



January 25, 2017

2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Hotel Corque • 400 Alisal Road • Solvang, CA 93464

MINUTES

Attendance: Chris Barrett, Mark Contois, Ruth Corona, Catherine Dalton, Fran Forman, Jennifer Griffin, Suzanne Grimmesey, Joan Hartmann, Colleen Jensen, Vicki Johnson, joyce ellen lippman, Cynthia McNulty, Karen Ortiz, Yolanda Perez, Marco Quintanar, Kathleen Riel, Patricia Sandoval, Lynda Tanner, Margaret Weiss, Jeanne West, Phylene Wiggins, Ellen Willis-Conger

Special Guests: Kristina Lauterio, Easy Lift Transportation; June Pujo, Office of 1st District Supervisor; De Rosenberry, Family Service Agency

Staff: Barbara Finch and Gloria Munoz

1. Welcome & Introductions

- **Introduction of new AAN Chairs:**
 - **Supervisor Das Williams**
 - **Supervisor Joan Hartmann**
- **Introduction AAN members and organizations**
 - **What is your area of expertise within AAN?**
 - **What are the unmet needs of the people your organization serves?**

Barbara Finch opened the meeting and introductions were made.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes, November 16, 2016

Jennifer Griffin motioned to approve the minutes from November 16, 2016 and Kathleen Riel seconded the motion. Chris Barrett, Mark Contois, Catherine Dalton, Joan Hartmann, Cynthia McNulty, Karen Ortiz, Yolanda Perez, and Margaret Weiss abstained from voting; all others voted in favor and the minutes were approved.

4. California Community of Constituents Initiative: Regional Coalition Report

Jennifer Griffin reminded everyone that the agendas, summaries, and materials for the Regional Coalition meetings are uploaded on the Adult and Aging Network website at <http://www.sbcaan.org/meetings.html>. The calls are held the first Thursday of the month. At the January meeting, they had someone speak about the Veterans Benefits Protection Program. You can find the notes at <http://www.ccltss.org/cc-content-wp/uploads/2016/10/Dec-15-CANHR-VPBB-Presentation-1.pdf>. It gave an overview of a benefit called the Aid and Attendance Benefit that acts as a lifeline for low-wealth veterans and their spouses who cannot afford to pay for medical supplies, assisted living, or in-home care workers. The presentation highlighted a scam related to this benefit that could harm veterans and their families.

5. Geriatric Assessment Nurse Update

Lynda Tanner introduced Colleen Jensen, the public health nurse who was hired through Visiting Nurse and Hospice Care to provide geriatric in-home assessments. This position is contracted through the Public Health Department and was approved by the Board of Supervisors (BOS) following an AAN advocacy to the Board regarding senior needs.

Colleen has been working in this position for almost two months. Pamphlets were made to advertise the program and a link for the Senior Wellness Program went up on the Visiting Nurse & Hospice Care website. A press release from Santa Barbara County also went out and KSBY did a news story. By having this exposure, Colleen has had 23 referrals and 15 initial assessments. She mentioned that the program provides three RN home assessments for anyone in the County who is 60 years or older and living independently or at home with a caregiver. Colleen added that she was invited to speak at a meeting with the Fall Prevention Task Force. This meeting includes people from the fire department and paramedics throughout the county. Jennie Simon, Performance Improvement Coordinator/CQI for the Santa Barbara County Emergency Medical Services Agency, is interested in finding a way for emergency personnel to refer vulnerable seniors who have called for lift assist.

Colleen added that she has also spoken to the Central Coast Housing Coalition and has been receiving some referrals from the District Attorney's Office for seniors that are at risk of losing their home due to hoarding and who need help cleaning up. She will be reaching out to some of the AAN members to help guide her with the different services that they offer.

A member asked if she has capacity to do an assessment with a monolingual Spanish speaker. Colleen mentioned that she will either bring out a Spanish speaker or use the translation line. The assessments include:

- safety
- psychosocial
- health screening
- medication management
- the initial visit and a follow up occur within a month

Barbara asked Colleen to keep AAN informed about how things are going. If anyone has any questions, please contact Colleen at 805-690-6203.

If anyone is interesting in looking at the presentation to the BOS, you can find it on the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors website, or go to

http://sbcounty.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=&clip_id=2639&meta_id=264769#

6. AAN Priorities for meetings in 2017

- **Mission, Vision, Values & Goals**
- **What needs our attention?**
- **How should we use our time together?**

Since this was the first meeting of the year with new Co-Chairs, members were given the opportunity to share opinions about where AAN should direct its focus and attention. For this group to be effective in its role as an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors, members need to make sure that communication is strong.

AAN Priorities, continued...

The group came up with the following:

- Stay informed about impacts to healthcare, social security and Medicare as changes unfold at the federal and state level
- Create a strong community voice for programs and services that are threatened
- Keep seniors/adults safe from crime – raise awareness
- Look for opportunities to coordinate around issues, especially those related to Long Term Services & Supports.
- Join together for effective advocacy – AAA, Elder Abuse Prevention Council
- Be aware of pre-emption & vulnerable populations – enhancements & protections from state may be removed
- Build a workforce of qualified, competent providers – increase interest & awareness at colleges/community colleges – engage young people
- Engage the community and share information
- Make seniors aware – call to action with follow-up and support

The group would like to take time to discuss legislation at a future meeting. They also expressed interest in sharing issues with other members as they come up. Barbara invited members to send information to Gloria with a clear subject line and a request to forward.

The following comments were made:

- Joyce Ellen Lippman mentioned that AAA will be putting out a newsletter every month that looks at federal and state issues. She will forward this information to Gloria and she will send it to the network and put it on the website.
- Karen Ortiz mentioned that they had Congressman Salud Carbajal speak at the hospital and he is very passionate about making sure that they are supported.

Gloria will be sending out a call for agenda items a few weeks before each AAN meeting. It was noted that many people leave the meeting before 4:30pm. Barbara asked the group if they should consider switching the meeting time to 2:00pm to 4:00pm. The group agreed with this. Barbara asked the group, with a raise of hands, who would prefer to meet from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. The majority raised their hands. Barbara asked if there was anyone who could not make it 2:00pm to 4:00pm. No one raised their hand or spoke up. Barbara asked Supervisor Hartmann if the new time would work with her schedule. Supervisor Hartmann replied that as long as she knew the time of the meeting ahead of time, she will make it work. Having no dissenting opinions, the decision was made to change the time of the meeting to 2:00pm to 4:00pm. An official vote will be taken in March.

7. Member Updates and Announcements

- Kathleen Riel shared that the Independent Living Resource Center (ILRC) will be hiring a specialist for Older Individuals who are Blind (OIB). The responsible party for the tri-county area was not able to fulfill their obligations and the ILRC responded to a request for interest. They secured the grant and will be providing services for the remainder of the fiscal year. The program assists individuals aged 55 and older who are blind or visually impaired. Services help individuals maintain or increase their level of independence in the community. They will be starting March 1st.

8. Adjourn – Next meeting March 22, 2017

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Gloria Munoz