

July 13, 2010

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order on July 13, 2010 at 9:32 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizen Center.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Commissioner Cardella

Staff: Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand

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

FLAG SALUTE

Ellen Seaman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INSPIRATIONAL

Commissioner Robelotto provided the following inspiration:

The miracle isn't that I finished. The miracle is that I had the courage to start.
John Bingham

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 13, 2010. The motion carried. (Absent Commissioner Cardella)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Commissioner Kraemer moved and Commissioner Craft seconded, to approve the minutes of the Commission on Aging meeting of May 11, 2010, as amended. The motion carried. (Absent Commissioner Cardella)

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

None

SENIOR CITIZENS CONCERNS

A. City Council Activities

Commissioner Kraemer reported that on May 13, Former Commissioner Callen thanked the City Council for allowing him to serve on the Commission on Aging.

Commissioner Kraemer reported that the new City budget would not include a Rose Parade Float after January 2012 or fireworks for the Fourth of July, 2011.

Commissioner Kraemer stated that the Ethics and Integrity Commission reported that some city employees were serving as members of Commissions. She noted that the Ethics and Integrity Commission would allow those employees currently serving on Commissions to continue, but that no additional employees would be allowed to serve on City Commissions.

Commissioner Kraemer reported that all Commissioners will now be required to fill out a form 700, a financial reporting form. [CITY CLERK NOTE: The matter will be brought to the City Council for action as part of an option for revising the City of Torrance Conflict of Interest Program later in the year.]

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand noted that there was still an item in the budget for a \$100,000 subsidy, which is scheduled to be reconsidered in six months. She stated that if the subsidy were to be removed, it could have a significant effect on senior programs.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino announced that the newly elected city officers and incumbents would be sworn in on July 13 at the City Council Meeting.

B. Housing

Commissioner Draper reported that the Successful Aging Expo had information and booklets on housing and assisted living.

C. Health

No report.

D. Transportation

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino reported that the Torrance transit website had been updated to showcase the new hybrid busses, document the history of transit in Torrance and describe easy transit bus passes that allow transfers to other Los Angeles County bus systems.

E. Community Programs

No report

F. Focal Point Program

No report.

G. Elder Abuse/Fraud

Commissioner Craft distributed articles from the Daily Breeze describing a scam that involved a supposed family member asking for money to be sent and fraudulent claims involving damages to cars in parking lots.

Commissioner Kraemer reported that the first lecture in the series "Don't Be Scammed" at the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library, was very well done and that the next lecture was on Wednesday, August 17 at 10 a.m.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino announced that the National Night Out would be held on August 3, to encourage people to participate in neighborhood watch programs. She noted that the Torrance Police Department offered a service to check on your home when you were on vacation.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino distributed information from the Police Department on Neighborhood Watch Programs and tips to keep your valuables safe.

JOINT MEETING WITH CITY COUNCIL

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino announced that the joint meeting would be on Tuesday, July 20 at 5:30 p.m. in the Commission Room in the West Annex.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino distributed copies of her analysis of the Focal Point statistics on housing from December 2006 to the present. She stated that housing related phone calls accounted for an average of 40% of the calls for the last three years.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino noted that the other joint meeting agenda items would include a report on the shared housing program and an update on the mobile home space rental subsidy program.

Responding to a question from Commissioner Kraemer, Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino stated that the rental subsidy program entitled qualified low-income Torrance senior mobile home owners to a \$100 subsidy off their space rental, and that the subsidy was paid directly to the landlord/owner of the space.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino stated that there were still funds available in the program, although she did not know the budget, but that people already in the program had concerns as to how long the program would continue.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand noted that key concerns for the joint meeting would be thanking the City for all the existing senior programs as well as the ongoing concern for affordable housing.

Commissioner Kraemer noted that the shared housing program could offer an affordable alternate to new housing developments.

Responding to question from Commissioner Robelotto, Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino and Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that total number of seniors who needed affordable housing was difficult to determine and that the Focal Point statistics only represented a portion of the population.

ORALS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Kraemer noted that "Rock around the Block" would be held on Thursday, July 15 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. near the Torrance Museum, featuring games, food and vintage cars. She stated that the museum would be open and the newly reorganized and archived collection would be on display.

Commissioner Kraemer distributed an article by Helen Dennis on Successful Aging and stated that she thought the term "successful aging" presented a more positive view than the name, "Commission on Aging".

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino stated that she had attended the Commissioner recertification training class on May 26.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino announced that a new commissioner to fill the vacancy should be chosen at the City Council meeting on July 27.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino stated that on June 8 she and Commissioner Craft had worked as election inspectors for the primary election.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino noted that on June 16-17, she served on the Youth Council Selection Committee and that the candidates were very impressive.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino reported that on June 10, she had volunteered for a Torrance Memorial Medical Center disaster drill.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino announced that she was a possible candidate for the California Redistricting Commission and as of the June 30 meeting; she was still in the candidate pool now reduced from 30,725 to 314. She noted that the commission would consist of 14 members; five Democrats, five Republicans and four non-partisan members, which would represent the diverse population of the California.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that the Senior Tours were going well and that the Neon Tour had only 2 spots open. She stated that there would be a Newport tour at Christmas.

Commissioners Kraemer and Robelotto requested an excused absence for the August 10, 2010 meeting.

Commissioner Craft announced that there was a \$5.00 boat tour of Long Beach Harbor.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:36 a.m. to the joint meeting with the City Council on Tuesday, July 20, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. at the Torrance City Hall, West Annex Commission Room and the regular meeting on Tuesday, August 10, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizens Center.

Approved as Submitted August 10, 2010 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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