



Commission on Aging
George Porter, Chair
Richard Castrillon, Commission Secretary

COMMISSION ON AGING REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

South Berkeley Senior Center
2939 Ellis St.
Berkeley, CA 94703

Wednesday, July 31, 2019
1:00 p.m.

Preliminary Matters

1. Roll Call
2. Public Comments
The public may comment about any item not on the agenda. Public comments are limited to two minutes per speaker. Public comments regarding agenda items will be heard while the Commission is discussing the item.
3. Approval of minutes from June 19, 2019. (Attachment A)

Presentations

4. Aging Services Manager update- *Tanya Bustamante*

Action Items

The Commission may take action related to any subject listed on the Agenda. Public comments regarding agenda items will be heard while the Commission is discussing the item. Public comments are limited to two minutes per speaker.

5. Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2020 (Attachment B)
6. Commission liaisons- Reports and updates. (Attachment C)
7. Consider recommendation to City Council to address senior housing crisis-
George Porter

Discussion Items

8. Risks to Seniors and Disabled during Wildfire-Safety related power outages-
George Porter (Attachment D)
9. Homelessness Among the Elderly in the Community- *Rosalind Gordon*

Future Agenda Items

Information/ Update Items

Announcements (5 minutes)

Adjournment

Communications

Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting.

COMMUNICATION ACCESS INFORMATION

This meeting is being held in a wheelchair accessible location. To request a disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the **Disability Services Specialist at 981-6418 (V) or 981-6347 (TDD)** at least three business days before the meeting date. Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting.

Communications to Berkeley boards, commissions or committees are public record and will become part of the City's electronic records, which are accessible through the City's website. Please note: e-mail addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required, but if included in any communication to a City board, commission or committee, will become part of the public record. If you do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service or in person to the secretary of the relevant board, commission or committee. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do not include that information in your communication. Please contact the commission secretary for further information.

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the North Berkeley Senior Center located at 1901 Hearst Avenue, during regular business hours. The Commission Agenda and Minutes may be viewed on the City of Berkeley website: <http://www.cityofberkeley.info/commissions>.

Secretary:

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Commission on Aging/HHCS
Richard Castrillon
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Health, Housing & Community
Services Department
Commission on Aging

COMMISSION ON AGING DRAFT Minutes

ATTACHMENT A

South Berkeley Senior Center
2939 Ellis Street
Berkeley, CA 94710

Wednesday, June 19, 2019
1:00 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Present: (5) Young; Porter; Murphy; Candau; Schechner

Absent: (2) Lasell; Gordon

Excused Absent: (0)

Staff Present: (2) Richard Castrillon; Tanya Bustamante

Public: (2) Helen Walsh; Lisa Siragusa

2. Public Comment

3. Approval of May 15, 2019 Meeting Minutes

M/S: Candau/ Porter

Ayes: Porter, Murphy, Schechner, Candau, Young,

Noes: None

Abstain: None

4. Aging Services Manager update- *Tanya Bustamante*

Discussion. No action taken.

5. Commission liaisons- Reports & updates

Discussion; No action taken

6. Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2020

Discussion; Tabled for July meeting.

7. Risks to Seniors and Disabled during Wildfire-Safety related power outages- Approval to send recommendation letter to City Council and Disaster & Fire Safety Commission asking for stronger mitigation.

M/S: Candau/ Murphy

Ayes: Porter, Murphy, Schechner, Candau, Young,

Noes: None

Abstain: None

8. 1000 Person Plan Report to Council

Discussion; No action taken.

9. Vice-Mayor Wengraf's Commissioners Meeting Report

Discussion; No action taken.

10. Future Agenda Items

- a. Homelessness Among the Elderly in the Community- *Rosalind Gordon*
- b. Consider recommendation to City Council to address senior housing crisis- *George Porter*

Commissioners adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Minutes Approved on:

Richard Castrillon, Commission Secretary

Commission on Aging: Fiscal Year2020 Work Plan- DRAFT

Commission mission statement

To enhance the quality of life for people 55 years and older in the Berkeley Community, and to increase public awareness of their contributions and needs by actively promoting their health, safety, independence and participation in our community.

Commission Goals

To carry out its mission, the Commission on Aging will work in the following areas over the next year:

1. Support Berkeley Age Friendly Initiatives

- a. Resources
 - i. Staff time
- b. Program activities
 - i. Staff time will be used to coordinate Age Friendly Forums, for coordination of commission meeting presentations from guests relevant to Age Friendly Initiative issues, and for the preparation of council submissions.
 - ii. Commission will hold Age Friendly Forums to inform the public of progress of Age Friendly Initiatives in presenting strategic plan to council. Commission will seek public input regarding strategic plan and discuss recommendations for submission to council. Commission will identify key issues in the Age Friendly Initiatives strategic plan and send liaisons to relevant commissions to ask for support for the Age Friendly Initiatives during public comment.
- c. Output(s)
 - i. Commission will develop recommendations for City Council regarding Age Friendly Initiatives.
 - ii. A minimum of two forums will be held.
- d. Outcomes
 - i. Short-term desired changes: Council adoption of Age Friendly Initiatives, long-term desired changes: Aging being considered in all city policies

2. Advocate for Needs of Older Citizens in the Implementation of alternative & senior-friendly transportation modes

- a. Resources
 - i. Staff time
- b. Program activities
 - i. Staff time will be used for coordination of commission meeting presentations from guests relevant to scooter share program and for the preparation of council submissions.

- ii. Commission will seek public input regarding scooter share program and discuss recommendations for submission to council. Commission will designate two commissioners to research the implementation of scooter shares programs in other cities and report back to commission. Commission will send liaisons to Transportation Commission to address concerns during public comment.
- c. Output(s)
 - i. Commission will develop recommendations for City Council regarding scooter share initiative.
- d. Outcomes
 - i. Short-term desired changes: Delay of implementation of scooter share program until proper consideration can be given to concerns of aging population, long-term desired changes: Safe public sidewalks and downtown areas for older citizens

3. Advocate for Affordable Housing for Older Adults

- a. Resources
 - i. Staff time
- b. Program activities
 - i. Staff time will be used for coordination of commission meeting presentations from guests relevant to affordable housing and for the preparation of council submissions.
 - ii. Commission will designate two commissioners to identify relevant City Council agenda items and report back to commission. Commission will send liaisons to Housing Advisory Commission to address concerns during public comment. Commission will form an ad-hoc subcommittee to research questions raised during discussion and report back on key issues in order to draft a recommendation. Commission will invite relevant speakers to present on key issues related to housing policy at commission meetings.
- c. Output(s)
 - i. Commission will develop recommendations for City Council regarding housing policies.
 - ii. Commission will hold 1 public forum to hear housing concerns from older citizens.
- d. Outcomes
 - i. Short-term desired changes: city support for ADUs, long-term desired changes: increased affordable housing options for older citizens.

4. Examine the work-plans and agendas of other commissions for elder relevant items.

e. Resources

i. Staff time

f. Program activities

i. Commissioners, with the assistance of staff, will do its best to examine the work-plans and agendas of other commissions for items that may affect the health, well-being, and community participation of the aging population and report back.

ii. When deemed helpful, the CoA will send liaisons to other commissions to state our position on relevant items. In other cases, we will simply communicate via email with these other commissioners.

g. Output(s)

i. Commission will develop information for City Council regarding those elements of other commission's policy development and/or planning that we deem relevant to senior concerns.

h. Outcomes

To ensure that the concerns of our elder community are reflected in all phases of the policy making and planning process.

<u>Commission:</u>	<u>Liaison:</u>	<u>Meeting dates & locations:</u>
Disaster and Fire Safety Commission		4 th Wednesday @7:00 pm -Fire Dept. Training Facility 997 Cedar St.
Parks and Waterfront Commission		2 nd Wednesday @7:00 pm -Frances Albrier Community Center 2800 Park St.
Transportation Commission	Murphy, Porter	3 rd Thursday @ 7:00 pm -Willow Room 1326 Allston Way, Corp Yard
Commission on the Status of Women		4 th Wednesday @6:45 pm -1st Floor, Cypress Room 2180 Milvia St.
Planning Commission	Lasell	1 st & 3 rd Wednesdays @7:00 pm -South Berkeley Senior Center 2939 Ellis St.

ATTACHMENT C

Homeless Commission		2 nd Wednesday @7:00pm -1st Floor, Cypress Room 2180 Milvia St.
Animal Care Commission		3 rd Wednesday @7:00 pm -Berkeley Animal Shelter 1 Bolivar Dr.
Human Welfare and Community Action Commission		3 rd Wednesday @7:00 pm -South Berkeley Senior Center 2939 Ellis St.
Commission on Disability	Candau	1 st Wednesday @6:30 pm -Willow Room 1326 Allston Way, Corp Yard
Housing Advisory Commission	Candau, Gordon	1 st Thursday @7:00 pm -South Berkeley Senior Center 2939 Ellis St.
Community Health Commission	Gordon	4 th Thursday @6:30 pm

ATTACHMENT C

		-South Berkeley Senior Center 2939 Ellis St.
Mental Health Commission		4 th Thursday @7:00 pm 1947 Center St.
Peace and Justice Commission		1 st Monday @7:00 pm -1st Floor, Cypress Room 2180 Milvia St.



Health, Housing &
Community Services Department
Commission on Aging

June 20, 2019

To: The Mayor and City Council, and Disaster and Fire Safety Commission

From: Commission on Aging

**Re: Risks to seniors and disabled during wildfire-safety related power outages -
stronger mitigation needed**

We on the CoA are writing today out of strong concern that insufficient attention has been paid to the disproportionate risks and stressors placed on our elder and disabled citizens in the event of safety measure, power outages in time of high fire danger. Businesses will be effected, of course, and our more able bodied citizens will be inconvenienced by this measure, but these more vulnerable demographics could be put at a much higher level of physical risk, especially given that this may occur during an extreme heat event.

Though broad studies on the issue have yet to be made, empirical data to be found on the net supports common-sense - seniors are at higher risk of falling during a power outage and those falls can be life-changing, those are who dependent upon plug-in supportive devices from respirators to the charging units for wheel chairs could find themselves in a desperate situation unless well-prepared. That list goes on and on (including no air-conditioning or garage door openers) and, indeed, all of the simple preparedness and commonplace adaptations to the situation can be much harder for these demographics - if PG&E announces a few hours in advance that there will be a power outage, these citizens will have a much harder time “popping-out” to the market or the hardware store to prepare. Importantly too, emergency communication and, if necessary, evacuation measures may be hampered, especially for those who get most of their information from something plugged into the wall. This could be extremely problematic during fire season - not all fires start at the electrical grid. Add to this the possibility of extreme heat and the mix is toxic even if (hopefully) a wildfire doesn't occur

Though Berkeley has a good record of protecting its elders and disabled, sometimes the needs of those demographics are not addressed in a timely manner - hence this letter. As regards this particular situation, we suggest that ASAP the possibility of fire-safety related blackouts be more strongly brought to the attention of all our citizens and that this process should put emphasis on preparedness and personal safety recommendations specific to the more vulnerable among us. To address this, we've also sent this letter to

A Vibrant and Healthy Berkeley for All

From: Commission on Aging

Re: Risks to seniors and disabled during wildfire-safety related power outages - stronger mitigation needed

June 20, 2019

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the Disaster and Fire Safety Commission and urge this municipal entities to work together with our community partners (Ashby Village, CIL, etc.) to get the message out quickly.

Thank you for taking our concerns and suggestions into consideration,

Commission on Aging

George Porter, Chair

Richard Castrillon, Director, North Berkeley Senior Center
Commission on Aging Secretary