

Tuolumne County Committee on Aging

Minutes of Meeting on Monday, December 9, 2024, 1:30 pm

Location: Tuolumne County Committees and Commissions Conference Room – 48 Yaney Ave

1. Call to Order / Introductions

A. Establishment of Quorum

- i. Quorum established – 9 members present (COA member Zandra Bietz joined after call to order at 2:04pm).
- ii. COA Chairman David Goldemberg, Zandra Bietz, Melody Brotby, John Featherstone, Tim Gillespie, Ted Michaud, Cathie Peacock, Nancy Reggio, Jackie Sample
- iii. Meeting called to order at 1:59 pm

2. Public Comments:

A. None

3. Approval of Minutes:

- A. Approval of the October 14th COA meeting minutes was motioned by COA member John Featherstone. Second by COA member Tim Gillespie. Motion passed 8 – 0.
- B. A brief discussion ensued regarding the reasoning behind abstaining from a committee vote.

4. Chairman's Report:

A. COA Chairman David Goldemberg gave a report covering various topics:

- i. With the conclusion of the 2024 election, Supervisor Goldemberg's successor will be Mike Holland.
- ii. Supervisor Haff is leaving office and her successor will be Steve Griefer.
- iii. The new Board members and Supervisor Brandon will take the oath of office and take their seat on the Board at a special Board meeting at the beginning of January, and the Board will vote on a chair and vice-chair of the Board.

- iv. The new Board will begin their session with a series of special Board meetings (the annual Board workshop) on the 7th and 8th of January.
- v. Chairman Goldemberg opined on the general differences between his leadership style and that of other supervisors and briefly speculated on how the incoming Board would operate.
- vi. The future financial implications for the County government are serious, but the details are not yet fully understood. The Board invested greatly in fire protection and law enforcement, knowing that long term funding for sustained operations at that level did not yet exist. These expenditures were aligned with the Board's strategic direction. It was the hope of the Board that the public would recognize the importance of maintaining current government service levels and vote to approve Measure Z. However, Measure Z did not pass.
- vii. Further discussion about County finances involved speculation about what potential staffing changes might be on the horizon and the legal implications that can arise from elected officials advocacy for or against ballot measures.
- viii. COA member Cathie Peacock asked to what degree the Board takes into consideration the feelings of the public, and specifically the feelings of seniors, when they make financial decisions. Discussion ensued on this topic.
- ix. At the end of his report, Chairman Goldemberg spoke on his vision for the COA after his departure from the Board. He hopes to see the COA continue its mission to improve the lives of seniors in Tuolumne County and encouraged the committee to leverage its relationships with other local groups with similar missions (such as Area 12).

5. Treasurer's Report:

- A. The current COA balance is \$10,148.27.
- B. Chairman Goldemberg encouraged the committee to begin thinking of creative ways to utilize the COA budget.
- C. Existing credit cards were voided when the County changed its credit provider.

- D. There is an outstanding expense that hasn't yet shown in the auditor's records, but the treasurer anticipates that expense impacting the COA balance in the coming months.

6. Reports from Workgroups:

- A. A broad discussion ensued amongst the committee about COA activities in 2024:
 - i. There was considerable confusion caused by the implementation of the 2024 Committees and Commissions handbook and the establishment of the COA workgroups. The direction of the committee was lost in the confusion.
 - ii. The committee should establish and work toward quantifiable goals to keep momentum and interest.
 - iii. The committee needs to familiarize themselves further with the challenges imposed with conducting business in accordance with the Brown Act. Chairman Goldemberg gave the committee some guidance on the establishment of workgroups.
 - iv. COA member Ted Michaud suggested that a temporary workgroup should be established prior to the beginning of 2025 to consider some potential COA activities for the coming year.
 - v. Discussion ensued around some general ideas for the committee to pursue, including:
 - 1. Researching the reasons why seniors might be losing their housing.
 - 2. Examining the feasibility of small-scale congregate living arrangements for seniors (excluding managed care).
 - 3. Researching potential solutions for elderly respite care for senior homeless individuals.
 - vi. COA member Ted Michaud gave a report on his activities at the County Health Fair.

7. Additional Comments/Questions:

- A. CAO staff informed the committee that they have taken a new position as staff support to the Tuolumne Public Power Agency (TPPA), and described how the transition was likely to affect the operations of the COA.

B. The COA took a moment to extend their gratitude for the service of Supervisor Goldemberg for both is involvement with the COA and the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors.

8. Adjournment:

A. Adjourned at 3:13 pm