

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order on July 12, 2011 at 9:32 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizen Center.

ROLL CALL/MOTIONS FOR EXCUSED ABSENCE

Present: Commissioners Craft, Draper, Kraemer, Robelotto, and Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino

Absent: Commissioner Virobik

Staff: Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand

MOTION: Commissioner Kraemer moved to approve the excused absence of Commissioner Virobik; motion was seconded by Commissioner Robelotto. The motion passed by a roll call vote. (Absent Commissioner Virobik)

FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Robelotto led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INSPIRATIONAL

Former Commissioner Griffith provided the following inspirations:

We have a great regard for old age when it is bottled. – Thomas Robert Dewar

By being yourself, you put something wonderful in the world that was not there before.
Edwin Elliot

ACCEPT AND FILE AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Craft moved and Commissioner Kraemer seconded, to accept and file the Affidavit of Agenda Posting for its meeting of July 12, 2011. The motion carried. (Absent Commissioner Virobik)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Commissioner Kraemer moved and Commissioner Craft seconded, to approve the minutes of the Commission on Aging meeting of May 10, 2011. The motion carried. (Absent Commissioner Virobik)

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Former Commissioner Griffith

Vickie Hershberger, Torrance Memorial Medical Center

SENIOR CITIZENS CONCERNS

A. City Council Activities

Commissioner Kraemer noted that in May the City Council honored Dee Hardison for Older Americans Recognition.

Commissioner Kraemer reported on negotiations with Meta-Housing Corporation for mixed used work force housing at 1640 Cabrillo.

Commissioner Kraemer stated that the City budget was reduced between \$2.7 million to \$3 million by cutting positions that were currently vacant and added that there were no current

plans for layoffs or furloughs. She noted that money was transferred from cable fee accounts to allow the libraries to remain open on Sunday.

Commissioner Kraemer stated that the Council would continue to look at other budget options, such as: renting out space in the Attic and defunding the symphony.

In response to a question from Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino, Commissioner Kraemer stated that one position was eliminated from the hook and ladder fire truck, but that Torrance Fire Department would still maintain their Class 1 status.

B. Housing

Commissioner Robelotto reported on an article about housing with high tech medical monitoring equipment that would allow people to remain in their homes instead of going to a nursing or assisted living facility.

Commissioner Robelotto stated that she had spoken to the woman in Buena Park who ran the shared housing program and stated that she was not encouraging about the possibility of running a successful program. Commissioner Robelotto noted that the woman stated that the process was very labor intensive, even with a minimum background check, and that Buena Park had only placed 50 people in a year. Commissioner Robelotto noted that the woman would send her the information about her program.

Commissioner Draper reported that the Del Amo Financial District housing complex of 190 senior units had been rejected because the original developer would have sold the complex before it was completed and the new owner would not have to comply with the original stipulations.

C. Health

Former Commissioner Griffith reported that Los Angeles County would close all 166 adult day care centers on September 1, which would affect 23,000 people.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand noted that the Salvation Army had closed their day care facility, but that there was ongoing discussion on possible ways to bring the program back.

There was a discussion on the raising cost of prescription drugs.

D. Transportation

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino announced that the Transit department would not be purchasing any more hybrid buses as the manufacturer was out of business. She added that the next buses purchased would be in the fall and would be compressed natural gas buses. She noted that the City was constructing an onsite natural gas facility to accommodate the buses.

There was a discussion on charging of electric vehicles.

E. Community Programs

Commissioner Kraemer reported that the City had analyzed the results of raising the fees for community classes and had concluded that the fees were at their limit and that further fee increases would result in fewer people registering for the classes.

Former Commissioner Griffith reported that the Torrance Adult School would move back to Levy School in September.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino noted that AAA and the Torrance Police Department were offering free VIN number window etching on car windows, July 20, from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., at the AAA on Hawthorne Boulevard.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino reported on the Torrance Police program, Return Home Registry, which assists in returning seniors who may have wandered from home.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that she would invite the Community Affairs Department of the Police Department to come to a meeting to speak about the Return Home Registry program.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino noted that California Citizen's Redistricting Committee's proposal for the South Bay area would now include the Rolling Hills Peninsula, but not the airport or Santa Monica or Venice. She reported that the maps would be adopted on August 15.

Former Commissioner Griffith noted that Supervisor Don Knabe was asking that citizens request to keep the supervisorial districts the same.

Commissioner Kraemer stated that the All American City volunteers would be thanked at the City Council meeting on July 12.

F. Focal Point Program

None

G. Elder Abuse/Fraud

Commissioner Craft reported on a FaceBook scam.

ORALS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Robelotto reported that the Youth Council Selection was a very enjoyable process and that she was very impressed with the students.

Commissioner Robelotto noted that a court at Columbia Park would be converted by the Sons of Italy into a bocce court that would be used for the Special Olympics.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino reported on a park that the Exxon Mobil Advisory Board was proposing to build on contaminated land.

Commissioner Kraemer announced that Rock around the Block celebration would be on July 21 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 pm. in downtown Torrance.

Commissioner Kraemer reported that she had completed her Commissioner Certification training.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino noted that she had completed the Ethics class online.

Vickie Hershberger distributed: information on a Miracle of Living lecture entitled "All about the Prostate", booklets on the Torrance Memorial Medical Center and copies of Pulse Magazine. She noted that the next issue of the Pulse magazine would feature seniors and requested input from the Commission on Aging. She also reported that there would be a talk on "Taking Care of our Financial Health" July 16 at the Health Conference Center.

Vickie Hershberger stated that she would speak to Commissioner Virobik about information on seniors for the next issue of Pulse magazine.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:44 a.m. to the regular meeting on Tuesday, August 9, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizens Center.

Approved as Amended August 9, 2011 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
