

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order on September 14, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizen Center.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Cardella, Craft*, Draper, Kraemer, Robelotto, Virobik and Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino
Absent: None
Staff: Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand
Commissioner Craft* (arrived at 9:38 a.m.)

FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Draper led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INSPIRATIONAL

Commissioner Cardella provided the following inspiration:

The only way of finding the limits of the possible is going beyond them into the impossible.
Arthur C. Clark

Former Commissioner Griffith provided the following inspirations:

It is not the years in your life, but the life in your years that counts.
Adlai Stevenson

You don't get to choose how you're going to die. Or when. You can only decide how you're going to live. Now.
Joan Baez

To keep the heart unwrinkled, to be hopeful, kindly, cheerful, reverent - that is to triumph over old age.
Thomas Bailey Aldrich

A hug is a great gift ...one size fits all. It can be given for any occasion and it's easy to exchange.

ACCEPT AND FILE AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Virobik moved and Commissioner Kraemer seconded, to accept and file the Affidavit of Agenda Posting for its meeting of September 14, 2010. The motion carried. (Absent Commissioner Craft*)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Commissioner Kraemer moved and Commissioner Virobik seconded, to approve the minutes of the Commission on Aging meeting of August 10, 2010 and the Minutes of the Joint meeting of the Commission on Aging and the Torrance City Council of July 20, 2010. The motion carried. (Absent Commissioner Craft*)

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Former Commissioner Griffith

Vickie Hershberger, Torrance Memorial Medical Center

Phil Ross, Senior Librarian

SENIOR CITIZENS CONCERNS

A. City Council Activities

Commissioner Kraemer's reported that the Commission Certificate training would be conducted on October 27. She noted that Commission appointments might be moved from January to February. Commissioner Kraemer announced that there would be a free light exchange program on September 18 and 19 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Commissioner Kraemer stated that it had been decided to name the new park at Anza and Lomita Boulevard, Seaside Heroes Park.

Commissioner Kraemer reported that the Annual Health and Resource Fair would be held at the Salvation Army Adult Day Care at 4223 Emerald Street on September 18 from 10:00 a.m. through 2:00 p.m.

B. Housing

Commissioner Draper stated that he would be investigating whether Torrance could partner with other cities to develop low income housing.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino suggested that the Commission invite D.R. Richardson to a meeting to give the Commission an update on Section 8 housing and an overview of affordable housing. Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that she would contact D.R. Richardson to schedule a meeting time.

Commissioner Virobik distributed a flyer on an affordable apartment complex in Carson, although she stated that the deadline had passed for applications.

There was a discussion of the concept and feasibility in Torrance of requiring developers to set aside a portion of their units for low income, affordable rentals or purchase for seniors.

Commissioner Robelotto stated that she had discussed her shared housing concepts with Lauren Nakano from the Beach Cities Health District. Commissioner Robelotto noted that Beach Cities was considering the homeless and felt that seniors could become homeless if they couldn't afford housing. Commissioner Robelotto stated that her focus was more on seniors who were still living in their homes but, in order to continue to live in the house, needed a roommate(s) to share the expenses and help with the maintenance of the house.

There was a discussion on ways to reduce the liability of matching people to rentals.

Commissioner Virobik noted that Focal Point had in the past, referred people requesting housing to a church that had sponsored the Love Inc. program, but now that program was no longer available.

Former Commissioner Griffith stated that the National Shared Housing Association had developed questionnaires, applications and contracts that could possibly be used for a shared housing program in Torrance.

There was a discussion on the problems with reverse mortgages.

C. Health

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino announced that Torrance Memorial Medical Center would have a free CPR class on October 9, with two sessions: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1:00 pm. to 4:00 p.m.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino noted that the Torrance Police Department would offer a free self-defense training class on October 15 and 16.

Commissioner Draper distributed information from the Social Security regarding prescription drug costs.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that the Los Angeles County sponsored Flu Vaccination Clinic, open for everyone, would be held on Monday, November 15 at the Ken Miller Recreation Center from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

In response to a question from Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino, Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that the Flu Clinic would be for the seasonal flu shot only and that there would be another clinic at Wilson Park, conducted by the Police Department, for the H1N1 combination vaccine.

Commissioner Virobik reported that FDA dietary supplement standards, approved in 2007, were now being fully phased in and would require high quality standards to be met during manufacturing and for imported ingredients.

Vickie Hershberger, Torrance Memorial Medical Center, reported that the hospital conducted a free support group on the first Thursday of the month, called "Questions for the Pharmacist", which allowed attendees to bring in their medication for review by the pharmacist. She added that the hospital also conducted twice a year training sessions, called Medication 101.

Commissioner Draper noted that all unused or outdated medication could be disposed of at the Del Amo Pharmacy on Hawthorne Boulevard. Commissioner Virobik added that Focal Point also collected medications for disposal at the pharmacy.

D. Transportation

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino reported that there was a panel on the new hybrid buses that displayed the direction that the bus was traveling.

E. Community Programs

Commissioner Virobik distributed the Torrance Hospital IPA Medical Group Senior Living newsletter, containing an interview with Commissioner Virobik.

Former Commissioner Griffith reported that the free dinner dance sponsored by the Redondo Beach and Torrance area Chamber of Commerce at the Doubletree Hotel was a great success.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand noted that the Senior Luau Dance would be held at the Ken Miller Recreation Center on September 24 and that next year's theme would be the Senior Prom.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand noted the Torrance Travelers trips for the Spirit of Hollywood and Newport Harbor Christmas parade were filled quickly and had a waiting list.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino announced that the YMCA Senior Tour signups were September 13 at 1:30 p.m.

F. Focal Point Program

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

August 2010

Total number of documented calls: 56	Total number of callbacks: 30
Miscellaneous calls: 79	Total number of walk-ins: 42
Total number of calls received: 135	

Of the documented calls:

16.1% were in regard to in home services	50% were for housing
16.1% were for transportation	

Commissioner Virobik also reported that Focal Point participated in two health fairs and gave a presentation at a housing complex.

G. Elder Abuse/Fraud

Commissioner Craft reported on a scam involving painting addresses on the curb.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino suggested that Commissioner Craft report the scam to the Torrance Police so that they could place the warning on their community alert system.

Commissioner Cardella reported on a phony email from the FBI and stated that she had given the information to the Daily Breeze.

Commissioner Virobik presented information on new rules for prosthetic suppliers and health care fraud involving phony Medicare claims.

APPROVAL OF ANNUAL REPORT

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino presented the annual report for the period of July 2009 through June 2010 for approval.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand noted that the Focal Point Annual Report would be attached to the Commission on Aging Annual Report when presented to the City Council.

MOTION: Commissioner Craft moved and Commissioner Kraemer seconded, to approve the Annual Report of the Commission on Aging for the period of July 2009 through June 2010. The motion carried.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that she would notify the Commission of the date of the presentation of the Annual Report to the City Council.

ORALS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Cardella announced that on Thursday, December 2, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., the Holiday Festival at Torrance Memorial Medical Center would be free to seniors.

Commissioner Cardella reported that Stan Chambers' appearance at the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library was very interesting, entertaining and well attended.

Commissioner Virobik stated that she had an article that she would place in the newsletter explaining how to get rid of unsolicited mail.

Phil Ross, Senior Librarian, reported on the Brain Games program at Walteria Library and distributed flyers for upcoming library programs in September: Life Planning classes, Patronymic Practices by the South Bay Cities Genealogical Society, Just Sew Quilts, Meet the Author series and the Outlaw Robin Hood series. He noted that the North Torrance Library would hold an open house from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on September 16 to celebrate the

completion of the remodeling of the library. He added that he would be representing the Library at the Annual Health and Resource Fair on September 18 at the Salvation Army Adult Day Care.

Vickie Hershberger of Torrance Memorial Medical Center distributed the Advantage newsletter, information on the Miracle of Living lectures, Lecture Plus Lectures, and a monthly cancer survivor's workshop. She noted that the Torrance Memorial Medical Center website had up to date information on the center's construction progress.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino announced that she and Commissioner Kraemer would attend the training for Commission chair and vice chair on September 23.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino noted that the Torrance Census 2010 Complete Count Committee would be recognized at the September 28 City Council meeting.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino stated that she had her interview for the California Citizens Redistricting Commission on August 31 and that the pool of the candidates would be reduced to 60 by the end of September. She added that the entire Commission would be chosen by December and start work in January.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino reported that there would be two propositions on the November ballot: one to abolish the citizens' redistricting commission and the second to add redistricting for California's United States Senate and House of Representatives seats to the Redistricting Commission's duties.

Commissioner Robelotto stated that she would not be at next month's meeting.

Commissioner Craft announced that his wife was honored at the Dee Hardison award ceremony and received a Dee Hardison pin.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m. to the regular meeting on Tuesday, October 12, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizens Center.

Approved as Amended October 12, 2010 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
