CDA) Director, Susan DeMarois, will speak as well as the Assembly Aging and Long-Term Care Chair, Senate Chair for Health, and Assembly Chair for Human Services. Kevin Prindeville, Executive Director, Justice in Aging, will be the Master of Ceremonies. There will be a panel session about inequity, ageism, and ableism. The morning will include messages and video clips from legislators. The afternoon is devoted to advocacy and legislators will be given opportunities to speak. Currently, there are fifty bills addressing issues relating to older adults.

10. Staff Report

Swartzlander reported CCoA staff has almost doubled, with the addition of two new full-time and one part-time staff. Patrick Smith serves as Research and Policy Analyst and Marijke Melman as Communications and Engagement Analyst. Peter Anderson works part-time to support administrative and legislative functions.

The Commission hosted a "Legislative Need to Know" meeting in January with great attendance. CCoA also convened a General Meeting and Legislative Breakfast in March; after which Commissioners walked the halls and met with legislators to urge support for

CCoA sponsored bills. The goal is to elevate the Commission and the issues of the aging field and establish the Commission as the go-to resource for legislative questions on aging policy.

Swartzlander invited TACC representatives to attend the annual C4A Conference in May. TACC representatives will be reimbursed for travel, hotel accommodation and per diem through TACC funding. The Area Agency on Aging (AAA) directors received an email requesting they cover the cost of conference registration.

Coleman reviewed three CCoA sponsored bills. AB 820 “Increasing Representation of Older Adults in Decision-Making Spaces” would require seven state boards to include older adult advocates. AB 770 “Residential Care Facility for the Elderly (RCFE) Expansion and Housing Elements” would remove barriers to allow small facilities to expand beyond six beds and requires assisted living as part of the Housing Element. SB 544 “Bagley Keene Requirements” would allow flexibilities provided during the Covid pandemic for remote participation of members of state boards and commissions.

11. CCoA Communications Plan Update (Melman)

Melman discussed the monthly email newsletter, AgeWatch, and CCoA social media channels on LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. A PDF of the presentation with live links to these resources will be emailed after the meeting to allow TACC members to follow/like the various pages to expand the Commission’s reach. Melman asked TACC members to share articles and success stories so they can be featured in AgeWatch and social media.

12. Presentation: Update from CEJC's A*Team: Helping Multidisciplinary Teams (MDTs) Investigate Elder Financial Exploitation and Fraud Carol M. Sewell, MAG, Policy Director, and A*Team Coordinator, California Elder Justice Coalition

Carol Sewell spoke on behalf of the California Elder Justice Coalition (CEJC), a nonprofit organization whose members support older adults and their rights since 2010. Sewell discussed the A*Team Project, a statewide enhanced multidisciplinary team with a range of experience and expertise that is funded by the Department of Justice (DOJ) Office for Victims of Crime Grant. The A*Team exchanges knowledge, resources, relevant research on elder law, and best practices for victim advocates, scam response, and those defrauded; formulates a list of the top issues that obstruct the resolution of legal cases; consults with subject matter experts and research statutes and other state laws; reviews Multidisciplinary Teams (MDT’s) in resolving complex cases in the areas of elder abuse, economic and health crisis, and cognitive impairment; looks to change laws, make regulatory changes, and help individuals understand the laws that exist, as well as address problems in new ways and restore health and balance in life. The A*Team proposes solutions to reduce/eliminate

systemic issues including inconsistent access to banking records, lack of resources to deal with elderly homelessness, lack of clinical psychiatrists to conduct capacity evaluations, and abuse in unregulated board and care homes, and other issues. The third Elder Justice Blueprint was just released and contains recommendations that can be implemented in local areas. Sewell offered an open invitation to join CEJC as a member.

13. Presentation: Master Plan for Aging Update

Amanda Lawrence, Project Director, Master Plan for Aging, California Department of Aging

The Master Plan on Aging (MPA) is pursuing equity and inclusion in aging and disability. An aging and disability lens should be applied to every aspect. Six states in the country are implementing their own MPAs. The California Department of Aging (CDA) released an MPA progress report to the Legislature and identified ninety-five new initiatives; the first two years of the MPA had 132 initiatives. CDA is looking to partner with state and local stakeholders. Lawrence reviewed the MPA goals and noted continued improvements to the MPA data dashboard adding new demographics and sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) data.

14. PSA Reports

- **PSA 7- Jill Kleiner** reported FY23-24 area plan was approved.
- **PSA 10 - Maureen Heath** has no additional information to add.
- **PSA 15 - Bobbie Wartson** will be sending the report late due to the flooding emergency.
- **PSA 18 - Karen Gorback** asked members to view and share a video called “Get that job” with testimonials from older workers.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zkC1JYrOAek>
- **PSA 19 - Helen Romero Shaw** has no additional information to add to her written report.
- **PSA 23 - Stephen Huber** did not submit a written report.
- **PSA 26 - Paul Branson** shared that it is essential to have an advisory council function. Branson will go to the board of supervisors to request funding for a full-time AAA coordinator. There is an equity issue between rural and urban areas regarding advisory councils.

- **PSA 27 – Diane Spain** expressed that the local AAA advisory committee has just started meeting in-person. She is fearful that they will lose participants due to the in-person requirement.
- **PSA 28 – Richard White** reported one initiative is to distribute personal devices to older adults who are isolated in their homes, implemented through the new Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC). White is involved in a study on congregate meal attendance: what marketing campaigns are implemented to drive greater participation in meal congregation. They are looking at balancing safety and community engagement.
- **PSA 29 - Tita Bladen** reported that remote or hybrid meetings are critical to the success of the remote AAA advisory councils. A modification to the Brown Act modification would help.
- **PSA 30 – Joyce Gandelman** shared information about a grant writing class that is free and suggested that a congregate site presentation is a way to draw a crowd.
- **PSA 32 – Richard Kuehn** has no additional information to add.

BREAK (3:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.)

15. Discussion: Local Barriers to Implementing Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) Partnerships

Tabled for the next meeting, David Wilder was not in attendance.

- **Discussion**

None

- **Public Comment**

None

16. Discussion: Return to In-Person Meetings for Local Advisory Committees and proposed bills that are affecting the Brown Act:

a. [AB 1275](#) - Community colleges: student-run community college organizations: open meetings: teleconferences.

b. [AB 1348](#) - Local government: open meetings. Gut and amend.

c. **SB 411 - Open meetings: teleconferences: bodies with appointed membership.**

- **Discussion**

Members shared local concerns about moving back to in-person quorum requirements. Swartzlander encouraged TACC members to raise awareness.

- **Public Comment**

Questioned if members should reach out to legislators to advocate for reforms of the Brown Act legislation. Salamah Locks confirmed that lawyers may have varying interpretations, and we should be looking for a state ruling. PSA 5 has been meeting in-person and the hybrid option is only available for the public comments.

17. Discuss Topics for Future Meetings (President Wartson)

- **Discussion**

- Isolation and its impact- presenter the surgeon general
- More information about Brown Act
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) and older adults- possible policy issue in the use of LTC facilities
- AI uses in medical applications and a discussion about ageism in medicine- lack medical intervention due to ageism.
- Future technology in long-term services and supports.

- **Public Comment**

None

18. Member Comments

Members commented on the meeting.

19. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.