

**PETALUMA SENIOR CENTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
211 NOVAK DRIVE, PETALUMA, CA
MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 10, 2007 MEETING**

Call to order: 9:00 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence to honor our servicemen and women.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Lorraine McEvoy, Secretary, Bill Greene, William B. Jones, and Pat Wapp.

ABSENT: Rene Hughes

STAFF PRESENT: Don Streeper, Recreation Coordinator

GUESTS: Marcelle E. Guy and Diane Reilly Torres

GUESTS' COMMENTS:

>**Marcelle E. Guy** and **Diane Reilly Torres** both requested the committee's support for Assembly Bill 1542, Manufactured Home Park Conversions, which is awaiting the signature of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. This bill corrects a loophole in the law that would restore local control over this form of affordable housing. It does not prohibit manufactured home park conversions, it simply make the terms reasonable to all parties.

>Marcelle also expressed her concern about a "Petaluma restaurant that discriminates against senior citizens and is operating without a license." With reference to her claims about the restaurant, Bill Greene suggested members meet for lunch at that restaurant, ask if they have a senior menu, and assess the service, etc. This topic can be tabled for discussion at a later date.

>The third item concerned Petaluma renters (the Frys and their pot-bellied pigs) having to get rid of pets that have been family members for years. She hoped the committee would support some kind of legislation that would make the laws affecting renters and their pets more reasonable. As to the pet concern, Don thought it would be interesting to have a speaker from Animal Control at our next meeting. For anyone interested, you can view Marcelle's web site at www.petalumasandalwood.com.

>**Diane Reilly Torres** provided a copy of her October 4, 2007 letter to the Governor about AB 1542. She also expressed her concern about emergency services for senior citizens endangered in the last flood through lack of communication about the dangers of removing mold, which is toxic, etc. Don stated that the City of Petaluma operates Emergency Service. Services provided by the City are dictated by the type and severity of each emergency - flood, earthquake, etc. Although he sympathized with the brick walls Diane faced in trying to get volunteer citizens involved in the cleanup, these are City Council issues that cannot be resolved through the Senior Advisory Committee. Don mentioned the efforts of Bill Hammerman with the CERT and NERT programs. He also encouraged our guests and committee members to attend the Prepare Petaluma event on Thursday, October 18th, at the Petaluma Community Center from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the September 12, 2007 meeting were unanimously approved and placed on file.

STAFF REPORT: Don.

>**Member Survey.** Responses to the member survey are still coming in and William B. Jones has volunteered to track the survey responses. Thank you, William, for your help.

>**The Ralph M. Brown Act.** Copies of the Brown Act document were made but Don discovered they had not been collated. If you don't already have a copy, get a copy from Jessica in the office. This document will be discussed in detail at the November meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

>**Newsletter-Don:** We print 1,400 copies of the monthly newsletter. Membership is close to 700 and the remaining 700 copies are distributed to various local agencies and senior housing complexes. The deadline for putting information in the newsletter is the 10th of the preceding month.

>**Membership-Don:** Membership has increased from 628 to 631 since our last report on September 12. Notification of the change in structure of the 2008 Senior Club fees will be printed in the November newsletter.

>**Planning/Travel-Don:** Trips are listed in the newsletter. The November 13 trip to The Castle, in St Helena, Napa County, should be very interesting. Both the Christmas Holiday Lights and the seasonal shopping trip in December are well attended. Pat Wapp is planning a Friday luncheon at the Senior Center on December 14.

Pat thought many seniors might be interested in attending the annual tree lighting ceremony in December. Don responded that event is a problem due to the late start time (7:30 p.m.) at the Plaza, the cold December evenings and the fact there is hardly any seating available, a necessity for the elderly.

>**Cookbook-Lorraine:** When finally approved for publication, 1000 issues of the cookbook will be printed. Don asked the ac members to complete a form stating how many cookbooks they can sell. Plans for the sale of the cookbooks are in process.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

>**Senior Expo in October:** Volunteers, who have signed up for the Senior Expo, need to attend the planning meeting at the Senior Center on Monday, October 22, starting at 11:00 a.m.

>**Applicants needed for the SAC.** Two more members are needed for the Senior Advisory Committee. If you know anyone who would be interested in volunteering his/her services, invite him/her to our next meeting.

>**The Ralph M. Brown Act:** Please review the 28-page document of rules and regulations. Be sure to bring the document itself, for reference, to our November 14 meeting along with any questions or comments you may have.

NEW BUSINESS:

>**SAC Chair Selection:** William B. Jones made a motion to elect Bill Greene to serve as chairman of the Petaluma Senior Advisory Committee. Seconded by Lorraine McEvoy, the motion was approved unanimously. Thanks, Bill, for volunteering for this important position. It was pointed out we need a Vice-Chairman to serve in the absence of the Chairman - tabled for now.

>**RSVP:** Lorraine McEvoy, volunteer coordinator for the Retired Senior Volunteer Program, will recruit our new members for the RSVP program after today's meeting.

>**Goals for Committee Members:** Please have talking points for the November meeting.

>**Field Trip:** In order to get some great new ideas for our Center, Don Streeper will attend and critique the 22nd Annual Marin Senior Information Fair 2007 in San Rafael.

>**Note:** Due to an oversight, David Yearsley, the Parks and Recreation Department liaison, was not aware that the October 10 meeting would begin at 9:00 a.m., one hour earlier than the usual starting time of 10:00 a.m. David arrived just before today's meeting ended. The secretary will send David a copy of the October 10, 2007 minutes for his perusal.

>**Meeting adjourned:** at 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lorraine McEvoy, Secretary, on October 16, 2007

NEXT MEETING IS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2007 AT 10:00 A.M.