



## Mar Vista Community Council



### MAR VISTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Aging in Place Committee

Thursday, November 20th, 2014 at 6:00 PM

Windward School Room #800

11350 Palms Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90066

Bill Duckett-Chair, Sherri Akers-Vice-Chair

### Minutes

**Attendees – Sherri Akers, Lori Gilder, Robin Doyno, Tatjana Luethi, Abigail Benitez, Karen Lefever, Terri Crystal, Tom Ponton**

- I. Called to order – **6:04 PM**
- II. Public comment
  - **Robin invited everyone to the West Mar Vista Neighborhood Association meeting on 12/7**
- III. Motion to approve October minutes – **moved by Robin, seconded by Abby, passed unanimously**
- IV. Old Business -
  - a. Update on motion thanking the Mayor and offering MVCC's full support for carrying out the pledge. Follow up with –
    - Charles Shivers, who is the Dept of Aging's liaison to the Council on Aging (213-482-7246 or [charles.shivers@lacity.org](mailto:charles.shivers@lacity.org))
    - Dept of Aging's General Manager Laura Trejo (213-202-5645 or [laura.trejo@lacity.org](mailto:laura.trejo@lacity.org)).
    - Dept of Aging Information and Assistant Specialist Helen K. Lee (213-482-7241 or [Helen.k.lee@lacity.org](mailto:Helen.k.lee@lacity.org)).
    - CM Mike Bonin and Tricia Keane – his Director of Land Use & Planning [tricia.keane@lacity.org](mailto:tricia.keane@lacity.org)
  - **We want to include the official letter on the motion from MVCC that has or will be sent to the Mayor's office when we contact the above and it has not been posted yet. Robin will follow up with the board to get it for us.**
  - **Elizabeth may have contact with Laura Trejo. While we don't have an 'ask' yet on policy we would like to pursue, we feel networking with city leadership to let them know about the committee and to offer our support on their initiatives is a tremendous value.**
  - **Pennsylvania has just released a study with 130 suggestions for keeping elders safer. Abby and Sherri will review the 130 recommendations to select some that the committee may want to consider recommending to Los Angeles with a policy motion. See brief article here - [http://www.newsworks.org/index.php/homepage-feature/item/75297-panel-offers-130-ways-to-keep-pennsylvanias-elders-safer?linktype=hp\\_impact](http://www.newsworks.org/index.php/homepage-feature/item/75297-panel-offers-130-ways-to-keep-pennsylvanias-elders-safer?linktype=hp_impact) and final reports with suggestions can be downloaded here - <http://www.pacourts.us/courts/supreme-court/committees/supreme-court-boards/elder-law-task-force>**

- b. Update on collaboration with the MVCC Great Streets Ad Hoc Committee and potential liaison to attend Great Streets meetings. (Sherri)
- Opportunity to submit questions for inclusion in the MV Stakeholder Survey
  - The AARP and the World Health Organization have focused on building more livable communities for the aging population through their [Age-Friendly Cities and Communities](#) program. Cities can adopt elements of a [WHO-approved checklist](#) to make communities safe and engaging for people who are aging.
  - 5 ways to make a city more walkable (<http://www.marketplace.org/topics/business/5-ways-make-city-more-walkable>)
    1. Keep sidewalks well-maintained
    2. Provide lots of outdoor seating
    3. Allow enough time at crosswalks
    4. Turn on the lights
    5. Build plenty of clearly marked bike paths
  - **Discussion re the Great Streets Committee and excitement about potential collaboration. Committee members interested in attending the Great Streets Committee meeting should sign up for notification emails on the MVCC web site. Link to committee page is <http://marvista.org/committees/greatstreets> but it does not appear to have content on it yet.**
- c. Update on kinds of baseline research to establish direction for the committee - collaboration via GoToMeeting with Janice, Christy, and Janice to formalize a survey of seniors. (Tatjana, Elizabeth, Christy)
- **Tatjana and Elizabeth had a GoToMeeting to collaborate on questions and reviewed them with the committee for feedback. Questions will be revised based on suggestions.**
  - **Grand View Palms has been unresponsive. Robin will try as well.**
  - **Mar Vista Library has agreed to host a workshop in January - Tatjana will confirm the date. Our goal is to collect information on senior's goals and needs. Tatjana will set up the RSVP page and create a flyer. We will promote it by posting flyers in senior centers, library and senior oriented services. Request an eblast sent to MVCC general membership and flyers at the Farmers Market tent. Sherri will promote it on her Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/aginginplaceMarVista>**
- d. Status on MVCC committee web page resource list (Sherri)
- **Committee reviewed what has been posted so far - <http://marvista.org/committees/aginginplace>**
  - **Lori suggested adding ITN, a nonprofit transportation service and will send Sherri the link**
  - **Members are encouraged to review the page and send any additions to Sherri**
  - **Committee page is hidden on the MVCC site since it is a drop down under the Outreach Committee. The change has been requested previously - Robin will**

**follow up with BOD. Outreach to let people know about the resource page is important.**

- e. Update on smoke detector giveaway by the fire department.
  - **Robin will look into what the Fire Department is doing for outreach on the program and how we can help.**
  - **Could the MVCC BOD spread the word with NA's?**

V. New Business –

- a. Review collaborative workbook of committee plans and results (Tatjana)
  - **Tatjana will create a Google folder that the committee members can access**
- b. Discussion about possibility of AIP hosting a quarterly MVCC stakeholders meeting.
  - **The committee is agreed that we would like to host this and Robin will check with the BOD to see if the March meeting will work.**
  - **One hour before the BOD meeting, table presenters around the perimeter of the room that are AIP resources, select a topic and speaker for perhaps a 20 minute presentation.**
  - **This will be an important tool to let the community know about the AIP Committee**
- c. Discussion about AIP collaboration with Neighborhood Watch programs and block captain programs to identify seniors in their perspective neighborhoods.
  - **Discussion about prior attempts that have not yielded results**
  - **Perhaps reach out to the MVCC Safety Committee? LAPD Pacific Division?**
  - **Goal is to ask NW programs to identify seniors on each block to inspire methods to ensure that they fully informed and have a way to connect when they need help.**
- d. Discussion re development of intergenerational program for seniors aging in place. (Tatjana, Christy)
  - **Tabled as Christy was not at the meeting and she and Tatjana had not been in touch**
- e. Committee collaboration with Green Committee at Farmers Market tent - senior offering suggestions for what can be done with all the 'stuff' that has been collected over a lifetime.
  - **The Committee would like to be the guest at the Green Tent in January**
  - **Presentation will be developed around the concepts in this article - identifying local organizations that we can refer to - <http://sustainablog.org/2014/10/moving-elderly-loved-one-recycle-reuse-stuff-thats-left-behind/>**
  - **Karen, Lori and Sherri will collaborate on this**
- f. Discussion - California Department of Public Health has failed to effectively investigate nursing home complaints, a state audit released Thursday found, with a total of 11,000 unresolved

complaints in its system.(see LA Times article in addendum) Are there avenues to determine if there are unresolved complaints for local nursing homes?

- **Elizabeth will help us identify a resource for getting information on unresolved complaints against nursing homes so we can add it to the resource list on the AIP web site.**

## VI. Public Comment

- **Next meeting will be 12/18, same time and location**
- **Elizabeth mentioned that the World Elder Abuse Awareness Day will be in June and the White House is also organizing a conference on aging.**
- **Terri has volunteered to be a guest presenter at the MVCC tent in January to do a presentation on nutrition tips for seniors.**

## VII. Adjourn – **Motion to adjourn by Elizabeth, seconded by Lori. Adjourned at 7:20 PM**

Addendum related to item V-f

LA Times, October 30<sup>th</sup> <http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-california-nursing-home-audit-20141030-story.html>

The California Department of Public Health has failed to effectively investigate nursing home complaints, a [state audit](#) released Thursday found, with a total of 11,000 unresolved complaints in its system.

The department, which is responsible for monitoring more than 2,500 nursing homes, classified more than 40% of these complaints and incidents as having caused or being likely to cause harm to a resident. Yet the state auditor's office found that the average number of days these complaints were open ranged from 14 to 1,042 days.

The Santa Rosa-Redwood Coast district office had 102 open complaints and incidents that posed a threat to a resident's health or life. On average those incidents remained open for almost a year, according to the audit.

Auditors said the California Department of Public Health oversight for processing complaints was inadequate, adding that until recently it had not established a system to track unresolved complaints. The agency had also failed to set time frames for when a complaint should be closed.

Nearly 1,000 of these complaints were against certified nurse assistants and home health aides. On average they remained unresolved for eight months, and 22% of them were in the two most serious priority categories, the audit found.

The department was also inconsistent in the quality of its investigations, auditors said. The San Francisco district office closed complaints without supervisors reviewing them in four of the 10 investigations that were examined.

Among the audit's recommendations are for the department to establish and implement a formal process for monitoring the progress of open complaints and incidents for all of its offices. The audit also recommended that health officials establish a specific time frame for completing their investigations.

The California Department of Public Health said it was in the process of developing policies and procedures for complaints against nurse assistants and home health aides. But the agency said it disagreed with establishing time frames for investigations.

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