

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Services for Seniors Working Group

Tuesday, January 24, 2017 Meeting Minutes
By Grace Farwell

In Attendance: Melissa Andrizzi-Sobel, Beach Cities Health District; Charles Banasky; Maureen Banasky, PVE-CARES; Aaron Baum, SBCCOG; Margie Beierschmitt, Peninsula Seniors; Diane Brown, City of Hawthorne; Jan Buike, City of Manhattan Beach; Anita Chun, Torrance Memorial Medical Center; Alexa Davis, City of Rolling Hills Estates; Ghislaine Davis, City of Torrance Commission on Aging/South Bay Village; Grace Farwell, SBCCOG; Eric Haack, Access Services; Britt Huff, Chair, City of Rolling Hills Estates Council Member, H.E.L.P.; Steve Lantz, SBCCOG; Jane Long, Coast to Coast Seniors; Adriana Mendoza, AARP; Isabel Rodriguez, City of Hermosa Beach Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission; Bea Virobik, City of Torrance Commission on Aging/South Bay Village; Fran Wielin, Palos Verdes Peninsula Village

1. Welcome and Self Introductions
2. Minutes from the December 6, 2016 meeting were approved. Motion made by Fran Wielin and seconded by Bea Virobik. Minutes received and filed.
3. PATH Homeless Update
Meredith Berkson was unable to attend the meeting but provided a written report read by Grace Farwell:

Deliverables	Progress
Serve 450 unduplicated individuals	600 individuals engaged
Make 2,300 duplicated contacts	2,071 contact made
Connect 70 people to mental health	41 connected ; 20 additional referred
Connect 58 people to substance abuse treatment	11 connected ; 14 additional referred
Connect 58 people to primary care	11 connected ; 14 additional referred
Connect 58 people to mainstream benefits	17 connected ; 24 additional referred
Connect 230 people to interim housing	26 placed ; 52 additional referred
Connect 58 people to permanent housing	70 placed ; 178 additional referred

Demographic Information:

Of the **205** assessed:

- 35% are Chronically Homeless
- Age:
 - 37% are 55+
 - 16% are 62+
- Disabilities:
 - Mental health: 39%
 - Physical health: 36%
 - Substance abuse: 20%
- Acuity Scores:
 - 3's (most vulnerable): 62%

- 2's (medium vulnerability): 12%
- 1's (low vulnerability): 12%

Upcoming Events:

- Homeless Count 1/25 – you can still volunteer! Sign up at theycountwillyou.org
- Measure H – on March 7th County Ballot (fact sheet was distributed at meeting)
 - ¼ cent sales tax to generate revenue for homeless services
- Renewal – hoping to renew the contract for another year
- March 22nd – Landlord Engagement Event from 10am-12pm at Carson Community Center – invite any landlords you know!

It was stated at the meeting that LA County has 250,000 older adults at risk of becoming homeless

Britt Huff is the SBCCOG representative on the Homeless Service Committee; there was a meeting on 1/11/17. Homeless count is 1/24, 1/25, and 1/26 in the South Bay; observational count only.

Jan Buike reported she has gone through the homeless training that included how to approach a homeless person so as to not invade their privacy.

4. Milken Institute Best Cities for Successful Aging Mayor's Pledge
 - Carson, Hermosa Beach, Lawndale, Rolling Hills Estates, and Torrance have signed the pledge

5. Update on Purposeful Aging Los Angeles Initiative

Adriana Mendoza provided an update

 - Launched May 2016
 - 5-year plan commitment
 - Principal leads are LA City Department of Aging (Laura Trejo, General Manager) and LA County Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services (Cynthia Banks, Director)
 - Steering Committee is made up of Milken Institute Center for the Future of Aging, USC, UCLA, AARP, LA City and LA County
 - Action Planning Work Group – 30 members
 - 2 appointed per Supervisor district
 - 1 appointed per City Council district
 - AARP has also appointed member(s)
 - AARP has developed survey based on the 8 domains of livability
 - Outdoor Spaces and Buildings
 - Transportation
 - Housing
 - Social Participation
 - Respect and Social Inclusion
 - Civic Participation and Employment
 - Communication and Information
 - Community and Health Services



- Survey will be going out to those 18+ and translated into 13 languages
- AARP role – provide technical assistance and to ensure plans are implemented
- AARP will be conducting Listening Sessions

6. SBCCOG report

Grace Farwell reported on the following:

- 2017 General Assembly is on February 24th! “Driving the South Bay’s Digital Future”
- Homeless Initiative – the SBCCOG Steering Committee is recommending that the Board approve SBCCOG support for Measure H
- Measure M Workshop on January 26th at 4pm prior to SBCCOG Board meeting

7. Senior Friendly Businesses

Grace Farwell shared some of the research she has been doing on Senior Friendly Businesses.

- The best information to date comes from Alberta Health: Building Age-Friendly Communities: Creating an Age-Friendly Business in Alberta (<http://www.seniors-housing.alberta.ca/documents/AgeFriendly-Business-2012.pdf>)
- What makes a business age-friendly
 - Comfort
 - Visibility
 - Safety
 - Respect
- Making a business more age-friendly
 - Conduct an assessment
 - Use age-friendly checklist (refer to link above for checklist)
- Categories in the Age-Friendly Business Checklist
 - Outside
 - Inside
 - Safety of customers
 - Mobility and accessibility
 - Comfort, visibility, and hearing
 - Customer service and respect
- Senior-Friendly or Age-Friendly Businesses should be part of the Purposeful Aging Los Angeles Initiative
- Jan Buike mentioned that Manhattan Beach has an emphasis on supporting older adults
- Seniors have a voice in Torrance regarding streetlights, crosswalks, sidewalks, etc.
- Next steps:
 - Suggestions are to work with Chambers of Commerce

8. Announcements

- Bea Virobik announced 24Hr Home Care’s “RideWith24”, a partnership with uber to provide safe and efficient transportation for older adults. Call 24Hr HomeCare to set up account; once account is set up, ride may be requested 24/7. Costs: \$6.95 (process fee) plus fare. It was a pilot in Culver City and has now expanded to Torrance and the South Bay. www.24hrcares.com



- Isabel Rodriguez proposed a Senior March to coincide with Older Americans Month in May
9. Next meeting
- **Tuesday, March 28, 2017 @ 9:30 am**