

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE TORRANCE COMMISSION ON AGING**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order on March 9, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizen Center.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Cardella, Draper\*, Kraemer, Robelotto and Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino  
Absent: Commissioners Craft and Thomas  
Staff: Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand  
\*Commissioner Draper (arrived at 9:35 a.m.)

**FLAG SALUTE**

Commissioner Robelotto led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**INSPIRATIONAL**

Commissioner Cardella provided the following inspiration:

*Live so that when your children think of fairness, caring and integrity, they think of you.*  
H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

Former Commissioner Griffith provided the following inspirations:

*Music washes away from the soul, the dust of everyday life.*  
Berthold Auerbach

*Dance like no one is watching.*  
Crystal Boyd

**ACCEPT AND FILE AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Kraemer moved and Commissioner Cardella seconded, to accept and file the Affidavit of Agenda Posting for its meeting of March 9, 2010. The motion carried. (Absent Commissioners Craft, \*Draper and Thomas)

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Kraemer stated that the minutes of February 9, 2010, should be amended as follows: on page 4, paragraph 2; the Commissioner's name should be changed from Cardella to Kraemer.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Kraemer moved and Commissioner Cardella seconded, to approve the minutes, as amended, of the Commission on Aging meeting of February 9, 2010. The motion carried. (Absent Commissioners Craft and Thomas)

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Former Commissioner Griffith

Vickie Hershberger, Torrance Memorial Medical Center

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino welcomed Judith Robelotto, the new Commissioner appointed to the Commission on Aging and stated that Commissioner Robelotto is a CERT member and a zone captain for Area 2.

## **SENIOR CITIZENS CONCERNS**

### **A. City Council Activities**

Commissioner Kraemer stated that the Draft General Plan and Environmental Impact report was in the final editing stage and would be back in the City Council in April for final approval.

Commissioner Kraemer announced that Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino had made Census reminders announcements at City Council meetings.

### **B. Housing**

Commissioner Draper stated that he had seen signs advertising one bedroom apartments available for \$799, utilities included, on Pacific Coast Highway and the Harbor Freeway, but as of yet had not been able to get a call back with any additional information.

### **C. Health**

Commissioner Cardella stated that the average cost for a care facility was \$18,000.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino stated that Los Angeles County was cutting out 15 ambulances and that the average response time was now 12 minutes.

Vickie Hershberger, Torrance Memorial Medical Center, stated that the required retrofitting for earthquakes was the impetus for the new building at Torrance Memorial Medical Center, as it was easier to build than to retrofit the old building.

### **D. Transportation**

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino announced that the Torrance City buses would have reminders concerning the Census on the inside of the buses and eight Census banners would be placed at various locations around the city.

### **E. Community Programs**

Commissioner Cardella stated that she had spoken to Jen at CABLE concerning the need to continue programming for seniors and would meet with CABLE again. A discussion followed for suggestions for possible projects and topics for CABLE interns.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino announced that the Torrance Fire Department would be hosting their Annual Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, March 15 from 4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., with early admission for seniors at 4:00 p.m.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand announced that the Senior Fair would be on May 8, 2010.

Commissioner Kraemer announced that the Torrance Symphony would hold a free concert on March 27, 2010 at 8:00 p.m.

Former Commissioner Griffith announced that San Pedro High School would hold a Senior Citizen Prom on March 12 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino suggested that the Youth Council might be able to organize a Senior Prom at one of the local high schools.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand reported that the Special Olympics games would be held on April 10 at Wilson Park and that the events would include bocce and basketball. She stated that the Commissioners would be receiving letters explaining the event and asking for their participation.

#### **F. Focal Point Program**

Commissioner Cardella reported the following Focal Point statistics for the month of:

#### **February 2010**

Total number of documented calls: 39	Total number of callbacks: 13
Miscellaneous calls: 64	Total number of walk-ins: 30
Total number of calls received: 103	
Of the documented calls:	
26 % were in regard to Housing	18% were for in home services
18% were for Transportation	

Commissioner Cardella also reported that Focal Point received several calls per week from clients needing assistance with foreclosure problems and assistance with managing money.

#### **G. Elder Abuse/Fraud**

Commissioner Cardella reported on a story in the Daily Breeze about an internet scam.

Commissioner Kraemer announced that the Torrance Police offered an email alert service for information on crimes in the community as well as information on Neighborhood Watch programs.

#### **JOINT MEETING WITH CITY COUNCIL**

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand reported that the date for the joint meeting was July 20. She stated that joint meetings were normally held on a Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. prior to the City Council Meeting and that the meetings usually lasted for no longer than 75 minutes. She further stated that the Commission could select one or two topics to focus on.

#### **OLDER AMERICANS AWARDS**

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino stated that at the meeting on February 9, two candidates had been nominated: Janet Payne and Caroline Elam and a third, Maureen O'Donnell was recommended, but the Commission had needed Ms. O'Donnell's permission before going forward with the nomination.

Former Commissioner Griffith stated that Ms. O'Donnell was delighted to be nominated and that Former Commissioner Griffith would send Ms. O'Donnell's information to Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand announced that the Los Angeles County Older Americans Award Program would be on May 19 at 10:30 a.m. at the Hahn Hall of Administration and the Torrance Older Americans Award ceremony would be on May 11 at 7:00 p.m. at the City Council meeting.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Robelotto moved and Commissioner Kraemer seconded, to nominate Maureen O'Donnell for the City of Torrance Award for Older Americans. The motion carried. (Absent Commissioners Craft and Thomas)

**ORALS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Former Commissioner Griffith announced that Minh-Ha Nguyen, the Los Angeles County Community and Senior Services Assistant Director, would be moving to Shanghai as of April 1, 2010.

Vickie Hershberger, Torrance Memorial Medical Center, distributed Health Links brochures and information on classes: "The Agony of the Feet" on March 17, "Medication, Meditation and Mindsight", on March 16 , Brain Games classes on Tuesdays from April 6 through May 4, "Medications 101", on April 21, and Fall Prevention classes on Wednesdays from April 14 through May 19.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino announced that she had received a thank you note from Commissioner Callen for his farewell luncheon.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino reminded the Commissioners that Sunday, March 14 was the beginning of daylight savings time.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m. to the next regular meeting on Tuesday, April 13, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizens Center.

Approved as Submitted April 13, 2010 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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