

**Fresno-Madera Area Agency on Aging  
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**Meeting Minutes of June 11, 2024**

**Fresno-Madera Area Agency on Aging  
1625 E. Shaw Ave. Suite #123 Fresno, 93710**

- I. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY:** Chair, Ren Ramshaw at 1:30pm as a quorum was established, with nine members in attendance

**ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Anne Bishop, Michael Bishop, Ren Ramshaw, Tonya Frost, Verlaine Elinburg, Jan Clagg, Mariel Ortiz, Angela Stillwell, and Minerva Garcia.

**ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:** Chrissy Buckles, Michael Mendez, Jr., and Sharon Diaz

**STAFF PRESENT:** Hillaree Bennett and Jamie Sharma

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Joel Gurs (Adult Services Training Academy) Mario Pena (Alzheimer's Association) and an ASL Interpreter from DHHSC

- II. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Ren Ramshaw welcomed all in attendance as well as all members, and guests shared their name, title and organization represented.

- III. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** No report

- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes of the May 14, 2024, Advisory Council meeting were presented for approval.

**MOTION:** APPROVE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 9, 2024 ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING AS PRESENTED

Angela Stillwell / Anne Bishop

Unanimously Carried

**V. PRESENTATION: NO REPORT**

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. FMAAA Social Work Care Managers Presented at Oak Terrace II Apartments in Oakhurst on June 4, 2024.
- FMAAA Employees Jessica Jacobo Lopez and Celina Macias presented FMAAA direct services in person.
  - They also presented information and answered questions to Spanish speakers present
  - Guests of the apartments were appreciative of the information, however had lots of questions in regards to Medi-cal enrollment and insurance benefits for older adults.
  - Jessica and Celina informed them they are not insurance workers and encouraged them to reach out to HICAP at VCRC and CCLA for free services to help with the insurance questions.
- B. FMAAA Nutrition Manager and Social Work Care Manager attended and provided resources at the Westlake Mobile Home Park on June 5, 2024.
- Sarah Santoyo (Nutrition Manager) Julian Gonzalez (SWCM) tabled at this event and provided direct resources along with free Cal-Fresh Recipe books in Spanish and English to those in attendance.
- C. FMAAA Program Director attended Fresno County Board of Supervisors Proclamation for Elder and Dependent Abuse Month with Valley Caregiver Resource Center, Adult Protective Services and Fresno County Department of Social Services.
- Hillaree Bennett and Members of VCRC (Michelle DiBuduo, Susana Rodriguez, and Susan Bussean) APS (Angela Stillwell) and DSS (Oralia Gomez) attended and accepted the proclamation to recognize June as Elder Abuse and Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness Month.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Election of Advisory Council Officers for Fiscal Year 2024-2025  
Nominees:  
Chair: Michel Bishop City of Fresno  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair: Chissy Buckles for Madera County  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair: Tony Frost for Fresno County
- B. Installation of Officers for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 *Action*

1) Anne Bishop 2) Minerva Garcia Unanimously Carried

C. Approval of Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Advisory Council Meeting Schedule  
1) Minerva Garcia 2) Verlaine Elinburg Unanimously Carried

## VIII. REPORTS

A. Advisory Council Chair Report:

1. Advisory Council Membership Status:
  - 13 Current Members
  - 8 Vacancies:
  - 1 Fresno County, 3 Madera County 4 Fresno City
2. Brief Announcements of Upcoming Events for Older Adults
  - a. June 15 World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, observation on June 14- Wear Purple
    - Hillaree made an announcement to wear purple on June 14 in honor of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day.

B. Committee Progress Reports

1. **Elder Abuse Prevention Committee:** *Chrissy Buckles (Leader), Raymond Lopez, Tonya Frost, Ren Ramshaw*
  - No report at this time from Leader Chrissy Buckles.
  - AC made a request for training on Elder Abuse
  - Request on Video from APS in regards to Financial Fraud, elder abuse and signs of neglect
  - Seniors Helping Seniors
2. **Services for Older Adults from Faith-Based Community Committee:** *Tonya Frost (Leader), Michael Mendez, Jr., Anne Bishop, Michael Bishop, Raymond Lopez, Chrissy Buckles*
  - Leader, Tonya Frost sent an updated list to her team and they are actively working on filling the list and confirming the faith-based communities in Fresno and Madera Counties.

3. **Elder Homelessness:** *Minerva Garcia (Leader), Ren Ramshaw, Sharon Diaz, Angela Stillwell*

- Leader Minera Garcia talked a great deal about homelessness and how she helps those she sees around the community.
- Catholic Charities Volunteers encouraged
- Angela Stillwell discussed Cal-Aim Shelters for maximum of 6 months for medi-cal eligible older adults and adults with disabilities over 18.
- Hillaree Bennett discussed Turning Point shelters for 3 months maximum, they have 6 locations in City of Fresno.
- Joel Gurss discussed the new housing coming to Manchester Mall, possibly to be called Manchester Center for a possible location of older adults to live, with little to no means.

4. **. Disaster Preparedness Committee:** *Minerva Garcia (Leader), Chrissy Buckles, Verlaine Elinburg*

- Leader Minerva Garcia discussed about preparing the older adults that live in rural and isolated areas before evacuation and disasters happen.
- Jamie Sharma shared that what may be logical for us, may not be logical for the older adults that have been living in their homes for a number of years. The older adults may not be willing to evacuate based on their homes and lands being near and dear to them.

C. Agency on Aging Governing Board Meeting Report:

- RFPs were heard and approved
- Floating Holiday of July 5, approved
- Mandatory Ethics Training for all Governing Board Members was completed prior to June 30, 2024 deadline.

D. Triple-A Council of California:

No meeting this past month, Triple-A meets quarterly. Next meeting is virtual. Tony would like to attend in-person in September to represent the Agency. Jamie and Hillaree will talk and try and come to an agreement that will allow Tonya to attend the meeting in-person in Sacramento. Jamie and Toy will also talk to prepare for the Triple-A meeting to share all the news from the FMAAA.

- E. California Senior Legislature (CSL): Minerva Garcia gave a report that shared the recent senate and assembly proposals. Minerva discussed the report and where they are coming from, either the state or the feds. Jamie also shared and discussed a recent bill named SM 1249 and discussed the possible ramifications on the Agency and how hard Jamie is working to allow PSA-14 to remain in business as a JPA

**VII. FRESNO-MADERA AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES:**

- A.
- HIRED A NEW INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE EMPLOYEE-YECICA ESCOBAR
  - HIRED A NEW ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN-EVAN LOEWEN
  - CURRENT VACANCIES- FULL-TIME NURSE, FINANCE MANAGER

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT:**

Meeting was adjourned at 2:34pm

1) Brenda Ramshaw 2) Angela Stillwell

Unanimously Carried

Respectfully submitted,

*Hillaree Bennett*

---

Hillaree Bennett, Program Director  
Fresno-Madera Area Agency on Aging