

Sonoma County Section on Aging
September 15, 2010

MINUTES

Opening and Remarks:

Eloise Tweeten, Co-President

Co-President Eloise Tweeten called the meeting to order at 9:00 am and invited all visitors to please stand and introduce themselves. There were 14 new visitors at today's meeting.

Reviewed Sonoma County Section on Aging mission statement:

“The Sonoma County Section on Aging is a coalition of agencies, organizations and individuals concerned with the well being of older adults. As a network alliance, we advocate for and promote the development, coordination, and implementation of older adult services in Sonoma County.”

Eloise presented the SOA Code of Ethics, a document approved by the Leadership Committee, which will be included as part of the 2011 application process. After a question and answer period, the group endorsed this long overdue policy. As a reminder, please be sensitive to client confidentiality and don't discuss confidential client info in any public forum, including this meeting.

In preparation for the upcoming elections, Eloise presented an organization chart for the SOA Leadership Committee and reviewed the following openings and changes:

President and Vice President will serve one year terms.

Vice President position is a two year commitment, as this person automatically steps into the President's position the following year, to ensure leadership continuity.

In the event the VP cannot serve the second year, the president will be appointed from among the existing members of the Leadership Committee.

Speaker Coordinator (one year term).

Membership Coordinator (one year term).

Outreach Coordinator (one year term). This is a new position.

Both Membership and Outreach Coordinators will report to the VP.

Position of Webmaster will be contracted out; details to be posted on SOA website. Bids due by October 1st.

Treasurer and Secretary serve two year terms; existing officers have one more year to serve.

Job positions will be posted on website by 9/17/10. Nominations are due by October meeting.

Candidates speak at November's meeting. Elections in December. Positions start in January, 2011.

Member Introductions

Spotlight Speakers for October: **Debbie Madigan, Madigan Realty (coffee sponsor)**
Don Hughes, Hughes Fiduciary Services

Spotlight Speaker: **Nancy Allen and Kathy Raubertas**
ElderHelp Placement Referrals
Elderhelpsonoma@yahoo.com
707-542-7606

Specialize in residential placement, but also work as advocates, educators and resources for referrals. Stressed that they are not “married to the outcome”, meaning that their work on the Area Agency on Aging Legislative Board and LITA boards lead them to strive for the right fit and not a commission for placement. They have been in business for 18 years and focus on hand holding and good care.

Spotlight Speaker: **Maria Rowell, Owner**
 Eldercare Across the Miles
 Maria@ElderCareAcrossTheMiles.com
 707-829-3792

Coordinates resources for senior care for adult children that live away from their parents or are too busy working, etc., to help. Assesses the needs, designs a plan, and is fee based. Maria’s experience comes from 16 years of caring for her parents and in the process learned about agencies and resources available. Acts as proxy daughter offering practical and effective help.

Program Speaker: **Maddy Hirshfield**
 District Director for Assemblyman Wesley Chesbro

Presented a briefing on the current budget situation and a legislative update. Please see the attachment for the complete presentation. The following is a summary:

California budget process starts in January.
Negotiating of budget is done from May to June.
Two-thirds majority is needed from both houses to pass the budget.
As of today, we do not have an approved budget.
Several programs for seniors are at risk.
One bill has made it through the voting process and awaits the Governor’s signature, and that is AB 2435, a bill requiring therapists to be trained in recognizing and reporting suspected elder abuse.

Next month’s meeting is scheduled for October 20th.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Cerri
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