



Aging and Adult Services - Public Guardian Senior Affairs Commission

SENIOR AFFAIRS COMMISSION MEETING Wednesday, August 17, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

MINUTES

KEY:
P: Present
NP: Not Present
E: Excused

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners:	P	NP	E	Department of Aging & Adult Services - Public Guardian (DAAS-PG):
First District				Aguilar, Lillian – Supervising Social Worker
Jim Welte		X		Anderson, Crystal – Program Supervisor
VACANT				Armant, Char – Supervising Office Assistant
Second District				Cater, TraChanel – Mental Health Program Manager I
Larry S. Grable		X		Cook, Glenna – Staff Analyst II
Linda Frost	X			Diez, Ellie – Office Assistant III
Third District				Edge-Ballantine, Jennifer – District Manager
Dr. Deborah Nattress	X			Esquer, Vanessa – Secretary I
Judy Walsh		X		Gray, Paul, Supervising Deputy Public Guardian
Fourth District				Harris, Claudia – District Manager
Joanne Iavello	X			Jackson, Glenda - Deputy Director/Chief Public Guardian
Sue Yoakum	X			Johnson, Cassandra – Secretary I
Fifth District				Johnson, Shelia – Supervising Social Worker
Maricela Ferguson	X			Kuskowski, Traci – Program Specialist II
Arlington Rodgers		X		McCarthy, Jake – District Manager
Members At Large				Nevins, Sharon – Director/Public Guardian
Daniel Burke	X			Okoro, Nkem – Supervising Social Service Practitioner
VACANT				Picazo, Adriane - Supervising Deputy Public Guardian
Professional Members				Power, Rosalinda – Supervising Social Worker
Denise Benton	X			Quiroz, David J. – Deputy Director
Ben Jauregui	X			Ramirez, Brizza – Supervising Social Worker
Regional Council on Aging (RCA):	P	NP	E	Rowe, Krystal – Program Manager II
David Wilder: SAC Chair, East Valley RCA	X			Sandoval, Sergio – Supervising Social Worker
Toni Stepetz: Morongo Basin RCA	X			Sesay, Melissa – Supervising Social Worker / SAC Liaison
Gwen Alber: West Valley RCA	X			Solis, Nancy – District Manager
Priscilla Benedom: North Desert RCA	X			Sotile, Loretta – District Manager
Dianne Muniz: Colorado River RCA		X		Tarr, Chris – Deputy Director
Heather Lopez: SAC Secretary, Victor Valley RCA		X		Young, Roxanne – Deputy Director
Penny Shubnell: SAC Vice-Chair, Mountains RCA	X			Cater, TraChanel – Mental Health Program Manager I
Guests: (Please list name, title and affiliation.)				Young, Roxanne – Deputy Director
Erica Rodriguez – Braille institute				
Alyssa Colunga & Celeste Dunlap – City of Montclair				
Mischa Kennedy - ICLS				
Carmen Estrada & Eva Zamora – Inland Caregivers Resource Center				
Lisa Hayes & Danny Tekle – Rolling Start, Inc.				
Caldera, Nicole – Child Support Chief Attorney				
(11) Unidentified Callers				



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1. CALL TO ORDER; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE; INTRODUCTIONS BY COMMISSION, DAAS-PG STAFF, AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- Commissioner David Wilder, Senior Affairs Commission (SAC) Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.
- Commissioner Maricela Ferguson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS: This is the opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on matters within the Commission's jurisdiction. Please limit comments to three (3) minutes or less. State law prohibits commissioners from discussing or taking action on items not on the agenda. Public Comment can be submitted via email at DAASSAC@hss.sbcounty.gov. In the subject line, provide your full name and the words, "Public Comment". Comments are read for the record and are limited to three (3) minutes. Public comments do not have to be submitted in advance.

- There were no public comments.

3. APPROVAL OF JULY 20, 2022 MINUTES

- **Motion to Approve:** Commissioner Daniel Burke moved to approve the minutes of July 20, 2022.
- **Motion Seconded:** Commissioner Deborah Nattress seconded the motion to approve the minutes.
- There were no objections, abstentions or additional corrections. Motion carried; the minutes were approved without change.

4. PRESENTATION: Braille Institute: Library Services for the Blind and Print-Disabled by Erica N Rodriguez, Library Services Coordinator

- Library Services Coordinator of the Braille Institute, Erica Rodriguez provided a presentation on Library Services for the Blind and Print-Disabled.
- Ms. Erica Rodriguez covered the following areas in her presentation:
 - ✓ Who We Serve
 - Qualification
 - Blindness
 - Visual Impairment
 - Print Disability
 - Learning Disability
 - Who we Serve
 - Southern California
 - 10 counties
 - Estimated 400K people with visual impairment
 - Certifying Authorities
 - Doctors
 - Nurses
 - Teachers
 - Librarians
 - Counselors
 - Social workers

(Continued on next page.)



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PRESENTATION: Braille Institute: Library Services for the Blind and Print-Disabled by Erica N Rodriguez, Library Services Coordinator *(Continued)*

- ✓ Protocol Once Application is Accepted
 - BI Library will contact all new patrons to introduce library services
 - Create a book order
 - Assign a talking book player
 - Set up BARD session
 - Talking Books Topics catalog in audio or digitized
 - Information on BIA Library Events, virtual and in person
- ✓ BARD: Download books
 - Screens: smartphones and tablets
 - iPad
 - Victor Reader Stream Devices, eReaders, and more
- ✓ Magazines – Audio and Braille Formats
 - They have around 50 magazines on audio, most popular ones are:
 - Reader's Digest
 - Time
 - Consumer Report
 - Health and Nutrition Newsletters
 - National Geographic
 - They also have around 15 Braille magazines on audio, most popular ones are:
 - Cooks Illustrated
 - PC World
 - Poetry
 - Rolling Stone
 - Sports Schedules

5. SAC CHAIR'S REPORT: Commissioner, SAC Chair, David Wilder

- Commissioner Wilder reported that he was able to participate in the Meet and Greet hosted by CDA Executive Director, Susan DeMarois. He feels that the CDA has a great vision for the senior population.
- Commissioner Wilder states that Assembly Bill 2077 will expand the personal needs allowance. He feels if this would have been in place prior to the pandemic, seniors would have not been so isolated. Staying in contact with family is good for senior citizens mental health.
- Commissioner Wilder reports that he has been working hard with the commission to meet The Brown Act. All action items must be by roll-call vote. The commission should be open and transparent.
- Commissioner Wilder acknowledged how well the SAC orientations went. He expressed thanks to Commissioner Shubnell for organizing the orientation.
- Commissioner Wilder anticipates that the Senior Affairs Commission may continue to meet virtually. The executive committee is meeting in full. This allows the committee to ask questions and lodge complaints.



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6. DAAS-PG DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Director-Public Guardian, Sharon Nevins

- **VISIT FROM CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF AGING (CDA) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SUSAN DEMAROIS:** CDA Executive Director, Susan DeMarois visited DAAS-PG on July 21st for a brief and impromptu Meet & Greet at the Public Guardian building in San Bernardino. Ms. DeMarois is working with Cheryl Brown on activities within the County. Ms. Brown and Ms. DeMarois joined Commissioner Fergusson after the Meet and Greet for a televised panel discussion and luncheon. Ms. Nevins expressed gratitude to Senior Affairs Commission, Chairperson, David Wilder for his attendance. Ms. Nevins added that Ms. DeMarois' schedule has prevented her from being able to visit all Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) as she still intends to do.
- **MASTER PLAN FOR AGING EVENT: CA FOR ALL AGES AND ABILITIES DAY OF ACTION:** In partnership with the IMPACT Stakeholder Committee, the California Department of Aging (CDA) invite you to join the California Master Plan for Aging stakeholders in Sacramento on September 20th to elevate Aging, Disability, and Equity in statewide cross-sector planning to achieve the Governor's vision of a California for ALL. As a member of the IMPACT Stakeholder Committee, Ms. Nevins encourages all who are interested, to participate. The speaker line-up includes Assembly Members as well as other key dignitaries. Clerk of the Commission, Michelle Torres will distribute registration information.
- **NUTRITION INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT:** Ms. Nevins thanked those who participated in the research and preparation of the \$1.5M Nutrition Infrastructure Grant Application. This grant was approved and it will assist existing providers to purchase much needed equipment. The department is waiting to receive the grant so it can be taken to the Board for approval. Ms. Nevins expressed appreciation and gratitude to Interim Assistant Director, Glenda Jackson, Glenna Cook and all the individuals who worked tirelessly to have this completed by the deadline. The department is looking to use the grant money to open a location in Bloomington and expand the center they have. We are also trying to open a new nutrition site in Helendale.
- **SENIOR WEEK:** Assembly Member Eloise Gomez Reyes hosts Senior Week on September 26 – 30th. DAAS has been asked to participate. We will represent aging adults within the community.
- **NUTRITION PROVIDER CONTRACTS APPROVED:** Ms. Nevins thanked all who were instrumental in getting the Nutrition Contracts approved and through the Request for Proposal (RFP) process. The Board of Supervisors (BOS) has approved; providers are in place and providing services. The Department is looking as expanding to additional sites this year. The need is growing and DAAS-PG wants to be able to meet the expanded and growing need. More to come on developments.
- **COVID-19 SURGE:** The incidence of confirmed Covid cases has significantly risen over the couple of months with both the Rancho Cucamonga and San Bernardino DAAS-PG offices currently on outbreak status. The Department is taking the necessary precautions to keep staff and visitors safe. If the Commission had been meeting in person, the outbreak would have certainly presented a challenge.

7. ITEMS FOR ACTION

- There were no items for action.



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8. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS (5 minutes each)

A. ACCESS COMMITTEE

Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month; 11:00 a.m.; teleconference; Commissioner Dr. Deborah Nattress, Chair

- Commissioner Deborah Nattress reported that the last meeting was held on August 10th at 11:00 am via Webex. It was a small group, only two commissioners attended. The main topics of conversation were transportation and housing.
- Commissioner Nattress stated that one of the committee's goals is to plan for emergencies, which is an ongoing topic.
- Commissioner Nattress reported that the committee plans on taking a field trip to Cedar Sinai hospital. The idea is to get 10-15 people to commit to a central location and take public transportation to document challenges along the way. The purpose is to document with what find, such as toll booth interactions, curbs, signage, etc...The Senior Disabled Fund is covering cost of tickets, drinks and lunch. The trip will take place when the weather cools.
- Commissioner Ben Jauregui stated that health care programs sometimes offer transportation for medical appointments.
- The next virtual meeting is scheduled for September 14th at 11:00 am. Join the meeting via WebEx at <https://hs-sbcounty.webex.com/hs-sbcounty/j.php?MTID=m5792c9c488b5a6004dcbd6d0bfe0f041>
Or Dial-in: 1-213-306-3065 / Access Code: 248 743 50288 # / Meeting password: JQfWj7FQY62

B. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month; 2:00 pm; teleconference; Commissioner David Wilder, Chair

- Commissioner Chair, David Wilder, reported that the Executive Committee meeting is a public meeting that is open to anyone. The vice chairs are welcome to join but are unable to vote. The vice chair may only cover in the event that the Chair is unavailable.
- The next virtual meeting is scheduled for September 14th at 2:00 pm. Join the meeting via WebEx at <https://hs-sbcounty.webex.com/hs-sbcounty/j.php?MTID=mb7fb752b399938e18f9be5decb60bf6c>
Or Dial-in: 1-213-306-3065 / Access Code: 248 231 03141 # / Meeting password: 3irYPJpMF46

C. HEALTHY AGING COMMITTEE

Meets 3rd Wednesday of the month; 11:00 a.m.; teleconference; Commissioner Penny Shubnell, Chair

- Commissioner Vice-Chair, Penny Shubnell reported that the committee met and they had a great presentation from Supervising Public Health Nurse, Heather Granger and Ben Jauregui from IEHP. The committee is hopeful that they can get a representative from Kaiser to present next meeting.
- The committee received approval for this month's *Did You Know?*, called "Safe Driving for Seniors".
- The next virtual meeting is scheduled for September 21st at 11:00 am. Join the meeting via WebEx at <https://hs-sbcounty.webex.com/hs-sbcounty/j.php?MTID=m1bf0c55359895f7561fa7ed66a7f86d8>
Or Dial-in: 1-213-306-3065 / Access Code: 249 462 29542 # / Meeting password: qR2Cf3eJSb3

D. INTERGENERATIONAL COMMITTEE

Meets 3rd Wednesday of the month; 10:00 a.m.; teleconference; Commissioner Denise Benton, Chair

- Commissioner Denise Benton reported that the committee received an update on the Kinship Program. She thanked Deputy Director, David J. Quiroz for taking the lead, making contact and providing the update. There is a new organization in the high desert taking charge of West Side Christian Center.
- There was an excellent review of Homeless Legislation issues.
- The Committee had five goals and objectives but they have shortened them to three. One of the main goals is to support the need of grandparents who are raising grandchildren.
- The next virtual meeting is scheduled for September 21st at 10:00 am. Join the meeting via WebEx at <https://hs-sbcounty.webex.com/hs-sbcounty/j.php?MTID=ma6c114a8e75cf82fe5b924871acd56df>
Or Dial-in: 1-213-306-3065 / Access Code: 248 925 21806 # / Meeting password: erPNYpeG338



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E. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month; 1:00 p.m.; teleconference; Commissioner Maricela Ferguson, Chair

- **Commissioner Maricela Ferguson provided an update on the Legislative deadlines as reported by Program Specialist I, Human Services – Program Development Division (PDD), Jessica Escalera.**
- August 12th: Last day for fiscal committees to meet and report Bills.
- August 25th Last day to amend bills on the floor.
- August 30th: Last day for each house to pass or veto Bills (Senate and Assembly).
- No new budget update; On July 1st the \$308B Budget for Fiscal Year 2022/23; went into effect
- AB2077: Medi-Cal Monthly Maintenance Amount, AB2331: Bridge to Recovery for Adult Day Services, AB1322: Combat Senior Isolation and SB1423: Aging Multidisciplinary Personnel Team, and SB1443: Behavioral Health Related Treatment, will all be heard tomorrow (August 11th) in appropriations. .
- **Commissioner Ferguson reported on the following Bill highlights:**
 - **SB 1338:** Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Court Program. (Umberg D)
 - **AB 2645: Local emergency plans:** integration of access and functional needs: community resilience centers. (Rodriguez D)
 - **AB2077: Medi-Cal:** monthly maintenance amount personal and incidental needs. Introduced 2/14/2022 by Calderon
 - **AB1855:** Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program: facility access. Introduced 02/08/2022 by Nazarian

Rolling Start – Bridging the Digital Divide Chromebook Distribution Event

- Commissioner Ferguson reported that in her observation in helping to deliver some of the Chromebooks, it has been so well received and is so important to bridging the digital divide. She expressed her content over the collaboration with Rolling Start and ADRC to distribute. Commissioner Ferguson reported that she has received messages from people inquiring as to whether it is too late to get one.
- The next virtual meeting is scheduled for September 14th at 1:00 pm.
Join the meeting via WebEx at
<https://hs-sbcounty.webex.com/hs-sbcounty/j.php?MTID=me8313785de51c1856bb7c0bd11ca2be>
Or Dial-in: 1-213-306-3065 / Access Code: 249 143 41088 # / Meeting password: QPik7DJvq68

F. NUTRITION COMMITTEE

2nd Wednesday of the month; 10:00 a.m.; teleconference; Gwen Alber, Chair

- Commissioner Gwen Alber reported that the meeting was very active and they answered questions regarding the sites.
- The group reviewed Chapter 6 of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans.
- The next virtual meeting is scheduled for September 14th at 10:00 am
Join the meeting via WebEx at
<https://hs-sbcounty.webex.com/hs-sbcounty/j.php?MTID=m933745e6790979d7b5c726c2a55e3f57>
Or Dial-in: 1-213-306-3065 / Access Code: 248 689 05371 # / Meeting password: gR2Cf3eJSb3

9. REGIONAL COUNCILS ON AGING (RCA) REPORTS (3 minutes each)

A. COLORADO RIVER RCA

Commissioner **VACANT**. Meeting TBD

- Commissioner Wilder reported that recruitment efforts for a Colorado River RCA Chair continue, however, in addition to Covid-19, there has been the added challenge of temperatures reaching 115-120 degrees in the area.



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B. EAST VALLEY RCA

Commissioner David Wilder; 1st Thursday of the month; 10:00 a.m., teleconference only at this time.

- Commissioner David Wilder reported that he implemented the option to connect to the meeting via Zoom at the request of East Valley Members; however, only one person engaged via Zoom.
- Commissioner Wilder stated that they discussed the housing in Redlands.

C. NORTH DESERT RCA

Commissioner Priscilla Benedom; Meeting TBD

- No report at this time.

D. MORONGO BASIN RCA

Commissioner Stanley Przybocki; 4th Thursday of the month; 12:00 p.m., Yucca Valley Senior Center

- Toni Stepetz reported that Commissioner Stanley Przybocki was not present.
- The meeting was well attended.

E. MOUNTAIN RCA

Commissioner Penny Shubnell; 4th Wednesday of the month at 12:00 p.m., Leisure Shores Senior Center, Crestline

- Commissioner Penny Shubnell reported that their speaker was very well known and they discussed plants that grow well in the mountains.
- The next speaker will be Laura, she's been very successful in getting grants for shredding services for seniors.

F. VICTOR VALLEY RCA

Commissioner Heather Lopez; 2nd Tuesday of the month at 9:00 a.m., Victorville DAAS-PG

- Commissioner Lopez reported that Supervisor Cook's Office is working on passing the budget for FY 2022/23, with a focus on public safety and marijuana cultivation. There is approximately \$4.5m to address homelessness. APS has been experiencing an issue with motel closures and fire response.
- Next meeting Tuesday, August 9th at 9:30 am via Zoom or call in; link on website.

G. WEST VALLEY RCA

Commissioner Gwen Alber; 1st Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m., Montclair Senior Center

- Commissioner Gwen Alber reported that the West Valley RCA has continued to reorganize since the pandemic. They will really emphasize the speaker's bureau.

10. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

- There were no public announcements.

11. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

- Commissioner Wilder demonstrated a device which assists those who are visually impaired to safely measure the appropriate liquid limit (such as when pouring water into a glass). The device is inexpensive and may help with MSSP clients. Commissioner Wilder will provide one to Commissioner Heather Lopez and DAAS-PG Nurse Manager, Heather Granger.
- Commissioner Alber commented that CVS Pharmacy is conducting a study on Alzheimer's. Interested persons should inquire with CVS on participation. Participants must be between 50-80 years old. Mileage will be reimbursed.



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12. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- Rolling Start Executive Director, Lisa Hayes reported that they will be wrapping up their Chromebook program.

13. NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, September 21, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

Join the meeting via WebEx at <https://hs-sbcounty.webex.com/join/daasseniораffairscommission>, or

Dial-in: 1-213-306-3065 / Meeting number (access code): 146 770 9426 #

14. ADJOURNMENT

- Commissioner David Wilder adjourned the meeting at 2:57 PM.

Requests for reasonable accommodations should be made by contacting the DAAS-PG Senior Affairs Commission at DAASSAC@hss.sbcounty.gov, or at (909) 891-3917, at least 72 hours prior to the meeting. Written material for this meeting is available by request.

THIS MEETING IS CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS IN AB 361, APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 AND THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-25-20 DATED MARCH 17, 2020, WHICH SUSPENDS CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS OF THE RALPH M. BROWN ACT.