



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Committee Meeting Minutes - Draft

Advisory Council on Aging

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

10:00 AM

**500 Ellinwood Way, Pleasant Hill, CA.
Boardroom**

ACOA General Meeting

<https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/84280794921>

PUBLIC ACCESS AND PUBLIC COMMENT INSTRUCTIONS:

The public may attend this meeting in person at the above location. The public may also attend this meeting remotely via webinar. Login information is provided above. ACOA members will also be participating from the following locations: 130 Linhares Lane, Alamo | 2756 Lily Court, Antioch | 14720 Byron Hwy #4, Byron | 400 El Cerro Blvd, Danville | 118 Rodeo Court, Lafayette | 165 Natalie Drive, Moraga | 28 Orinda Way, Orinda | 116 Raven Hill Road, Orinda | 2950 Buskirk Avenue, Suite 330 Walnut Creek | 150 S 45th St., Unit 131, Richmond | 324 El Divisadero Avenue, Walnut Creek | 1001 Golden Rain Rd, Walnut Creek

10:00 Call to Order | Introductions: Lorna VanAckeren, ACOA President

- President Lorna VanAckeren called meeting to order at 10:10 am.
- Vice President Mike Wener led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present

Roger Boaz, Chalo Buckman, Deborah Card, Cesar Court, Kevin Donovan, Mary Sheila Driscoll, Steven Freshman, Candace Evans, Holly Frates, Marilyn Fowler, Alan Goldhammer, Sarah Green, Michelle Hayes, Denise Kalm, Shirley Krohn, Thomas Lang, Steve Lipson, Sharon Maxwell, Nikki Lopez, Richard Morisky, Brian O'Toole, Inderpit Sekhon, Logan Robertson, Sharon Sakai-Miller, Carol Schaefer, Sonja Shepard, Lorna Van Ackeren, Teresa Wright, Michael Wener, and Dennis Yee

Absent

Cate Burkhart, Brock Dubbels, Carol Kehoe, Jill Kleiner, Gerry LaLonde-Berg, Kathryn Monroy-Dexter, Terri Tobey, and Deborah Wiener

10:03 Approval of October 2025 Minutes

- Jim Donnelly requested to be added to the list of guests for the October meeting.
- A roll call vote was conducted and the minutes were approved.

Candace Evans – Abstain

Motion:

Wener

Second:

Freshman

Aye: Boaz, Buckman, Card, Court, Donovan, Sheila Driscoll, Freshman, Frates, Fowler, Goldhammer, Green, Hayes, Kalm, Krohn, Lang, Lipson, Maxwell, Lopez, Morisky, Sekhon, Robertson, Schaefer, Van Ackeren, Wright, and Wener

Absent: Burkhart, Dubbels, Kehoe, Kleiner, LaLonde-Berg, Monroy-Dexter, Tobey, and Wiener

Abstain: Evans, O'Toole, Sakai-Miller, Shepard, and Yee

Result: Passed

ACOA General Meeting MINUTES 10-15-25 DRAFT

[25-5234](#)

Attachments: [ACOA General Meeting MINUTES 10-15-25 DRAFT](#)

10:05 Regional Coalition Update: Debbie Toth

- Debbie Toth provided an update on the Regional Coalition and the government funding picture. She discussed California Collaborative for Long Term Services and Supports (CCLTS) priorities, proven CalAIM based cost reductions, preserving community services, expanding respite care, and senior homelessness.

10:25 Area Agency on Aging Report: AAA updates - Tracy Murray

- Staffing – Alicia Espinoza left the County due to family reasons. We will recruit a new Program Manager as soon as possible.
- CA 20230 Future Readyng - see attached slides.
- Budget Impacts of HR 1/OTO - see attached slides.

CA 2030 Future Readyng _ ACOA | Major Impacts of H.R. 1 and the State Budget

[25-5235](#)

Attachments:

[CA 2030 Future Readyng _ ACOA \(FINAL\)](#)
[Major Impacts of H.R. 1 and the State Budget](#)

10:40 Break

10:50 ACOA President's Report: Lorna VanAckeren

- Lorna thanked the Council for their support of her Presidency.
- California Senior Legislature (CSL) Priorities 2026 – see attachment
- California Senior Legislature Election Process - see attachment
- Shirley Krohn's CSL Resignation – Shirley Krohn has resigned from the CSL after 22 years of service.
- Food Insecurity (ARPA Community Input Survey Results) – no report
- 2025 Annual Report – The following is Lorna's recommendation to the Board of Supervisors from the 2025 ACOA Annual Report:

The Advisory Council on Aging respectfully recommends that the Board of Supervisors continue to allocate adequate resources to support essential senior services, including housing, food security, transportation, caregiver support, and other emerging needs affecting the County's older adult population.

During this period of significant funding uncertainty at the local, state, and federal levels, ACOA recognizes the critical importance of maintaining strong advocacy to ensure equitable distribution of resources within our County.

- City Report presentations will occur later in the meeting

2026 CSL Legislative Priorities Press Release with MPA goals 10.24.25 | [25-5236](#)
ARPA Community Input Survey Results 11.2025 | 2025 ACOA Annual Report FINAL

Attachments:

[2026 CSL Legislative Priorities Press Release with MPA goals 10.24.25](#)
[ARPA Community Input Survey Results 11.2025](#)
[2025 ACOA Annual Report FINAL -R](#)

10:55 Officer Elections – 2026 Slate of Officers

President: Jill Kleiner

Vice President: Kevin Donovan

Secretary/Treasurer: Michelle Hayes

- Lorna asked for nominations from the floor. There were none.

11:10 Committee and Workgroup Reports: Chairs (2-3 min each)

- Membership: Jill Kleiner
 - Welcome to four new members: Teresa Wright, Gerry La Londe-Berg, Sonja Shepard, Sheila Driscoll. They have all been assigned buddies.
 - Waitlisted two applicants interviewed in October due to no vacant seats. Total of three waitlisted applicants. Three more candidates to be interviewed in January.
 - Member at Large 12 seat was recently vacated. The Committee will discuss filling the seat in January 2026.
 - Cate Burkhardt was “involuntary resigned” due to absences.
 - Kathryn Monroy-Dexter agreed to be the Membership Chair beginning Jan. 2026.
- Planning: Jill Kleiner
 - Choice in Aging site visits in October were well received.
 - November resource presentation at Oakley by Nhang Luong, facilitated by Chalo Buckman.
 - Committee updates to Area Plan Update due to Cristina by 12/22.
- Health & Elder Abuse Prevention: Mike Wener/Thomas Lang
 - Emily Milstein from Contra Costa Senior Legal Services presented at the last meeting.
 - Updated their section of the ACOA Annual Report.
 - Tom was nominated as the Chair for the December meeting and volunteered to assist in the future.
- Housing: Kevin Donovan
 - Jaime Jenett from Contra Costa Homeless Services presented the Continuum of Care Annual Report and the scheduled Point-in-Time count.
 - Cherise Khaund, Office of Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan presented on the State Budget and Impact on Housing.
 - No Place to Call Home presentations continue in 2026.
- Legislative: Steve Lipson
 - Discussed California Senior Legislature (CSL) priorities, AP4 – installation of external defibrillators for senior/community centers.
 - Started AI training for CSL.
- Technology: Steve Lipson
 - The Committee was not able to meet in December due to lack of a quorum.
 - He is arranging for speakers.
 - Welcomed back Sam Sakai-Miller.
- Transportation: Bryan Harris for Candace Evans
 - Discussed 2026 plans.
 - 3-4 workshops planned for the year include a big one in April.

11:25 ACOA City Representatives

- City representatives (see list below) gave updates on senior focused issues in their cities:

Concord – Marilyn Fowler
Danville/Alamo – Steve Freshman
Oakley – Chalo Buckman
Hercules – Sarah Green

Indy also reported on West County activities.

Reports from the following City reps will be at the January 21, 2026 meeting:

- Brentwood – Cesar Court
- El Cerrito – Carol Kehoe
- Lafayette – Dick Morisky
- Martinez – Kathryn Monroy-Dexter
- Orinda – Candace Evans
- Pleasant Hill – Lorna Van Ackeren
- Walnut Creek – Denise Kalm

11:53 Election Results & Oath of Office for Officers

An election was conducted and the following slate was approved:

President: Jill Kleiner
Vice President: Kevin Donovan
Secretary/Treasurer: Michelle Hayes

Director Murray swore in the 2026 ACOA Officers.

11:54 Consent Items:

- 2025 ACOA Annual Report
 - Marilyn Fowler made a motion to approve the consent item. Steve Lipson seconded the motion.
 - A roll call vote was conducted and the motion passed.

Motion:	Fowler
Second:	Lipson
Aye:	Boaz, Buckman, Card, Court, Donovan, Freshman, Frates, Fowler, Goldhammer, Green, Hayes, Kalm, Krohn, Lang, Lipson, Maxwell, Lopez, Morisky, O'Toole, Sekhon, Robertson, Sakai-Miller, Schaefer, Shepard, Van Ackeren, Wright, Wener, and Yee
Absent:	Burkhart, Dubbels, Kehoe, Kleiner, LaLonde-Berg, Monroy-Dexter, Tobey, and Wiener
Abstain:	Sheila Driscoll, and Evans
Result:	Passed

11:56 Public Comment | Announcement:

- Matt Hulse distributed copies of the Contra Costa Senior Legal Services annual report.

11:58 Next ACOA General Meeting:

- Wednesday, January 21, 2026 10:00am – 12:00pm
- 500 Ellinwood Way, Board Room A/B Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

12:00 Adjourn

- The meeting was adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

For Additional Information Contact:

Jenny Lam at 925 655-0773 or jlam@ehsd.cccounty.us