



# Mayor's Commission on Aging

City of Oakland – Human Services  
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**Wednesday, May 1, 2024  
Held In Person at City Hall  
Hearing Room 1**

## MINUTES

### 1. Call to Order

Chair Gunst called the meeting to order at 10:11a.m. The meeting was held in person at City Hall Hearing Room 1.

### 2. Roll Call

**Present:** Lenore Gunst, Blake Spears, Suzi Kalmus, Bob Scott, Jacqueline Johnson, Lisa Malul, Tydia Hill

**Absent:**

**Absent Excused:** Asha Beene-Clarke, Jennifer Seibert

**Late:** Ristina Ingram

*A quorum was established.*

**Staff:** Ana Bagtas (Human Services Manager), Scott Means (Human Services Director), Yvonne Dunbar (MCOA Clerk), Marshay Boyd (Admin Assistant)

### 3. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was approved no modifications.

Motion: Bob Scott/Jacqueline Jihkson/Motion carried unanimously

### 4. Approval of February 7, March 6, and April 3 MCOA Draft Minutes

Chair Gunst confirmed the deferment of these minutes. Minutes must to be confirmed by both chair and vice-chair.

Motion: No motion at this time

### 5. Public Comment (*specific agenda items, limit to 2 minutes*)

Anwar, chair of Mayor's Aging on People with Disabilities gave brief explanation of what their commission have recently been doing. Also extending an invitation to attend their upcoming commission monthly meetings.

### 6. Presentation: Transportation Options for Oakland Seniors and Persons with Disabilities – AC

## **Transit and Oakland Paratransit for Elderly and Disabled (OPED) Program**

Andrea Mok acting supervisor for Oakland Paratransit for the Elderly and Disabled gave a brief introduction of herself and team. Andrea gave a presentation on what services they offer, requirements for eligibility, and how to access the services. Chair Gunst open the floor to commissioners for questions, and then to the public. Andrea Mok provided informative feedback to the questions received.

- **MOTION to amend agenda**

Chair Gunst requested a motion to add an additional presentation from Department of Violence Prevention (DVP) to the agenda.

Motion: Blake Spears/Suzi Kalmus/Motion carried unanimously

- **Presentation: Department of Violence Prevention (DVP) – Chief Yoshi**

Chair Gunst gave a brief introduction of chief Yoshi. Holly Yoshi, Chief of department of violence prevention gave a very informative presentation on status of violence in Oakland and plans the City of Oakland is implementing to continue to tackle crime in Oakland. The department is under construction, currently building a team of life coaches who are in the field working hands on to reduce violence in the city. Chair Gunst opened this item up to the commissioners for questions and then to the public. Chief Yoshi provided great feedback to the questions that were asked.

### **7. Announcement: Development of the next Aging and Adult Services/Mayor’s Commission on Aging 5-Year Plan**

Chair Gunst opened this item on the agenda up with explaining what the Mayor’s Commission on Aging 5-year plan is about, how we are ending the current 5-year plan, and how the MCOA intends on starting the planning of the new 5-year plan. Chair Gunst invited Human Services Manager Ana Bagtas to give a more detailed explanation of this process. Ana is excited to get this strategic plan started as she specializes in this area; she provided a great overview of how the team will get into the weeds of things. Ana asked the commissioners to be involved by reaching out to chair Gunst showing interested in join the Strategic Planning team.

### **8. Advocacy for Senior Services**

Chair Gunst turned this item over to Commissioner Hill who provided an understanding of how the MCOA plans to advocate for seniors and our Aging department. The stakeholder groups have a lot of goals and are requesting more help from the commissioners on reaching out to councilmembers from different districts to be the voice for our seniors in Oakland. This action will be done by the commissioners, they will not lean on the help of Human Services Department staff. Chair Gunst opened this item up to commissioners and public for comments and questions, Commissioner Hill and Chair Gunst provided great feedback to the questions asked.

### **9. Calendaring of MCOA meetings at senior centers**

Chair Gunst suggested that the commissioners discussed what months to host the next in the community MCOA meetings at the remainder senior centers (North Oakland, West Oakland, and Downtown senior centers). The commissioners collectively agreed to July 2024, October 2024, December 2024, and February 2025 meetings in the community. Chair Gunst suggested reaching out to the Kayla Brown Senior centers supervisor to find out each center’s schedules, and which

months would be best to host which community session. Also, to reach out to the councilmembers in each district to support these meetings, like Councilmember Reid District 7 did for our April 2024 MCOA meeting that was held at the East Oakland Senior Center.

**10. Health & Human Services/Adult & Aging Services Updates**

This item was deferred.

**11. Open Forum (Limit of two minutes)**

No comments at this time.

**12. Closing Remarks, & Adjourn**

Motion: Lisa Malul/Suzi Kalmus/Motion carried unanimously

Meeting Adjourned 12:03pm

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**Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 5, 2024, at 10 a.m. in person at City Hall hearing room 1.