

**Eastern Sierra Area Agency on Aging**  
**Advisory Council Meeting**  
Bishop Social Services Front Conference Room  
920 N Main St, Bishop, CA 93514

**January 29, 2020**  
**Minutes**

Advisory Council Members Present:

*Roger Rasche, Inyo County Supervisor Dan Totheroh, Kelli Davis, Sandra Lund, and Patti Hamie-Christensen (video).*

Other Attendees:

*Marilyn Mann, Keri Oney, Rhiannon Baker, Paulette Erwin, Rhonda Duggan, Helen Allen, Marilyn Blackburn, Kathy Peterson, Melissa Best-Baker, and Fred Stump (video).*

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**1. Call to Order**

Chairperson Roger Rasche called the meeting to order at 10:03 am.

**2. Introduction of Advisory Council members and staff**

Each individual announced their name and their role. Quorum was established.

\*Patti Hamie-Christensen provided the following in depth introduction at the end of the meeting of herself and her role in the community through Hospice\*

Northern Mono County Hospice began on April 2019; it is a volunteer palliative care organization that provides free Hospice services to individuals from Lee Vining to the Nevada border, with 10 individuals receiving services so far. Hospice works in agreement with Toiyabe whose Nurse Practitioner performs house calls and local EMTs who provide medical support. A free Hospice training for new volunteers, which is normally \$750 per person, is taking place April 30, 2020 to May 2, 2020 and is open to Hospice workers in Bishop as well. The trainer is a national level trainer and is the executive director of Hospice in San Louis Obispo. For more information on Northern Mono County Hospice you can visit the website at <https://northernmonocountyhospice.com/>.

**3. Public Comment**

Chairperson Roger Rasche invited Public Comment. No comment was provided.

**4. Approval of minutes from December 12, 2019- ACTION**

Chairperson Roger Rasche asked for approval of the minutes from December 12, 2019. There were no comments or corrections discussed among attendees. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Sandra Lund and seconded by Kelli Davis. Roger Rasche – YES; Inyo County Supervisor Dan Totheroh – YES; Patti Hamie-Christensen – ABSTAIN; Absent members – Phyllis Mikalowsky, Joann Poncho, Rachel Lober.

## 5. Staff Reports

### A. **Melissa Best-Baker: Budget Approval Recommendation - ACTION**

Ms. Best-Baker explained the source of additional ESAAA funds from CDA. Each year, the State combines all PSA's unspent monies from the previous fiscal year and redistributes across the PSAs as One-Time Only (OTO) awards, PSA 16 received almost \$11,000 this fiscal year.

The State also received additional funding from the Federal government. This last year every PSA received an annual base allocation of these funds in the amount of \$150,000, which is guaranteed for 2.5 years. We also received additional "adjustment" monies for a total of \$304,000 for our service area. The additional amount was determined by a formula provided by the Federal government and must be spent by June 2020, however the state is looking at extending that deadline as the funds were received from the State later than anticipated. The State has identified goals including reducing waitlists and expanding service areas. Patti Hamie-Christensen referenced the handout provided which outlines the Inyo – Mono split of the monies and asked if the allocation between Inyo and Mono Counties was consistent. Marilyn responded that the split is based on previously approved split of funds that occurs during the area planning process.

Chairperson Roger Rasche called for motion to recommend approval to the governing board. Motion to recommend approval was made by Inyo County Supervisor Dan Totheroh and seconded by Sandra Lund. Roger Rasche – YES; Kelli Davis – YES; Patti Hamie-Christensen – YES; Absent members – Phyllis Mikalowsky, Joann Poncho, Rachel Lober.

### B. **Keri Oney: Program Report for PSA 16 (Inyo and Mono Counties)**

We are still working on clearing out the backlog of data for PSA 16 as of the transition to the new data system, so there are no new numbers for units and services provided since the December 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Keri provided a handout which broke down the number of individuals served by for FY 18/19 by registered and unregistered status. Patti Hamie-Christensen asked if the data is static or not. Marilyn responded that there has been a slight decrease from about eight years ago; but a recent increase is reflected. Two additional handouts were provided providing a breakdown of characteristics including; age, gender, income, race, ethnicity, and number of household members for individuals receiving home delivered meals and/or congregate meals. Sandra Lund mentioned that an individual in her community who attempted to sign up for home delivered meals was told that there was no current availability to receive home delivered meals. Keri provided overview of the home delivered meals program and indicated she would follow up with Sandra after the meeting. Rhonda Duggan asked if funding was based on these numbers. Keri responded that it does not. Patti Hamie-Christensen asked if there is an annual assessment done with recipients to update the information. Marilyn responded that every recipient receives a quarterly review, the initial assessment is in person, the following quarter there is a telephone assessment, followed by in person, and the year finished with another telephone assessment, that in person/ telephone pattern repeats. Keri added that many times the employee performing the assessments will accompany the employee delivering meals and do all assessments in person while delivering meals.

### **C. Marilyn Mann: Area Plan Update**

We are in the final year of our 4 year 2016-2020 Area Plan and currently in the planning process for the next 4 year 2020-2024 plan.

### **D. Marilyn Mann: Area Plan 2020-2024 planning**

I. We have received 231 responses to the community needs survey that was distributed between Inyo and Mono Counties throughout the months of December and January. The majority of responses were received from the Walker Senior Center and the Inyo Register, 15 were received from Long Term Care facilities. Roger Rasche mentioned that he only first saw the survey at the Lone Pine Senior Center on Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Concern was expressed that minimal responses have been received from Inyo County Senior Centers which resulted in the extension of the survey by two weeks. The greatest needs emerging are consistent with past results and include access to transportation for out of area doctor appointments and local daily transportation needs, need for access to information and the need for legal assistance. Once all results are in and final they will feed the recommendations that the ESAAA Advisory Council make to the governing board. The Area Plan describes population, demographics, and needs. Marilyn plans to meet with Kathy Peterson and her team to determine a recommendation for the percentages need split between Inyo and Mono counties which will be brought to the ESAAA Advisory Council.

At the March 25, 2020 ESAAA Advisory Council meeting Marilyn will present a draft of the 2020-2024 Area Plan. The council will make recommendations to the governing board regarding the Inyo/ Mono split as well as what the minimum percentages should be for each category of assistance. In the past the following minimum percentages were recommended:

50% - Transportation Assistance

05% - Information Assistance

03% - In-Home Services

10% - Legal Assistance

Legal assistance and transportation have historically been funded at a higher rate than the approved minimum percentages. The final Area Plan will go to Board of Supervisors for approval and then submitted to CDA by May 1, 2020.

Patti Hamie-Christensen asked if there is an allocation for emergency needs, specifically for emergency prescription needs. Marilyn responded that the options are defined by the State and doesn't believe that there is an emergency/ prescription category.

II. Three to four weeks ago CDA sent out a survey regarding fall prevention funding. Each planning area is going to receive \$130,000 for fall prevention activities. PSA 16 is interested in pulling the funds down but we are not yet sure of what the activities will be, but they must be an evidence based activity. Pattie Hamie-Christensen mentioned that there is a spring health fair in Walker and we could use the funds to host a table with flyers and put on a workshop. Marilyn stated that if the money is received in time we will coordinate with Mono County on potentially moving forward with that idea.

**6. Suggested 2020 Meeting Dates and Locations for ESAAA Advisory Council**

The next ESAAA Advisory Council meeting will be a public comment meeting for the 2020-2024 Area Plan and will be held on March 25, 2020, 10am at the Bishop Care Center, 151 Pioneer Ln, Bishop CA 93514.

**7. Meeting Adjourned**

Roger Rasche adjourned the meeting at 11:17 a.m.