Tuolumne County Committee on Aging

Minutes of Meeting on Monday, November 13, 2023, 1:30 pm

Meeting held via Zoom

1. Call to Order / Introductions
    A. Establishment of Quorum
        i. Quorum established – 11 members present
        ii. COA Alternate Chairman Kathleen K Haff, Zandra Bietz, Melody Brotby, Kristi Conforti, Catherine Driver, John Featherstone, Tim Gillespie, Britne Gose, Ted Michaud, Cathie Peacock, Jackie Sample
        iii. Meeting called to order at 1:36 pm
    B. Introductions
        i. No introductions needed
2. Public Comments:
    A. None.
3. Approval of Minutes:
    A. COA Member Kristi Conforti motioned to approve the minutes from the September 11th meeting. Second from COA Member Ted Michaud.
4. Chairman's Report:
    A. COA Chairman briefly described the events of the most recent BOS meeting.
        i. Approval of certain underserved areas in the county for broadband projects. These areas include Big Oak Flat, Columbia, and Jamestown. Once the infrastructure is completed, seniors should be able to apply for discounted service.
        ii. Approval of 3 out of 4 proposed properties for notice of intent to purchase. These properties are largely for transitional housing, but one is specifically for veterans.
    B. COA member Ted Michaud asked a clarifying question about internet access. He wondered if any part of the funding is specifically for helping make access affordable in the areas where infrastructure is being built. Discussion ensued.

C. Ted also asked whether the COA should solicit specific tasks for establishing priorities for 2024. Discussion ensued. In brief, the group concurred that tasks tend to come from established goals, and the COA should establish some specific goals for the coming year.

5. Treasurer's Report:
    A. The current COA balance is $9,738.18
    B. There has still been no contact with the trophy store regarding the COA name badges.
6. CAO Staff Report:
    A. CAO staff briefly explained the importance of the committee making the best use of its time. Discussion ensued.
7. Work Groups Liaison:
    A. COA Member Cathie Peacock joined at 2:06 pm.
    B. Cathie gave an update on the status of the Centenarian event covering scheduling, attendees, dignitaries, and outreach. Discussion ensued.
8. Unfinished Business:
    A. COA 2024 priorities brainstorming (All mentioned ideas and suggestions are listed even if they are redundant or overlapping):
        i. Housing, fire insurance, utilities, fixed incomes
        ii. Access to healthcare, specialty doctors, transportation to and from appointments
        iii. Broadband / internet access
        iv. Senior recreational activities
        v. Mobile pet care
        vi. Telemedicine for seniors
        vii. Reduced rates for internet through assistance
        viii. Technology coaching for seniors
        ix. Legislative analysis
    B. The committee also considered operational aspects such as file sharing and the establishment of subcommittee workgroups to work on the year's items.

C. At the end of the brainstorming session, CAO staff reminded all committee members that if they have additional ideas or established lists of draft priorities, they should send whatever materials they have to the CAO staff member so they can be incorporated into the ideas generated at the current meeting. They then informed the committee that staff would combine and deduplicate the items and create priority areas for the committee's review in an upcoming meeting.

9. Additional Comments/Questions:
   A. Discussion ensued regarding additional items such as transportation to the centenarian event, additional local forums being created in the county to discuss homelessness, and several upcoming local events.
10. Adjournment
    A. Meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm