



## Mar Vista Community Council



### MAR VISTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Aging in Place Committee

Thursday, April 16th, 2015 at 6:00 PM

**Windward School Room #800**

11350 Palms Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90066

Co-Chairs – Sherri Akers, Robin Doyno

### Draft Minutes

**Aging in Place Committee meeting 5/21/15 was used to co-host the Senior Scam Stopper Seminar -**  
<http://www.marvista.org/node/3047>

### Attendees – Public event

Partial recap in place of minutes -

The stories that were shared last night were astounding – even the grandmother of LA District Attorney Jackie Lacey fell victim to the Grandmother scam so we can't think it won't happen in our family!

<http://losangeles.cbslocal.com/2014/04/25/d-a-jackie-lacey-warns-elderly-of-grandparents-scam-after-con-artists-swindle-her-own-mother/>

**The Senior Theater Troupe stole the show.** They've just lost a grant with LAUSD. They represent a great opportunity to nurture intergenerational opportunities. Birgitta – perhaps we could have a meeting with Adrienne and then perhaps invite her to a committee meeting to brainstorm? In the meantime, I've introduced her to Albert Olson and recommended that they perform at the October Mar Vista Fall Festival. Here are two LA Times articles about them.

- <http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-beat-senior-scams-20150408-htmllstory.html>
- <http://www.latimes.com/local/california/la-me-beat-stop-senior-scams-actors-20150407-story.html#page=1>

**From the representative from the [California Public Utilities Commission](#).** Overall, be very suspect of any unsolicited marketer.

- Slamming - move you to a new provider - and cramming - add small charges to the bill – learn more here - [Cramming and slamming](#). A friend got a solicitation call on this just yesterday
- If a message is left with these prefixes - 809, 284 ,649, 876 - do not return the call. It's a scam and can open up your phone line for them to make calls all over the world.
- <https://www.nomorobo.com/> is a great resource to block the numbers from telemarketer calls.
- Call the FTC (877) 383-4357 to report ride telemarketers or suspected scams.

### Jane Kreidler, Contractors State Licensing Board -

- Before hiring a contractor, check their license – there is an instant check link <http://www.cslb.ca.gov/>

- Ask to see their driver's license to see if it matches the license, make sure the license active and in good standing. Google their name with the word complaints to check for grievances
- Board will mediate complaints and help you recover money if it is a licensed contractor
- Scams covered – advertising a low cost service and then 'discovering' a costly problem once in the house. Energy efficiency, solar, security companies are often used as scams. Anything that gets them in the house.
- Caregivers can just take a picture of checks to get the routing number to use the account. Use a bonded agency but still put wallets, check books, social security cards etc. in a protected, secure place. Sadly, the same issues can be a problem with grandkids.

**State Controller's office** – this was fun! There is an amazing amount of unclaimed money and property that can be recovered and it only takes seconds to check. Any account that is dormant for three years gets turned over to them. She went on line with many of us last night to help us find money – often it's a deposit that was never returned. Go to <https://ucpi.sco.ca.gov/UCP/Default.aspx>

- Use variations of your name including just your first initial – you can check the address to see if it is you
- Do this for yourself but also parents and family even if deceased.

Moving forward – Nicole Jones, Director of External Affairs for State Controller Betty Yee shared that Yee is VERY focused on concerns for seniors. She was excited to learn about our committee and suggested that Ms. Lee may even want to be a guest at a committee meeting. Let's think about ways we might be able to collaborate with her office.

We've forged a strong relationship with Maya Douglas, Senior Field Representative for Assemblymember Sebastian Ridley-Thomas which provides the opportunity for advocacy at the state level. I've let her know that we are eager to help on issues related to aging and seniors.

Unfortunately, Claudia Martin, our Neighborhood Prosecutor City Attorney did not attend – there may have been a miscommunication.

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