



# Mayor's Commission on Aging

City of Oakland – Human Services Department

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**Wednesday, April 7, 2021**

**Held via Teleconference**

## MINUTES

### 1. Call to Order

Chairperson Bryan Ricks called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. The meeting was held via teleconference.

### 2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

**Present:** Bryan Ricks, Martha Scott, Asha Beene-Clarke, Michael Coleman, Diana Garrett, Tomye Neal Madison, Shannon McDonnell, Jacqueline Phillips, Jennifer Seibert

**Absent:** Cheryl Moore

*A quorum was established.*

**Staff:** Scott Means, Aging & Adult Services Manager, Hayde Mazariego, Senior Services Program Assistant

### 3. Agenda Modification and Approval

The agenda was approved with no modifications.

- M/S/Carried: Michael Coleman/Diana Garrett/ Motion carried unanimously.

### 4. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:

The March 3, 2021 minutes were approved.

- M/S/Carried: Martha Scott/Shannon McDonnell/Motion carried unanimously.

### 5. Public Forum

There were no public comments.

### 6. Myeloma Link at The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society

*Claire Ulbrich, Manager, Patient & Community Outreach and Laura Ortiz-Ravick, Senior Program Manager, Outreach & Health Promotion*

Claire Ulbrich and Laura Ortiz-Ravick presented an overview of the Myeloma Link program at The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS). LLS's mission is to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families. The three pillars of LLS are research, advocacy, and support. Since 1949, LLS has invested more than \$1.3 billion in groundbreaking research. Laura Ortiz-Rarick, spoke about the myeloma link program & disparities in blood cancers. Myeloma Link was created in 2017 to raise awareness among black Americans about the disparities in myeloma incidence and treatment and provide information and resources to patients. The overarching mission of the Myeloma Link program is to ensure that patients and families can access the

care that they need to ensure long-term survivorship. More information is available online: <https://www.lls.org/myeloma-link>.

Commissioner Garrett stated that she would share information with CEI's chief medical officer for potential future collaborations. Chair Ricks noted that LLS presentations/information should be integrated at senior centers. Commissioner Neal-Madison asked if routine blood work includes testing for blood cancer. Laura stated that abnormal blood count prompts referrals to specialists. Commissioner Beene-Clarke suggested that the presentation be provided to other commissions within the city. (*See attached presentation slides.*)

**7. City of Oakland 2021-2023 Policy Budget - Scott Means, Aging & Adult Services Manager**

Scott Means announced that there will be a council meeting on Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup> in which the new policy budget including the \$192 million in American Relief Rescue Plan funding will be discussed. He noted that the preliminary budget provides for restoration of temporary part-time positions (TPT) in Libraries and Parks & Recreation, but makes no mention of TPT restoration in the critical area of Senior Services. Visit the City's Legistar website: <https://oakland.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>.

**Motion:** MCOA approved sending an official communication to City council recommending the restoration of TPT positions for Senior Services.

**M/S/Carried:** Vice Chair Scott/Tomye Neal-Madison/Motion carried unanimously

**8. Commission on Aging 2021 Retreat Recap and Council Report**

Chair Ricks stated that the subcommittees are focusing on the ongoing needs of Oakland Seniors and are looking at ways in which to incorporate the State Masterplan for Aging into the Age-Friendly action plan.

**9. Age-Friendly Oakland**

Chair Ricks reported that the Livable Oakland subcommittee will have representatives the four areas that are the focus of the initiative: Health & Wellness/Food Insecurity, Housing, Open Spaces, and Communication and Information.

**10. HSD Aging & Adult Services/COVID-19 Update - Scott Means, Aging & Adult Services Manager**

Scott Means announced that United Seniors of Oakland and Alameda County will hold a Covid-19 Relief and Recovery Platform Listening Session on Friday, May 7, 2021. For more information and the link, contact Tanya Washington at (510) 729-0852 or email [twashington2013@gmail.com](mailto:twashington2013@gmail.com). The Aging Services Division has hired an ELDE Director that will be starting on April 19<sup>th</sup>. The recruitment process for Senior Center Director will begin in May. Plans for a Virtual Older Americans Month event are underway.

**11. Announcements**

No Report.

**12. Closing Remarks & Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:59a.m.

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**Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. via teleconference.