



**VENTURA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**

March 13, 2024

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 am

Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Center

646 County Square Drive, Ventura

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85358495921>

The council will be meeting in person, but members of the public are welcome to attend in person or via zoom.

VCAAA Advisory Council Role – To provide leadership, input, and advocacy as facilitators between VCAAA and the community, in support of VCAAA’s mission.

VCAAA Role – VCAAA is the responsible agency to seek, serve, administer, and manage available funding to ensure resources are allocated to serve Ventura County, creating integrated community-based services where older adults and people with disabilities can age in their community with dignity and respect.

A G E N D A

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|-----------|---|----------------|
| 9:00 a.m. | 1. Call to Order and Agenda Review | Karen Gorbach |
| | 2. Pledge of Allegiance | Anna Reilley |
| | 3. Roll Call and Motion to Accept Online Virtual Attendance for those declaring “emergency Circumstances” | Monique Nowlin |
| | 4. Approval of Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Minutes of January 10, 2024. | Karen Gorbach |
| | 5. Public Comments | Karen Gorbach |

Procedure: The public is welcome to comments. All comments not related to items on the agenda may be made at the beginning of the meeting only. Comments are limited to three minutes per person.

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| 6. | Consent Agenda Items – Committee Descriptions This Month | Karen Gorbach |
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Procedure: The Advisory Council will approve these reports all at once unless an Advisory Committee wishes to remove a

report from the consent agenda and discuss and approve it separately.

6.1 Transportation Committee Report – January 10, 2024

6.2 Housing Committee Report–January 30, 2024

6.3 Optimal Aging Committee Report – February 7, 2024

ACTION ITEMS

- | | | |
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| 7. | Formation of an Ad Hoc Nominating Committee for Election of Officers for FY 2024-2025 | Karen Gorback |
| 8. | Strategic Plan Update for FY 2024-2028 Public Hearing* | Karen Gorback |
| 9. | Approval/Modification/Discussion of the FY 2024-2028 Strategic Plan and forward to the Ventura County Board of Supervisors for Approval (Due to CDA May 1, 2024) | Karen Gorback |

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- | | | |
|----------|---|-------------------|
| 10. | California 2030 Update | Victoria Jump |
| 11. | PIO Update | Roger Horne |
| 12. | Other Committee Meetings: | |
| | a. California Senior Legislature Update | Gitt/Gorback |
| | b. VCAAA Foundation Update | James Schicker |
| | c. LGBTQ Aging Coalition | Martha Shapiro |
| | d. Dementia Friendly Ventura County | Haleh Hashemzadeh |
| 13. | Meeting Calendar FY 2023-2024 | Karen Gorback |
| 14. | Other Business | Karen Gorback |
| 15. | Comments from the Chair | Karen Gorback |
| 11:00 am | 16. Adjournment | Karen Gorback |

The next meeting will be:

Wednesday, May 8, 2024 (9:00 am – 11:00 am)

In person at 646 County Square Dr Suite 100, Ventura, CA 93003 in the Advisory Council Room.

Individuals who require accommodations for their disabilities (including interpreters and alternate formats) are requested to contact the Area Agency on Aging staff at (805) 477-7300 at least three days prior to the meeting.

***The meeting will be stopped at 9:30 a.m. to hold the public hearing. Item 9 will be heard after the public hearing.**

VENTURA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING
Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
646 County Square Drive, Suite 100
Ventura, CA 93003
January 10, 2024

Advisory Council Members Present:

Blair Barker (Service Provider)	Patricia Lownes (Thousand Oaks COA)
Stephanie Belding (Thousand Oaks COA)	Jeanette Sanchez-Palacios (District 1)
Ron Berkowsky (Focused Population)	Anna Marie Reilley (Fillmore COA)
Alvin Brown (Simi Valley COA)	Carmen Reyes (Camarillo COA)
Denise Calhoun (District 2)	Nancy Rowe (Camarillo COA)
Lyn Cotwright (Moorpark COA)	Anita Ruiz (BOS)
Smita Dandekar (District 4) -Virtual*	Peter Schreiner (Behavioral Health)
Tony Gitt (CSL)	Martha Shapiro (Service Provider)
Dr. Karen Gorback (CSL)	Alice Sweetland (Oxnard COA)
Lynette Harvey (Medical)	Sue Tatangelo (Consumer)
Maureen Hodge (Family Caregiver)	Sylvia Taylor Stein (District 5)
Sue Hughes (District 3)	Luis Mendez II (Port Hueneme COA)
Dr. Maria Munguia (Santa Paula COA)	Jonnie Lisman (Port Hueneme COA)
Carol Leish (Disability Population)	Dana Tomarken (Santa Paula COA)

*Not eligible to vote because no
“emergency circumstances” declared

Advisory Council Members Absent:

Carina Forsythe (Fillmore COA)
Reynaldo Rivera (Focused Population)
Clark Owens (Oxnard COA)

VCAAA Staff Members Present:

Alyssa Corse (Grants Administrator)	Sonia Vaughn (Program Manager)
Dr. Haleh Hashemzadeh (Sr. Manager)	Denise Noguera (Call Center Manager)
Roger Horne (Public Information)	Brianna Kelly (I&A Social Worker)
Victoria Jump (Deputy Director)	Leslie Suarez (Volunteer Coordinator)
Monique Nowlin (Division Manager)	Cristian Rivas (Family Caregiver Social Worker)
Aurora Meadows (Registered Dietitian)	Ben Rhodes (ADS Division Manager)

Members of the Public Present:

Beth Baumer	James Schicker
Jennifer Hollowell	(VCAAA Foundation Chair)
Renee (last name not provided)	

- 1) **Call to Order and Agenda Review** – The January 10, 2024, Advisory Council meeting was called to order at 9:02 am by Chair Karen Gorback.

Motion: Approve agenda for January 10, 2024

Moved by: Al Brown, seconded by Carol Leish

Result: Motion passed

- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance** – The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Stephanie Belding.

- 3) **Roll Call and Motion to Accept Online Virtual Attendance for Those Declaring “Emergency Circumstances”** – Monique Nowlin called roll. The Advisory Council reached a quorum.

- 4) **Administering the Oath of Office** – No one needed to be sworn in.

- 5) **Approval of Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Minutes of November 8, 2023.**

Moved by: Al Brown, seconded by Stephanie Belding

Result: Motion passed

- 6) **Public Comments** – Leslie Suarez, the Agency’s Volunteer Coordinator distributed certificates of appreciation to those Advisory Council members who could not attend the Volunteer Appreciation Holiday Luncheon in December.

- 7) **Consent Agenda Items**

7.1 Housing Committee Report – December 6, 2023

7.2 Transportation Committee Report – November 8, 2023

7.3 Work Force Committee Report – December 11, 2023

7.4 Work Force Committee Report – December 18, 2023

7.5 Health & Nutrition Committee Report – November 29, 2023

Motion: Approve consent agenda items

Moved by: Al Brown, seconded by Stephanie Belding

Result: Motion passed

8) **Overview of the Strategic Plan Process, Role of the Advisory Council and Advisory Council Input for Development of FY 2024-2028 Strategic Plan**

Victoria shared a PowerPoint and provided an overview of the strategic plan/area plan process.

Monique led a live poll with specific questions targeted at gathering the Advisory Council input for inclusion in the strategic plan/area plan.

Moved by: Blair Barker, seconded by Maureen Hodge

Result: Body of responses collected during this strategic planning session will be added to the strategic plan/area plan.

PRESENTATION/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

9) **PIO Update** – Roger Horne provided the Advisory Council an outreach update; 32 outreach events in November, 10 events in December. He also shared that he too has been out in the community providing outreach to a woman’s club and about a dozen local retirement communities. He asked the Advisory Council if they had any ideas of where else he could present to let him know. Roger spoke about the upcoming Senior Job Fair hosted by the Workforce Committee and an upcoming Senior Scam Stopper event at the South Oxnard Senior Center. Next, he provided an update on LiveWell; the graphic designer has everything and we are awaiting production. Lastly, he provided an update on the vacant CSL seat.

10) **Other Committee Meetings:**

a. California Senior Legislature Update – Tony Gitt presented an update on the CSL activities, and the deficit projected by Governor Newsom.

b. VCAAA Foundation Update – James Schicker, VCAAAF Chair, provided an update on Foundation activities and shared about the recent Foundation donations to the Senior Nutrition Farm; they purchased a much-needed shipping container and additional solar power panels to provide more power to the Farm. If any one of the Advisory Council members has any suggestions for the Foundation, James stated they can reach out to him directly.

c. LGBTQ Aging Coalition – Martha Shapiro thanked Victoria and Monique regarding a collaboration with Pepperdine students on ways to better market their (LGBTQ) programs. Further, Martha

invited everyone to the next meeting, if interested in learning more about the Coalition's future goals.

d. Dementia Friendly Ventura County – Haleh Hashemzadeh provided an overview of the events of DFVC, including that 2023 Annual Certifications for Dementia Friendly businesses were mailed out. Also, on December 6, 2023, the Dementia Friendly One Stop shop was held at Oxnard Family Circle and even with the weather they had over 55 attendees. The next Dementia Friendly One Stop – Living Well Caring Well will be held at VCAAA on March 6, 2024, from 10am to 12pm.

- 11) **Meeting Calendar** – Chair Gorback reminded the Advisory Council members that each member needs to serve on at least one Committee.
- 12) **Other Business** – Stephanie gave a compliment to the Ventura County Credit Union. She stated they have a big sign on their front door about being a Dementia Friendly business. When she shared her complimentary words with a VCCU staff member, a Manager overheard her and thanked her for all that VCAAA does.
- 13) **Comments from the Chair** – Chair Gorback thanked everyone for the time that they spend and give to the Advisory Council.
- 14) **Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 11:06 AM. The next regular meeting for the Advisory Council will be held on March 13, 2024.

TO: VCAAA Advisory Council Members
FROM: Tony Gitt, Committee Chair
DATE: March 13, 2024
SUBJECT: **Transportation Committee Report from January 10, 2024**

Transportation Committee Members Present:

Tony Gitt
Peter Schreiner

VCAAA Staff Members Present:

Monique Nowlin (Division Manager)
Maricela Pardo (Transportation & Elder Help Coordinator)
Aurora Meadows (Registered Dietitian)

Members of the Public Present

Dani Anderson (Disability Access Manager, CEO)

1. **Welcome and Introductions** – Meeting was called to order at 11:18 a.m. Aurora was introduced. The committee reached a quorum.
2. **Public Comments** – None
3. **ElderHelp Update** – Maricela Pardo provided an overview of program data.
4. **Ventura Active Transportation Plan Project Update** – Dani provided a thorough update on the Transportation Plan. The Committee will continue to receive updates and look for opportunities to provide support and/or input.
5. **Develop Strategy(ies) to Advocate for Improved Transportation for Older Adults** – There was robust discussion about the ways to do this. There is ongoing discussion about the card readers and usage.
6. **Adjournment** – Meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m. The next Transportation Committee meeting will be held on March 13, 2024, immediately after the Advisory Council Meeting.

TO: VCAAA Advisory Council Members
FROM: Stephanie Belding, Interim Committee Chair
DATE: March 13, 2024
SUBJECT: **Housing Committee Report from January 30, 2024**

Housing Committee Members Present:

Stephanie Belding (TO COA)
Lyn Cotwright (Moorpark COA)
Maureen Hodge (Family Caregiver)
Sue Hughes (District 3)
Jeannette Sanchez-Palacios (District 1)

Housing Committee Members Absent:

Martha Shapiro (Service Provider) - Chair
Anna Marie Reilly (Filmore COA)
Dana Tomarken (Santa Paula COA)

VCAAA Staff Members Present:

Denise Noguera (Call Center Manager)
Monique Nowlin (Division Manager)
Jerrica Van Nest (HomeShare Social Worker)

1. **Welcome and Introductions** – Meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. With Chair Shapiro being unable to attend this meeting, Monique asked if anyone would like to serve as Interim Chair for this meeting only. Stephanie stated she would take on that role. The committee had a quorum. With the addition of Jerrica at this meeting, the Committee, and staff each had an opportunity to introduce themselves and share their role and interest in this Committee.
2. **Public Comments** – Stephanie shared thanks to Martha Shapiro for her article on the HomeShare program.
3. **HomeShare Update** – Jerrica provided an update on the HomeShare program and shared a matching success story.
4. **2023/2024 Committee Goals** – Monique went over the confirmed Committee goals and stated for the next meeting, specific action steps should be discussed. Stephanie shared the success of the Workforce Committee's Senior Job Fair, stating that this Committee hosting an educational seminar on housing, as was discussed, could be equally successful. Lyn mentioned the Silver Circle series she helps host might be another option to disseminate information/education. There was also discussion about reimagining the Housing RoadMap that was created back in 2019 by the Housing Committee at that time. Lastly, the Committee directed staff to look for upcoming

senior events that they could possibly attend and have an educational seminar within the confines of the larger event.

5. **California Property Tax Postponement Program Discussion** – Monique provided an update on this. This program is under the auspices of the Treasurer-Tax Collector. She has reached out to see if there is a possibility of a staff person from the Treasurer-Tax Collector logging on to present to the Committee. Additionally, the Committee had asked if a link to this program could go on the AAA website, Monique is researching that as well.
6. **Adjournment** – Meeting was adjourned at 2:38 p.m. The next Housing Committee meeting will be held on March 19, 2024.

TO: VCAAA Advisory Council Members
FROM: Alice Sweetland, Committee Chair
DATE: March 13, 2024
SUBJECT: **Optimal Aging Report from February 7, 2024**

Committee Members Present:

Ronald Berkowsky
Al Brown
Denise Forsythe

Carol Leish
Alice Sweetland
Sylvia Taylor-Stein

Committee Members Absent:

Nancy Rowe

VCAAA Staff Members Present:

Roger Horne (PIO)

1. **Welcome and Introductions** – The VCAAA Optimal Aging Committee meeting was called to order at 3:32 p.m. The committee reached a quorum with six of seven members present.
2. **Public Comments** – None.
3. **Older Americans Month Art Project** – Alice Sweetland and Roger Horne reviewed plans for the art project that will be held in May for Older Americans Month. The Arts and Culture Manager from the County’s CEO office, the Ventura County Arts Council, a student who attends the Thatcher School in Ojai, and the VCAAA are working to put this project together. Ideas that have been discussed are artist-led workshops for older adults this spring, and a call to artists to produce art that will be displayed at the Hall of Administration in May. Members of the committee were invited to provide any ideas they had for content or to help make this an intergenerational event.
4. **Legacy Awards Review** – The group’s consensus was that the ceremony went well and we had well-deserving recipients this year. Sylvia Taylor-Stein suggested having the ceremony take place at the front of the room next time, as doing it in the middle where we did made it difficult for some people to see because of the television in the way. Roger Horne reviewed the number of applications we received in 2023, and suggested working with Dementia Friendly Ventura County to solicit more applications for that category.
5. **Future Committee Goals** – Alice Sweetland suggested tabling this discussion for the time being as we work on the Older Americans Month art project.
6. **Other** – Carol Leish asked about the status of LIVEWell. Because of technical difficulties for some, the group asked that we try to return to Zoom instead of Teams for the next meeting.

7. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 3:52 p.m. The next Optimal Aging Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 27, at 2 p.m.



**VENTURA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE
FY 2023-2024**

All Advisory Council meetings are held in person.
All sub-committee meetings are held via Zoom.

	Advisory Council	ADRC	Transportation	Housing	Senior Nutrition & Health	Optimal Aging	Workforce
July	July 12 9-11 a.m.	July 19 1 - 2 p.m.	July 12 11:15 – 12:15 p.m.	July 18 2 – 3 p.m.	July 26 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	July 26 2 – 3:00 p.m.	July 21 10 – 11 a.m.
August							
September	Sept 13 9-11 a.m.	Sept 20 1 - 2 p.m.	Sept 13 11:15 – 12:15 p.m.	Sept 19 2 – 3 p.m.	Sept 27 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	Sept 27 2 – 3:00 p.m.	Sept 15 10 – 11 a.m.
October							
November	Nov 8 9-11 a.m.	Nov 15 1 - 2 p.m.	Nov 8 11:15 – 12:15 p.m.	Nov 21 2 – 3 p.m.	Nov 22 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	Nov 22 2 – 3:00 p.m.	Nov 17 10 – 11 a.m.
December							
January	Jan 10 9-11 a.m.	Jan 17 1 - 2 p.m.	Jan 10 11:15 – 12:15 p.m.	Jan 16 2 – 3 p.m.	Jan 24 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	Jan 24 2 – 3:00 p.m.	Jan 19 10 – 11 a.m.
February							
March	March 13 9-11 a.m.	March 20 1 - 2 p.m.	March 13 11:15 – 12:15 p.m.	March 19 2 – 3 p.m.	March 27 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	March 27 2 – 3:00 p.m.	March 15 10 – 11 a.m.
April							
May	May 8 9-11 a.m.	May 15 1 - 2 p.m.	May 8 11:15 – 12:15 p.m.	May 21 2 – 3 p.m.	May 22 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	May 22 2 – 3:00 p.m.	May 17 10 – 11 a.m.
June							