

March 11, 2008

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order in the Bartlett Senior Citizen Center on March 11, 2008 by Chairman Craft at 9:33 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Breaker (arrived 9:40 a.m.), Callen, Cardella, Griffith, Thomas, and Chairman Craft

Absent: Clutter

Staff: Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand

Chairman Craft read a letter of resignation from Commissioner Clutter, effective March 11, 2008.

MOTION: Commissioner Griffith, Commissioner Cardella seconded, to accept Commissioner Clutter's letter of resignation. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Cardella arrived at 9:40 a.m.

3. FLAG SALUTE AND INSPIRATIONAL

Commissioner Cardella led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Griffith provided the following inspirations:

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams".
Eleanor Roosevelt

"The longer I live the more beautiful life becomes".
Frank Lloyd Wright

"I was always taught to respect my elders and I've now reached the age when I don't have anybody to respect."
George Burns

4. ACCEPT AND FILE AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Callen, Commissioner Thomas seconded, to accept and file the Affidavit of Agenda Posting for its meeting of March 11, 2008. The motion carried unanimously.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Commissioner Griffith moved, Commissioner Thomas seconded, to approve the minutes of the Commission on Aging meeting of February 19, 2008. The motion carried unanimously.

6. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Hillary Theyer, Principal Librarian
Bea Virobik, Focal Point

7. SENIOR CITIZENS CONCERNS

A. City Council

The Commission discussed and approved the proposed letter to the Mayor and City Council regarding emergency power concerns.

Commissioner Griffith reported on a number of issues addressed by the City Council pertaining to a phone tax ballot measure, denial of a lot merger for two sets of duplexes, a traffic impact study for a proposed development on the lot behind COSCO, a new restaurant near Torrance Airport, and the sale of jet fuel.

B. Housing

Commissioner Griffith mentioned a recent Daily Breeze article regarding three proposed housing projects in Hawthorne that are not moving forward.

C. Health

None.

D. Transportation

Commissioner Griffith shared that per the South Bay Council of Governments, it costs \$29.00 for a person to travel from home to a doctor. She also shared a Daily Breeze article from 1976 regarding Torrance's efforts to maintain their own bus system to service seniors and the disabled.

E. Cable

Commissioner Callen talked of Russ Nolte's recent passing, sharing that Russ was the "father of senior services" and contributed so much to the City. He announced that in his honor, a profile of his life is scheduled for broadcast, along with Seniors on the Go, Senior Citizens Golf, Bowling and Tennis.

F. Focal Point Program

Bea Virobik of Focal Point reported the following statistics for the months of January and February:

January

- Total number of calls received -- 93

- Total number of documented calls -- 42
(Note: 19 follow up phone calls were made to clients)
- Miscellaneous calls -- 51
- Total number of walk-ins -- 11

Of the 42 documented calls,

- 38.0% were in regard to Housing
- 26.2% were in regard to In-Home Services, and
- 21.4% were for Transportation

February

- Total number of calls received -- 125
- Total number of documented calls -- 47
(Note: 30 follow up phone calls were made to clients)
- Miscellaneous calls -- 78
- Total number of walk-ins -- 18

Of the 47 documented calls,

- 32.0% were in regard to Housing
- 23.4% were for Transportation, and
- 13.0% were for Legal Services

Ms. Virobik also noted that Focal Point staffed a table at the 9th General Assembly of South Bay Cities Council of Governments.

G. Elder Abuse/Fraud

Ms. Virobik stated that two elder abuse calls were received.

9. ORALS

Commissioner Griffith mentioned that she learned heat is a greater danger to seniors than storms and tornados. Noting that the library is a designated cooling station, she inquired if it could be open on Sundays. Principal Librarian Theyer indicated that she will bring forth the idea of creating a heat emergency contingency plan to the Disaster Preparedness Committee.

Commissioner Griffith commended Principal Librarian Theyer on her presentation at the 9th General Assembly of South Bay Cities Council of Governments, adding that the City of Torrance was very well represented.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand reminded the Commission that nominees for the Older Americans Recognition Program are due at next month's meeting and should include a short bio and age of the nominee. She also expressed her personal thoughts on the passing of Russ Nolte, sharing that he was a remarkable and genuine person.

The Commission discussed ideas to on how to thank and acknowledge Commission Clutter's service to the Commission.

Principal Librarian Theyer updated the Commission on the Baby Boomer Survey and the status of the "Transforming Life after 50" grant process. She also shared that Brain Games for Grownups was a great success and may become an on going series.

Ms. Virobik announced that Sharmone La Rose will be at Focal Point's April 18th Meeting on Mind Aerobics.

Commissioner Cardella mentioned that a seminar on Parkinson's will be held on March 19th at Torrance Hospital.

Commissioner Thomas stated that she has five people interested in becoming court appointed conservators, explaining that ten person are needed to have the training held in Torrance.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m. to Tuesday, April 8, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. at the Bartlett Center, Hosler Conference Room.

Approved as Submitted April 8, 2008 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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