

Commission on Aging

Minutes

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

10:00am – 12:00pm

Call to Order

Chair Frank Rose called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Frank Rose, Chair, Bobbie Bond, Vice Chair, Ronald Chan, Ronald Timpson, and Brenda Crawford

Commissioners Absent: Stanley Garcia, Anne Spanier, Annie McCoy, Alphonso Galloway

Staff Present: Tracy Jensen (Senior Services Administrator), Jessica Robinson (Administrative Assistant)

- NOTE: At this point, Tracy Jensen announced the appointment of two new Commissioners, Annie McCoy and Alphonso Galloway.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Bond moved that the March 2, 2005 minutes be approved.

Commissioner Chan seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Oakland Community Report Card

John Russo, Oakland City Attorney

The Community Report Card is prepared to provide the public with information about the City of Oakland. Not only is the Office of the City Attorney for the City of Oakland the most diverse law office in the

state of California, it also has won several state awards for excellence. According to the Community Report Card the past two years have seen a reduction of claims against the City of Oakland. The Oakland City Attorney's Office has saved the city over \$11 million in claims and other fees. If anyone would like a copy of the free Community Report Card please contact the Office of the City Attorney at (510) 238-3601 or go online, <http://www.oaklandcityattorney.org>.

Senior and Disabled Housing Rehabilitation Programs

John Caner, Executive Director ~ Rebuilding Together Oakland

Rebuilding Together Oakland is a program that renovates the homes of low-income elderly and disabled residents. Relying on skilled and unskilled volunteers, Rebuilding Together Oakland provides free home improvements to low-income and disabled Oakland residents to increase safety, security and accessibility. Mr. Caner explained how Rebuilding Together Oakland always needed more volunteers, particularly skilled workers. Mr. Caner said that if anyone would like more information about the program or is considering volunteering, please call (510) 625-0316 or email info@rebuildingtogetheroakland.org.

- Note: At this point, Commissioner Crawford brought to the attention of the Commission on Aging the disadvantages of having presentations from prospective Set-Aside Grant recipients. Commissioner Crawford explained that she would have to talk with the rest of the Commission on Aging at a later time about this problem.

Senior Center Update

Howard Banchevsky, Director ~ Downtown Oakland Senior Center

Mr. Banchevsky explained that the center has averaged visits from more than 250 people each day. After passing out the 2005 Daytime Program, Mr. Banchevsky pointed out that the Senior Center is now home to 13 veterans groups, a Filipino Senior Center program, AAA groups, stroke rehabilitation classes, and a Jewish senior center

program. In addition, the Downtown Oakland Senior Center provides more than 50 hot lunches each day for seniors within the community. The Downtown Oakland Senior Center is also open on weekends and evenings, however, the center does not rent out its' facilities. Mr. Banchefsky said that the center raises most of its own money through services provided. All activities available at the Downtown Oakland Senior Center can be accessed at the center or online at www.lakemerritdancecenter.com.

Committee Reports

- a) **Steering- Chairperson Rose**
The Steering Committee had no report. However, Chairperson Rose wanted to thank everyone that donated to farmer's bird net at the last Commission meeting.
- b) **Access- Commissioner Crawford**
The Access Committee had no report because of the Set-Aside grant process that is currently going on.
- c) **Community Support- Commissioner Bond**
The Community Support Committee had no report because they are working on applications for the Set-Aside grant.
- d) **Transportation- Commissioner Chan**
The Transportation Committee meeting was cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for May 19th from 1:30pm – 3:00pm.

Open Forum

Daryl Stewart, Supervisor Miley's Office

Mr. Stewart announced that the Sacramento Senior Rally will be held on May 18th. The United Seniors of Oakland and Alameda County will be participating in the rally and seniors who want to attend or to receive more information about the rally should call (510) 729-0852. Mr. Stewart also explained that there will be buses for the rally and he encouraged seniors to check with their local senior centers to find out when those buses would be leaving.

Tom Limon, The Unity Council's Fruitvale Farmer's Market

Mr. Limon announced the opening of the new Fruitvale Farmer's Market. This new market is a project with the collaboration of the Fruitvale Senior Center, Cesar Chavez Library, the Unity Council, and Clinica de la Raza. The market will provide information on programs that support seniors, chef demonstrations, musicians, as well as other events for the entire family. The farmer's market will be on May 1st from 10am – 3pm and it will be located at the Fruitvale Bart Station.

Tracy Jensen, Senior Services Administration

Ms. Jensen shared some information about the Senior Services Set-Aside grant applications.

- Without partners or contributions from other agencies, applications will not be reviewed.
- Each applicant should include financial documentation.
- Each partner should have a 2004/2005 adopted budget and funding amounts.
- The application narrative should include the project budget.
- All partners receiving a contract amount of \$25,000 or more must provide equal benefit and living wage to their employees.
- More information is provided at www.oaklandnet.com

Announcements/Correspondence

*Tracy Jensen, Senior Services Administrator~ City of Oakland
Department of Human Services*

Ms. Jensen announced that Older Americans Month is celebrated in May and the City of Oakland will be holding a festival at the City Plaza on May 20th from 11am – 2pm. There will be information provided for seniors as well as other events for the entire family.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:57am.