

Mayor's Commission on Aging
City of Oakland Human Services
Department Lionel J. Wilson Building
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Mayor's Commission on Aging

Wednesday, October 2, 2019

10:00 a.m. –12:00 p.m.

City Hall, Hearing Room One

One Frank H. Ogawa Plaza

Oakland, CA 94612

Minutes

1. Call to Order at 10:00 a.m. by Vice Chairperson Bryan Ricks

2. *Quorum Met* (See Exhibit A).

3. Approval of Minutes

*Motion to approve the minutes by Commissioner Jacqueline Phillips,
Second by Commissioner Michael Coleman*

4. Agenda Modification and Approval: None

*Motion to approve Agenda Modification and Approval by Commissioner Michael Coleman
Second by Commissioner Cheryl Moore*

5. Introduction of new Commissioners

All Commissioners introduced themselves and gave a brief background why they chose to serve.

- Dianna Garrett: Working in the field of aging for thirty years, excited about the Age Friendly work that is going on in the City of Oakland.
- Jennifer Seibert: Worked in the Human Resource field for 20 years for all ages regarding health care and customer services, and now with the labor of love, support those that are aging.
- Martha (Mattie) Scott: Has always worked in the field of aging since it all starts at birth. Retired, Education Law Attorney, loves aging in her community where there are programs related to health and living. Working to make sure everyone will have the same opportunities where they live.

- Michael Coleman: Retired Architect who is also aging at 79, 10 months and 1 day, motivated in wanting to make Oakland a viable City, for the aging, incorporated with all ages.
- Bryan Ricks: After working in corporate America and hearing about the great Tsunami of aging coming in the next five years. Bryan became interested in aging on a national, state, and local level and decided to become an agent of change, advocacy and solutions through the commission.
- Jacqueline Phillips: Is an age in process, retired educator and caregiver. She knows what it is to age and watch loved one's age and wants to provide any services to the citizens of Oakland.
- Toni Gomez: Also aging at 31 years, after college and working in the Senate, formed a committee on aging and long-term care and realized how fractured the systems both county and statewide are, as a care giver realized that there is a lot of work to do.
- Asha Been-Clark: Working for Satellite Affordable Housing Associates (SAHA). At age 19 and taking a social psychology class and being a caregiver, makes her passionate in supporting aging adults, the aging community and meeting housing needs.
- Cheryl Moore: Owner of Sojourner Manor, retired from the City of Oakland and wants to stay in touch with what is going on with the aging community and support the work that the commission is doing.
- Shannon McDonnell: Employed at STAGEBRIDGE, and loves working with seniors every day and appreciate the wisdom and grace of the elders. As an Oaklander, Shannon is grateful for the opportunity to help to make this a truly livable city for all ages.

6. Election Process

Scott Means, HSD/Aging and Adult Services Division

- *Nominations open to the Commission for Chairperson and Vice Chairperson*
- *Do Roll Call Vote*
 - ***Election:***
 1. *Commissioner can nominate one person*
 2. *Commissioner can nominate yourself*
 3. *There is a right of refusal – the Commissioner must decline the nomination, repeated by the Chairperson, stating their name and right of refusal for the minutes.*
 - *Do not need to second the nomination.*
 - *Take a vote – (Ayes/Noes) If the Ayes have it the nominee will become the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson.*

Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

A. Vice Chairperson Bryan Ricks opened floor for nomination for Chairperson

- Motion by Commissioner Mattie Scott to elect Vice Chairperson Bryan Ricks as Chairperson
 - All in favor:
 - Ayes – All
 - Any oppose:
 - Noes – None the motion was carried by consensus

The nomination was carried by consensus, Vice Chairperson Bryan Ricks will reside as the Chairperson for the Mayor's Commission on Aging.

B. Chairperson Bryan Ricks opens floor for nomination for Vice Chairperson

- Motion by Commissioner Tomye Neal-Madison to elect Commissioner Mattie (Martha) Scott as Vice Chairperson
 - All in favor:
 - Ayes – All
 - Any oppose:
 - Noes

The nomination was carried by consensus, Commissioner Mattie (Martha) Scott will reside as the Vice Chairperson for the Mayor's Commission on Aging.

7. Public Comments (Limit 3 minutes). Please fill out a speaker card

None

8. Age Friendly City's

Chairperson Bryan Ricks and Committee

- ***Chairperson Bryan Ricks gave highlights for the new commissioners***
 - It is a large program, our initiative is built around identifying common areas that city's can use to upgrade facility's, upgrade their approach to working with different domains of living for aging seniors. The areas that most impact seniors in Oakland are:
 1. *Health & Wellness*: *Do support and provide services within communities, and work to maintain health, independence and quality of life.*
 2. *Housing*: *Are seniors safe and sheltered and do they have a choice of housing design and location if their needs change?*

3. Communication: Do people receive timely, practical information to manage their lives, attend events, stay connected and be informed about emergency preparedness?
 4. Open Spaces & Transportation: Do older adults have access to parks and recreation, transportation and the ability to move around within their communities safely?
- **Regional Roundtable AARP/World Health Organization**, Oakland will be hosting the Regional Roundtable for AARP/World Health Organization, Thursday, October 10, 2019. The Clerk will send the link for signups. The Mayor will be there in support.
 - **Housing project** for shared housing, where people can live together. Cova is focused on the process for screening.
 - **Food security and food desert**, for seniors who do not drive and must take public transportation and/or drive 20 miles or more for non-processed foods. We are talking about bringing a mobile farmers market to provide food in those areas. We are working with Mercy Brown Bag, there will be a meeting at the end of October.
 - **Communication**, currently working with a Public Utilities Grant to provide computers and technical support to seniors. Project to start a newsletter, looking for volunteers

9. **Downtown Oakland Specific Plan Implementation**

Joanna Winter, City Planning

- Downtown Oakland Public Review Draft Plan
 - It has been a Four-year (4) Process
 - Published at the end of August and will be taking comments on it for the next several weeks.
 - Published the Draft Environmental Review on the Draft Plan, taking comments and will end on October 22, 2019.
 - Today's purpose is to talk about key ideas in the Draft Plan in relations to the aging population in the downtown plan and to hear the commissions thoughts.
 - Once the committee hear all the comments over the next few weeks, they are going work on a zoning update that will bring in a zoning incentive program. A consultant was hired to do a study to see what is allowed for developers which will be adopted as part of the Specific Plan by June 2020.
 - The plan did reach out to the youth but needed to reach out to older adults and people with disabilities.
 - A Web-based survey and paper survey was distributed to senior centers and at the Older American Month Celebration. There were one hundred and three (103)

responses, 27 % of respondents identified as a senior or elder and 60% identified as friends, family, and service providers for older adults or persons with disabilities.

- The response from the survey is included in the last preliminary draft plan that was released in March.
- The Vision for this twenty-year (20) plan for downtown Oakland:
 - Downtown Oakland serves as the setting for a remarkable array of lived experiences. It is both home and gathering space to people of all different income levels, races, cultures, and ethnicities. It supports a wide spectrum of community assets, serving not only local resident's but also visitors and workers from around Oakland, the Bay Area, and the globe. Its economy drives social innovation while reflecting the cultures, political movements, and people who are its heritage.
- The key to this plan has the potential to bring sixty thousand (60,000) new jobs, twenty-nine thousand, one hundred (29,100) new housing units, with a target of twenty, (20) to twenty-five (25) percent being affordable in downtown Oakland.
- Potential long-term plans that are not included in this plan:
 - *Conversion of I-980*
 - *Stadium at Howard Terminal (and) adjacent development*
 - *Second Transbay, BART crossing (tube)*
- Chairperson Bryan Ricks asked how does this effect transportation, parking which is disappearing as buildings go up, and how does it relate to AC Transit and BART?
 - Joanne Winter
 - *The plan cause for transit only lanes, pedestrian crossing curb cuts, parking is a controversial issue.*
 - *The Department of Transportation is doing a pilot project in Chinatown working on curb management, adding seventy (70) new handicap parking spaces.*
- Vice Chairperson, Mattie Scott, Livable City listening session in Chinatown had a lot of questions about transportation, pedestrian safety, bikes etc.
 - Joanne Winter
 - *Chinatown is being studied through the Lake Merritt Plan done a year ago.*
- Commissioner Jennifer Seibert asked what the response was from the survey and why it was so low. Commissioner Toni Gomez, Chairperson Bryan Ricks and

Vice Chairperson Mattie Scott pointed out that surveys are not always effective for different reasons.

- Commissioner Dianna Garrett stated that 20 percent responded, to the survey. The survey was in English, only, so it seems that this was a real missed opportunity for reaching the senior population.
- Commissioner Asha Beene-Clark stated that from her experience paper surveys work better than the web-based surveys for seniors. The survey should have reached a larger population. Work-place opportunities for older adults were not mentioned in the plan.
- Commissioner Dianna Garrett stated that the workforce is aging. There are two (2) organizations that can help with surveying, Satellite Affordable Housing Associates (SAHA) and Center for Elders Independence (CEI).
- Chairperson Bryan Ricks stated that there was a focus on senior centers and Center for Elders Independence (CEI). To get better response to surveys we must do the work. The web-based survey responses came from the more affluent areas which gives an unbalanced view of where the city is at.
- Commissioner Shannon McDonnell does surveys after every session for about two hundred and fifty (250) to three hundred (300) people every four months face to face. National Institute of Aging (NIH) did a study on the Aging population and how it is increasing by different changes in the population. The divorce rate will have more seniors living alone. In terms of the mental, and emotional health and physical safety, needs more consideration.
- Commissioner Jennifer Seibert asked if the Specific Plan could be put on hold until more research work is done to resolve the issue of the aging population.
- Vice Chairperson Mattie Scott along with Chairperson Bryan Ricks mentioned that there will be a lot more seniors in twenty (20) years. Oakland's population will be thirty percent (30 %) seniors in the next seven (7) to ten (10) years. How that plays into the planning for the citizens of Oakland must be considered in the plan. Progress is important but the population for seniors will grow.
- Commissioner Tomye Neal-Madison stated that residents who live in apartments and homes never heard of or received the survey.
- Vice Chairperson Mattie (Martha) Scott stated she lives at Piedmont Gardens and did not have an opportunity to do the survey.
- Commissioner Michael Coleman asked if there are copies of the Specific Plan for distribution.
- Commissioner Toni Gomez suggested that the commission form a focus group to assist the Specific Plan in effectively adding our growing and aging population in the general update plan before October 22, 2019. There was no mention of libraries in the plan.

- *Joanna stated that the main library plans to expand and/or relocate to a larger place. Copies for of the plan can be read at the library and/or via the website.*
- *Joanna welcomes the commissions support in improving the plan.*
- Chairperson Bryan Ricks asked if the Horizontal Density Project regarding the community verses the Downtown Specific Plan are related projects?
- Joanne Winter
 - *They are separate but they are related. Once the Downtown Specific Plan is complete, they will be able to move on to updating the city-wide general plan that will look at relationships of all the neighborhoods regarding project, housing.*

➤ **Policy Information:**

○ **Accessibility and Age-Friendly Policies: Economic Opportunity**

- *E-2.8 Provide affordable space for entrepreneurs and small, local retailers, artists, and artisans by exploring the implementation of a land trust model focused on these uses, and by expanding Oakland’s master leasing efforts, in which the City of Oakland or a City-supported nonprofit intermediary leases or owns space and then sub-leases that space to tenants meeting criteria such as length of residency in Oakland, location of residence, economic status, and disability status. Use new programs to potentially offer long-term leases to allow tenants to make capital investments to build out the spaces to meet their needs and consider targeting use in the Black Arts Movement and Business District (BAMBD).*
- *E-2.15 Partner with local businesses and the Building Bureau to enhance the physical accessibility of public-serving retail, workplaces, and other spaces through application of “universal design” principles.*

○ **Accessibility and Age-Friendly Policies: Mobility**

- *M-1.1 Design and construct safety measures along the high-injury pedestrian network, including ADA measures that support access for people with disabilities.*
- *M-2.2 Improve passenger amenities (including wayfinding) and security at bus stops on all transit streets throughout downtown. Bus stops*

can include lighting, new shelters, benches, wayfinding information in multiple languages, and other amenities including those that improve access and comfort for people with disabilities.

- *M-2.5 Maintain reliable, ADA-accessible access to transit stations (i.e. BART elevators and escalators) and find opportunities to increase the number of elevators. Address all access needs identified in previous BART planning efforts for the nineteenth (19) Street Station and twelfth (12) Street/City Center Station.*
- *M-3.7 Expand the Park Oakland program to additional areas of Downtown Oakland to manage public parking to balance the diverse needs of Downtown Oakland's visitors, merchants, commuters and residents. Goals include ensuring parking availability; increasing ADA-accessible parking and passenger loading to service the needs of people with disabilities and downtown businesses; reducing the number of drivers looking for parking; balancing the needs placed on curb space; and better managing parking resources and demand.*
- *Actions include:*
 - 1) *Increase ADA-accessible parking and passenger loading with the objectives of serving the needs of people with disabilities, seniors, and businesses.*
 - 2) *Establish a committee, with significant representation from people with disabilities to propose reforms to (a) improve curb parking availability for people with disabilities, and (b) reduce Disabled Placard fraud and abuse.*

○ **Accessibility Street Measure of Success**

- Baseline: *Although Downtown Oakland has the highest concentration of corners equipped with curb ramps in the city, just fifty-nine percent (59%) are ADA-compliant.*
- Measure of Success: *Modern, ADA-compliant curb ramps are installed at all sidewalk intersections and accessible pedestrian signals (APS) at all intersections identified in the Project List (Appendix)*

- **“Blue Zone” Parking Measure of Success**
 - Baseline: *Currently there are 72 accessible parking spaces in Downtown Oakland.*
 - Measure of Success: *Adequate additional parking is provided to meet accessibility needs.*

- **Accessibility and Age-Friendly Policies: Community Health**
 - CH-1.3 *Draft and adopt guidelines for new or improved parks and public open spaces including active design guidelines. Also including maintenance for the parks.*

 - CH-1.9 *Invest in youth and senior-driven programming and facilities for downtown public spaces.*

 - CH-1.11 *Invest in and create universal design principles for public spaces and playgrounds to make downtown more accessible to people with disabilities of all ages.*

 - Strategy:
 - CH-1.16 *Expand implementation of community safety initiatives, including strengthened community policing and partnerships, expanded bias training for police and other neighborhood peacekeepers, partnerships with mental health service providers, expanded support for community-based service and workforce development organizations serving at risk youth and re-entry populations, and restorative justice programs and methods.*
 - *Explore implementation of community safety and health initiatives.*
 - *Support a healthy downtown for all ages and abilities.*

 - Chairperson Bryan Ricks thanked Joanne for her presentation and the commission for their passionate response to the Environmental Plan.
 - More items discussed:
 - *Who/how are seniors being represented on the Specific Plan Committee*

- *Will there be impact fees for the developers*
- *What are the plans for pedestrian safety (crossing the street)*

10. Announcements and Updates

Scott Means, Human Services Department/Aging and Adult Services Division

Follow up:

- Environmental Project Plan Survey: There was good communication at the senior centers. People just did not fill it out. People had the AARP survey, then the County did a survey, and there was a third survey going on at the same time. It was overwhelming.
- Senior Employment: The City of Oakland, ASSETS Senior Employment Program, who are paid minimum wage that will be able to gain employment with these developers.

Human Services Department Agenda

- I Want to recognize Mary Norton from the North Oakland Senior Center. This Friday will be Mary's last day. Mary has been with the city for twenty (20) years and has been a great member of my team. Mary will be missed. There is an active list of potential candidates for the director position. Interviews will begin on next week. There is a very good admin who supports the North Oakland Senior Center, along with Tracy Jensen, Program Analyst II who will support the center to maintain its current level of business.
- Funds for the Sugar Sweetened Beverage of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) that we received has been released. The monies will go into:
 - O&M for buying items and contracting is in process. Staffing, including the Case Manager that was discussed must go through a council resolution process.
 - Programing the money: Looking at home match programs
 - Suggestion for Commission input is to have the Age Friendly sub-committee to do the research and make overall recommendations with a second ad-hoc committee to evaluate proposals and advise where to program the funds. This will be discussed in more detail during the November meeting.
- Senior Center Bylaws Committee (Ad Hoc Committee- which is about to conclude) By the last week in October the final draft will go out to the Commission ready for discussion at the November, Mayors Commission on Aging Meeting.
 - Sylvia Stadmire
 - Toni Gomez
 - Johnnie Mae Wiley

Announcements

- Regional Round Table – AARP- Thursday, October 10, 2019-10:00 am-3:00 pm, Downtown Oakland Senior Center, 200 Grand Avenue, Oakland, CA 94612 (510) 238-2384
- Senior Fusion – Beta Test Participants – October 25, 2019 Improving Senior Health and Safety – Seeking Ten (10) motivated Beta Testers over age sixty-five (65) for a Thirty (30) day trial and a compensation, Two Hundred Dollar (\$200.00) gift card. Contact Carla Din at carla@seniorfusion.org and Doug Mosher, doug@seniorfusion.org
- Aging into Poverty Training ensuring seniors golden years remain Golden – addressing wage gap, caregiving expenses, lack of sufficiency safety net. October 24, 2019 – Northern California Grant Makers, 160 Spear Street, Suite 360, San Francisco, CA 94105, from 10:00 am – Noon. The focus is to better understand how funders can respond on writing grants. For more information, contact Scott at (510) 238-6137.
- November agenda item, Alameda County Census will do a presentation and will produce postcards to insert in the Human Services Department/OPED, Taxi Scrips, Mailings of two thousand (2,000) Subscribers who use our taxi scrips program for seniors.
- Chairperson Bryan Ricks reminded us about the commission connecting with senior center. Sylvia Stadmire, recommended Commissioners to become partners with a center of their choice. This will be on the December agenda. If anyone would like to partner with any particular senior center, contact Terry McIntosh (Clerk), Senior Aide, Human Services Department/Aging and Adult Service Division, at tmcintosh@ca.gov (510) 238-2385.

11. Sylvia Stadmire Announcements

- Meals on Wheels Director, Connie McCabe retired after thirty (30) years. Charlie Deterline is the new Director.
- Last month, Sylvia attended the California Collaborative for Long-term Services and Support, creating a California master plan for aging. There is nothing in place to help to age. Sylvia left a copy of The Health Profile and will be distributed to the commission. When she retired realized that many people do not know where they can go to get support. Even for those who would like to go back to work as a senior.

12. Final announcements

- Commissioner Dianna Garrett passed around an invitation for the Senior Health Policy Forum for December
- Vice Chairperson Mattie Scott asked if she along with a Subcommittee could put together a letter commenting on the Pacific Environmental Plan/EIR talked about.

Commissioners Michael Coleman, Shannon McDonnell, Tomye Neal-Madison and Cheryl Moore, will make-up the subcommittee. Together they would send a letter to the EIR/Pacific Environmental plan with suggestions to add to the plan. Please take look at what you think our interest should be.

13. Meeting Adjourned

Exhibit A – Mayors Commission on Aging Meeting – October 2, 2019

COMMISSIONERS ROLL CALL

Quorum Established Yes X	Present	Excused Late	Arrived Late	Leave Early	Absent	Excused	Non-Voting Status
Members Present 11							
Chairperson							
Vice Chairperson Bryan Ricks	X						

COMMISSONERS

Asha Beene-Clarke	X						
Michael Coleman	X						
Dianna Garrett	X						
Toni Gomez			X				
Shannon McDonnell	X						
Cheryl Moore	X						
Tomye Neal-Madison	X						
Jacqueline N. Phillips	X						
Mattie (Martha) Scott	X						
Jennifer Seibert	X						