

# **Tehama County Commission on Aging**

February 13, 2006

Red Bluff Community and Senior Center

## Persons Present:

Walter Dodd	Roberta Miles	Michael Garofalo	Anita Mullins
Mildred Johnstone	Michael Sawyer	Gail Locke	Susanne Ross
Joy Wright	Rose Zastrow	Gaylen Norman	Betty Hopkins
John Hopkins	Nick Rickalous		

## Members absent:

Charles Willard      Gregg Avilla

## Members Excused:

Leland Taylor      Ray Dunn

Old Business: Filling of two vacancies. Walter has asked the Board of Supervisors for recommendations. Gail Locke will ask someone from the Los Molinos area that might be interested in serving.

## Reports:

Area Three Agency on Aging: Susanne Ross reported that Joe Kobery is their new director. One of the 2 day care centers has moved to the Corner Stone Church. They are advertising for the Deputy Director position for Area Three Agency on Aging. Susanne also informed the Commission that there will be a conference at Red Bluff Senior and Community Center on "Mood Disorders" on Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 2:30pm. There is no fee to attend. You may call Kristen Chappell to reserve a space at 898-6720. Walter reported that Tatiana Fassieux went to Washington, DC to explore some of the problems with Medicare 'D'.

California State Senior Legislature: Mildred Johnstone reminded everyone that it's tax time. Please donate on line 54 of your State Income tax. John Hopkins added that they need to raise \$250,000 through the check off system or they could lose the funding. They only receive \$90. per day for expenses when they go out of town. That amount of money doesn't cover the actual expenses. John will email Mike Garofalo this information to put on the TCCA website. Mildred said she has enjoyed serving 12 years as a California Senior Legislator but will retire this year. Mildred was thanked by the Commission for her service. Applications for Mildred's position are available at the Area on Aging.

Community Care Specialist: Rose Zastrow reported that she had 130 client contacts, 27 HICAP, 30 Legal for December and 164 client contacts, 25 HICAP and 52 Legal in

January. Rose said she expects the HICAP contacts to increase due to Medicare Part D issues. The AOA grant will be paying for a few hours of outlying staff time to attempt to alleviate the burden on the regular HICAP staff. In Tehama County that is an increase in her hours of 2 hours per week. Rose will assist clients in signing up for a Part D provider or their choice. Rose continues to attend many different board, council and advisory meetings throughout the month including Drug and Alcohol Advisory, Transportation Policy Advisory Committee and Elder Services Coordinating Council.

It was brought up that the City wants to start charging rent to use the Red Bluff Community and Senior Center for meetings including TCCA. The members are concerned because we are a County appointed committee without a budget. They also thought that there should be a representative from this committee to attend the ad hoc meetings. Walter volunteered to attend these meetings. Gail made a motion that we write a letter to the City after the 21<sup>st</sup> to waive the fee. It was seconded by Mildred and the motion was adopted.

Board of Supervisors: No report

Nutrition Project and data: Gaylen Norman handed out reports for the Senior Nutrition Program. Gaylen said that the numbers are back up from December. The satisfaction surveys have been sent out and are slowly coming back in. Gaylen will share that information with us on the next meeting. The nutrition program will be putting money into brakes and tires for their vehicles, new carpeting for the garden side room at the Senior Center, new hot bags for home delivered meals and Gerber will be getting new dishes.

Tehama County Health Partnerships: Gail represents TCCA at TCHP with is a conglomerate of agencies and businesses that look at different issues in the county. They are now looking at charging membership fees. Gail and Mildred need to be reappointed to represent TCCA at these meetings. A motion was made by Roberta to reappoint Gail and Mildred, the motion was seconded by Mike Garofalo. Motion was adopted. Roberta and Walter will take care of the paperwork to make this happen. Gail reminded us that the Elder Services Coordinating Council welcomes everyone that works with seniors to attend these meetings. They are on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of every month at Vista Way Mental Health Center at 3pm.

AARP Tax and Renters assistance: Ray Dunn was not at the meeting but called Roberta with his report. He has 160 appointments with only 5 cancellations.

Senior Centers:

Los Molinos: Gail reported that the roof was fixed.

Corning: Renee Ruth's report was read by Walter. They are getting ready for their rummage sale in April. Ice cream socials are back after the holiday break. They have voted in 2 new board members. They are Paul and Darlene Cremins. Renee has been

talking with Starbucks to see if they will be able to help with Grant money from their corporation. They also had a senior wedding celebration on February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Villa Columba: Roberta reported that Mercy Oaks in Redding has started leasing up and will start moving residents in by June 1<sup>st</sup>. This complex will serve low income seniors with a frail preference. The building is next to the Golden Umbrella, Senior Nutrition Site and has many extra services to keep seniors living independently longer. Roberta also reported that the sidewalk on Elm Street by Villa Columba will be replaced as soon as weather permits.

Public Comment: Walter passed around 2 articles from the Enterprise Record. One was an editorial from the February 13<sup>th</sup> edition titled 'Widows, orphans hit in newest plan' and the other was from the February 11<sup>th</sup> edition titled 'Bush calls for eliminating the nutrition-in-a-bag program for needy elderly'.

Next meeting is Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006, 2pm. Los Molinos Senior Center, 25199 Josephine Street, Los Molinos.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:40pm.

Respectfully submitted by Roberta L. Miles