

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING AGENDA

Meeting Date: Friday, September 21, 2012 **Time:** 10:00 am - Noon
Place: Veteran's Memorial Hall
801 Grand Avenue
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Please RSVP to Chair (235-5779) if you are unable to attend this meeting.

10:00 am **Call for a Quorum**

Call to Order

- Flag Salute
- Roll List
- Approval of August Minutes [Marie Pounders Minute Taker]
- Approval of Agenda
- Guest and Public Comment [2 minute limit]
- Introductions

Presentation: Speaker: Pam Munson, "Project Lifesaver." What You Need to Know".

Unfinished Business:

- Officer elections November. Applications in before October meeting.

Special Reports:

- Rosa Fernandez, Department of Social Services: Semi Annual Report
- Outreach Committee Update: Speaker's Bureau, COA Corner

Announcements and Updates:

Adjournment: **Next Meeting,** October 19, 2012 Minute Taker: Marilyn Hamilton

SLO COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING

Veterans Memorial Hall

801 Grand Avenue

San Luis Obispo

Minutes for September 21, 2012

Members Present: Marilyn Hamilton, Maryanne Zarycka, Judy Mishoulam, Jo Dennison, Diane Maiorano, Marie Pounders, Myra Lathrop, Margaret Ensminger, Carol Schmidt, Julie Macedo, Elias Nimeh, Mike Suddarth, Rosa Fernandez, Kelley Sexton, Deborah Bayles

Absent: Alice York, Anita Showers, Dorothy Schlitz, Kathleen Bellefontaine

Guests: Hannah Miller (Adam Hill's new Legislative Assistant), Gail Ayane (Oceano Senior Center Historian), Pam Munson and Donna Jebeyahan (Project Lifesaver), Debbie Heilman (DSS)

Call to Order: Quorum established. Meeting called to order by Vice Chair Hamilton at 10:05 a.m. Flag Salute. Circulation of roll lists.

Minutes: from August, 2012 meeting: accepted

Agenda: Approval of Agenda

Public Comments: None

Introductions: Members and guests in attendance introduced themselves.

Presentation: **Pam Munson – Project Lifesaver**, a partnership between SLO Lions Clubs, SLO County Sheriff's Office and Senior Volunteer Services.

Project Lifesaver promotes the use of a small radio transmitter wristband to be worn by adults (some children) who have dementia, Alzheimer's or brain injury and may wander from their home environment and be unable to find their way back. Nearly half of the individuals who become missing are never found if they are not located within 24 hours. If they are wearing a transmitter, "find time" is usually about 30 minutes! The largest problem in convincing family and individuals to use Project Lifesaver is denial of the person's level of incapacity. There are 13 areas in the state which are involved in Project Lifesaver; a goal is to expand this coverage. Today, there are 5.4 million people with Alzheimer's; by 2050, there will be close to 16 million people. The process for obtaining a transmitter is a) family contacts SVS (Senior Volunteer Services) and leaves their contact information, b) specially trained personnel return the call to determine the need for the device and if so, an appointment is made with staff at Search & Rescue, c) Search & Rescue meets with the family and is responsible for the device usage. The transmitter requires changing batteries and there are numerous places in the county where this can be done for the client. When a person/client is reported missing by the caregiver, the Sheriff's Dept. has a list of the names and sends out a radio signal which is very site specific, much more so than GPS. Each device has a unique number and responds when the signal is sent. There are costs involved with Project Lifesaver (\$100 deposit) and a \$30 monthly service fee but no one who really needs the device is turned away.

Unfinished Business: Officer Elections coming up in November. Chair and Vice Chair positions to be voted on. Marilyn Hamilton reviewed the vice chair job duties and informed members that she will not be re-applying. Marilyn also reviewed the job duties of Chairperson. Applications should be emailed to Kathleen and they will be forwarded to Diane.

Special Reports: Rosa Fernandez and Debbie Heilman, Dept. of Social Services Semi-Annual Report
Copies of the report were provided. This includes a list of all the programs.

Approximately 1600 clients in SLO County currently being served by Dept. Of Social Services. Rosa stated that In Home Support Services clients must have a physician signed statement that participating in the

Program keeps the client out of a more restrictive environment, ie skilled nursing facility. Debbie talked about Long Term Care Medical/ Medicare. She is a specialist in these areas. She stressed that there are no income limits, per se, for long term care, that it is very individualized. It is better to call and make an app't than to assume you or your loved one do not qualify. She also mentioned the Estate Recovery Program, which allows CA. to recover money after a client dies if they have been subsidized for years in long term care. A handout was provided.

Prognosis for Social Services Dept. Changes in the budget are predicted. Counties will be taking over the Healthy Families Programs but not the staff. This may or may not be a good thing for families.

Special Reports: *Outreach Committee Update:* Marie talked about the revised Speakers' Bureau flyer coming out next month and the special COA Flyer for the Senior Centers. Maryanne's new COA Corner article will focus on Hoarding & Depression. It will be offered to the Senior Centers for their newsletters. Maryanne, Myra and Kathleen are meeting with the new director at the Paso Senior Center. There will be a meeting coming up for the new members and the supervisors' representatives. Marilyn reported that Alice York and Kathleen Bellefontaine gave a presentation about COA Hearing advocacy, "Be Invisible No More," at the August Senior Living Consultants monthly networking meeting

Announcements and Updates:

September Hunger Walk and the Area Agency on Aging Forum for Abel Maldonado and Lois Capps were discussed.

Adjournment:

Next Meeting will be Friday, October 19, 2012.

Minute Taker: Marilyn Hamilton

Submitted by Marie Pounders and edited by Marilyn Hamilton