



TACC

Ted Smith, President
Joyce Gandelman, Vice President
Bobbie Wartson, Immediate Past President

TACC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES March 12, 2026

Ted Smith, President

1. Welcome

2. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

President Smith called the meeting to order at 1:08 pm and led the pledge of allegiance.

3. Roll Call and Establish a Quorum

Executive Director Karol Swartzlander called the roll.

A quorum was established.

4. Approve TACC General Meeting Minutes from November 5, 2025

M/S/C (Wartson/Mungia)

The Minutes from the November 5, 2025 General Meeting were approved.

5. Public Comment for items not on this Agenda

None.

6. President's Remarks

President Smith discussed scams targeting older adults.

7. Staff Report (Swartzlander)

- CCoA Update

Patrick Smith was promoted to Legislative Director of the CCoA.

Swartzlander introduced the new Administrative Analyst, Kourtney Hobart.

Smith's previous position will be posted and filled as soon as possible.

The Commission's Legislative advocacy day was a success. Materials will be shared with TACC members to support local legislative outreach.

- Upcoming 2026 TACC General Meetings: May 14, September 17, and November 17 to 19 in concert with the C4A Conference in Garden Grove.



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8. Presentation: 3 Cheers for Respite: Filling a Need in Marin County

Tricia Wiig, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries, Mt. Tam United Methodist Church

Lou Hexter, Mill Valley Resident and Steering Committee Member

Wiig introduced Marin County's new respite program which will provide care to older adults living with dementia and bring relief to their caregivers. Called "Three Cheers for Respite," the program is based on the Respite for All program, which began 14 years ago in Montgomery, AL, and has expanded to other states. It follows a social model for a safe and enriching environment and will operate as a licensed social-day program for four hours a day. Participants will be interviewed before being accepted into the program, and volunteers will be background checked. Hexter provides volunteer recruitment and management expertise. Well-trained and responsible volunteers are needed for many open positions. The tag line for the program is "Connecting hearts and creating smiles." Tuition assistance will be available. The community has been very supportive. Visit respiteforall.org to learn more about the national program.

9. Presentation: California Commission on Aging Legislative Update

Karol Swartzlander, Executive Director, discussed CCoA's sponsored bill, AB 2283: State Public Guardian. This bill would establish a State Public Guardian, who would, among other duties, guide local Public Guardians, develop standardized referral processes, and explore developing a single state reporting system.

10. Planning and Service Area (PSA) Reports

- Member Reports: Links to the spreadsheet consolidating all quarterly reports are in the calendar event for this meeting.
PSA Survey results: Links to the spreadsheet consolidating all annual reports are in the calendar event for this meeting. Submit changes to ccoa@cco.ca.gov as needed.
- Members discussed current successes and challenges within their Advisory Councils.
- Topics included Master Plans for Aging, site tours of community-based organizations, and affordable housing projects.



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- Members received an update from PSA 6 on possible council mergers due to reduced funding and from PSA 18 on the cancellation of their AAA's resignation and the associated public hearing. The County of Ventura, supported by community members and organizations, intends to continue to provide services under the Older Americans Act and Older Californians Act.
- Members discussed the benefits and obstacles to holding in-person Advisory Councils. Some find a combination of in-person and virtual meetings works. Roaming locations allow Council members to get to know community-based organizations and foster relationships between members. Tours and site visits can educate Council members while building connections with the community.

11. Presentation: Get Loud to Protect Behavioral Health (BH) Programs for Older Adults

Janet C. Frank, MSG, DrPH, Commissioner, California Commission Aging, Behavioral Health Committee Chair

Frank provided an overview of older adults' behavioral health challenges and the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA). The county implementation process provides opportunities for community members to give input on each county's three-year Implementation Plan (IP). BHSA expanded services to people with drug abuse disorders and carved out 30% of funding to housing interventions for people with serious BH needs, including those chronically homeless. Prevention funding is now shifted to the CA Dept of Public Health. TACC Members are encouraged to locate their county's BH leadership from their county's BH Toolkit on the California Department of Aging's website. Each county offers a 30-day comment period for the public to weigh in. Counties whose IPs have already been released are showing sharp cuts to older adult Intervention and Prevention programs. CCoA will share an action guide and a fact sheet to guide local advocacy for older adult BH programs.

Frank noted that funding for BH cannot be used for dementia programs, as dementia is considered medical and is treated and paid for separately.



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12. Presentation: Implementing the Sonoma County Master Plan for Aging: Community Driven Change

Joni Huntsperger, Master Plan for Aging Implementation Coordinator, County of Sonoma Human Services Department

Huntsperger presented a summary of Sonoma County's process in drafting its Master Plan for Aging (MPA). The MPA work group includes the following Action Teams: Economic Security, Wellness/Equity/Inclusion, Transportation, Caregiving, Housing, Health and Human Services, and two area-specific Action Teams. Their strategy was to design from the margins by emphasizing and including the perspectives of people with the greatest needs, building understanding, and shifting mindsets. The MPA relies on resource distribution, community data collection, and community organizing. Sonoma County secured a grant to hire a full-time MPA Coordinator for two years and has applied for another two-year extension.

13. Topics for Future Meetings

Members suggested future meeting presentations, including a legislative update on developments at the Capitol relating to older adults, ageism, impacts of HR1, and a debrief of the May C4A Strategic Planning meetings.

14. Member Comments

Members requested information on legislation, the gubernatorial race, and local advocacy. CCoA's disaster response paper is getting used to guide local preparedness actions.

15. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:47 pm.