



# SONOMA COUNTY AGING & DISABILITY COMMISSION

## Commission Meeting



Location: Carnelian Conference Room,  
3725 Westwind Blvd. Santa Rosa 95403

Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026

Time: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Public Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/97845062226?pwd=2LdD46H2bzPmbir6F7FFerP9E563Aj.1>

Meeting Details: Phone Number: 1 (669) – 444 – 9171  
Meeting ID: 943 1192 7709 Passcode: 768493

**Sonoma County Aging & Disability Commission Mission: The Aging & Disability Commission gives voice to the diverse needs of Sonoma County’s older adults, people with disabilities, and their caregivers.**

### Agenda

- 1:00 1. Welcome and Commission Member Introductions Helman  
*Commission Members, whether in person or virtually, will introduce themselves. Member introductions will include their Name, City of Residence, District (1-5), and Supervisor’s Name.*
- Members participating virtually will need to disclose if there is anyone over the age of 18 in the room with them.*
- 1:05 2. New Commission Member Application – **Action** Helman  
*The Commission will consider the appointment of a new member to fill a Commission-Elected seat vacancy. The Executive Committee has reviewed the submitted application and is recommending the applicant for appointment. The Commission will discuss the nomination and take action to vote on and elect the applicant to serve as a member of the Commission.*
- 1:10 3. Approval of the 01.21.2026 Commission Meeting Minutes Helman  
*The Commission will review the meeting minutes and may approve them as presented or with modifications.*
- 1:12 4. Public Comment and Commission Member Open Forum  
*The public may address the Commission on any items on the agenda and on matters within the Commission’s jurisdiction. The Committee cannot*

*take action on non-agenda items. Public comments will be limited to three (3) minutes per speaker.*

- *In-person attendees who wish to speak may indicate their request to speak during this time. When recognized by the Chair, please state your name and begin your comments.*
- *Virtual participants who wish to speak must use the “Raise Hand” feature located within Zoom. When it is your turn to speak, the host will unmute your microphone and prompt you to speak. Please state your name and begin your comments*

- |      |  |                                  |
|------|--|----------------------------------|
| 1:15 | 5. Chair Updates<br><i>The Chair will provide updates for the Commission to review and discuss.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Debrief on “Elevator Pitch” Exercise from January meeting</li><li>• Membership Task Status Update</li><li>• Marge Ling Nominations – due March 4<sup>th</sup></li></ul>  | Helman                           |
| 1:25 | 6. Director Updates:<br><i>The AAA Director will provide updates on relevant matters for the Commission, including recent developments or upcoming events.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Open Doors</li><li>• County Budget Update</li><li>• Federal Budget Update</li><li>• Presentation on “Becoming an Area Agency on Aging”</li></ul>  | Dunaway                          |
| 1:40 | 7. Presentation from APS<br><i>The Commission will receive a presentation from Adult Protective Services staff regarding the role of the APS in responding to reports of suspected abuse or neglect involving older adults (60+) and adults with disabilities (18-59).</i>   | Helman                           |
| 2:00 | <b>**BREAK**</b>   |                                  |
| 2:05 | 8. Staff Update:<br><i>The AAA Staff will provide updates on relevant matters for the Commission, including recent developments or upcoming events.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Area Plan Update Year 2 (FY 25/26)<br/><i>Public Hearing is scheduled for March 18<sup>th</sup> at 1PM.</i></li><li>• Area Plan Needs Assessment Update</li></ul><br><i>MPA and LADAP Update:</i><br><i>The MPA Program Manager will provide updates on relevant matters for the Commission, including recent developments or upcoming events.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Update on Housing Action Team and Cloverdale Action Team</li><li>• Sonoma Valley Navigation Pilot</li></ul> | Souza-<br>Milner,<br>Huntsperger |
| 2:20 | 9. Written Report Discussion<br><i>The Commission will discuss the written reports attached to the agenda.</i>   | Helman                           |

- 2:25 10. Board of Supervisors Meeting – Fall 2025 & Spring 2026 Helman  
*Fall 2025: Commission members from each County District will provide a report on their meeting with their respective Board of Supervisors.*  
*Spring 2026: Meetings with the Supervisors should be completed by May 2026*
- 2:40 11. Ad Hoc Committee Report Helman  
*Ad Hoc Committee Members will provide updates on their activities, progress on assigned tasks, and recommendations or actions for the Commission.*
- Ad Hoc Committee:
    - Website Design  
*Ad Hoc group to develop recommendations for updates to the Commission webpage to make it more welcoming, informative, and simple to navigate.*  
*Lead: Jaime Peñaherrera*  
*Due: March 4, 2026*
    - FY 26/27 Area Plan Objectives  
*Ad Hoc group to develop recommendation for FY 2026-27 objectives in the Area Plan – Year 2 Update.*  
*Lead: Deanna Shaat*  
*Due: March 4, 2026*
    - Community Convening Topics #2 (New) - Action  
*Panel for DSLC Expo*  
*Lead: TBD*  
*Due: April 15, 2026*
- 3:00 12. Adjourn Helman

### **Attachments:**

Minutes (01.11.2026)

### **Written Reports:**

Supplemental materials related to an agenda item are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Adult & Aging Office, 3725 Westwind Blvd., Suite 101, Santa Rosa. All listed times are approximate and subject to change. Agenda items are scheduled for consideration by the Commission, which may or may not choose to act. Breaks may be called at the discretion of the Chair. If you need any accommodation to effectively participate, please contact [aaa@schsd.org](mailto:aaa@schsd.org) or (707) 565-5238 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. To receive the AAA Newsletter: [AAA@schsd.org](mailto:AAA@schsd.org).

**Aging & Disability Commission Members:**

**Chair:** Jenny Helman

**Vice Chair:** Robin Thompson

**Secretary:** Deanna Shaat

**Former Chair:** Diane Spain

**Parliamentarian:** Trayce Beards

**Commission:** Rick Baum, Suzanne Edwards, Terry Kelley, Jaime Peñaherrera, Alain Serkissian, Priyanka Varma, Eddie Estrada

**AAA Director:** Paul Dunaway

**Community Services Program Manager:** Cody Souza-Milner

**Upcoming Events:**

- Executive Meeting: Tuesday, March 10, 2025, from 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM
- Commission Meeting: Wednesday, March 18, 2025, from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
  - Area Plan Public Hearing
- California Senior Legislature Applications Due March 31, 2026
  - To be sworn in during the October 2026 Annual Legislative Session
- Legislative Representatives to be invited to the April 2026 Commission Meeting
- North County Senior Resource Fair: June 7, 2026 from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
  - At Huerta Gym, Windsor
- AAA Program Monitoring - Ongoing

**Upcoming ADRU Table Events:**

- None at this time



# Sonoma County Aging & Disability Commission Meeting



## Minutes

Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026 | 12:00PM-3:00PM

Carnelian Conference Room, 3725 Westwind Blvd. Santa Rosa 95403

**In-person Attendance:** Deanna Shaat, Robin Thompson, Trayce Beards, Suzanne Edwards, Jenny Helman, Eddie Estrada, Rick Baum, Priyanka Varma, Erick Larson (*Emeritus Member*), Denise Johnson

**Virtual Attendance:** Diane Spain

**Absent:** Jaime Penaherrera, Alain Serkissian, Terry Kelley (*Leave of Absence*)

**Staff Attendance:** Paul Dunaway, Cody Milner, Cassandra Denson (Zoom), Joni Huntsperger, Jessica Hernandez

1. **Welcome & Commission Member Introductions** (Helman) (12:00PM)
2. **Follow-Up Exercise from the Commission Planning Day** (Huntsperger)  
*The Commission will participate in a follow-up exercise, building on the August 2025 Planning Day.*

**BREAK**

3. **Approval of the 11.19.2025 Commission Meeting Minutes** (Helman)
  - Approved as written.
4. **Public Comment and Commission Member Open Forum**
  - N/A

### 5. Chair Updates (Helman)

#### Reports

- Written reports will be added to the Commission meeting packet moving forward. Meeting time will be used to answer questions regarding the reports.

#### Commission Status Update

- Recent Resignations: Monte Cimino, Denise Johnson (presented with a certificate of appreciation.)
- 9 Vacancies for Commission seats.

### 6. Director/Staff Updates (Dunaway, Milner, Huntsperger)

#### Director Update:

- Budget
  - Governor's Budget will be finalized from January 2026 through March 2026.



## Sonoma County Aging & Disability Commission Meeting



- County funding primarily comes from County Realignment. (Car Registrations and Property Taxes)
- Cost shifting the growth in wages for providers in IHSS to the Counties from the State. (Starts January 2027)
- Permanent Emergency Backup Provider System for IHSS could potentially be cut at the state level.
- CalFresh Healthy Living funding will end in March 2026. One employee will be relocated to another position within the county.
- ADRU will be losing a .5 FTE position due to funding cuts.
- AAA is offering additional support to Community-Based Organizations that are applying for additional funding sources.

### Staff Update:

- AAA Program Monitoring
  - Sign-up sheet for site visits is available for Commission members. Contact Cody Milner to sign up.
- SB 707 – Brown Act
  - Commission must provide a phone number and instructions for virtual participation.
  - Sonoma County did not meet the threshold that would require Alternative languages.
  - Virtual Commission members must disclose anyone over 18 in the room with them. Their votes on action items will be tracked.
  - AAA Staff and Commission are seeking advice from other Advisory Commissions/Councils on virtual participation changes.
  - Technology disruption procedures will align with the Board of Supervisors.
- Area Plan Updates
  - Cody Milner will send out Questions and Answers to Commission Members.
- Area Plan Update Year 2 (FY 25/26)
  - Year 2 update is in review, more information to come.
  - March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026, 1:00 PM: Public Hearing on the Area Plan Year 2 Update.



## Sonoma County Aging & Disability Commission Meeting



- Area Plan Needs Assessment
  - Next 4-year Area Plan: Fiscal Year 2028-2032
  - Workgroups will start preparing the questions for the survey, focus groups, and interviews.
  - General Timeline:
    - Winter 2026: Analyzing the data.
    - Spring 2027: Writing the Area Plan based on the data.
    - Summer 2027: RFP is released.
    - Winter 2027: Contracts being processed/awarded.

### MPA and LADAP Update:

- Written reports on the activities of the Action Teams will be added to the Commission meeting packet moving forward. Meeting time will be used to answer questions regarding the reports.
- Action teams with openings for Commission seats; Caregiving and Transportation.

### **7. Linkages Program Presentation (Hernandez)**

*Presentation by Jessica Hernandez on the Linkages Case Management Program.*

- Presentation slides are available on request.
- Reviewed program eligibility, how Linkages supports clients with accessing services/supports, and the general timeline of services.
- Current wait-times: 4-5 months (Due to staffing shortage; should be improving now that the team is fully staffed.)
- Refer by calling 565-INFO or visiting the Sonoma County Adult & Aging website, [Care Management page](#).

**BREAK**

### **8. Written Report Discussion (Helman)**

- Council on Aging has eliminated the waitlist as of this week.

### **9. Board of Supervisors Meeting – Fall 2025 & Spring 2026 (Helman)**

#### Fall 2025:

- Commission members from each County District provided a report on their meeting with their respective Board of Supervisors.
- Commissioners discussed feedback about the process and experience.



## Sonoma County Aging & Disability Commission Meeting



### Spring 2026:

- Commission members reviewed the topics and due dates for the next set of meetings.

### **10. Standing & Ad Hoc Committee Report (Helman)**

#### Standing Committee: No Wrong Door

*The Committee will provide an update on the progress of the work.*

*Interim Chair: Suzanne Edwards*

- The NWD Committee met in December 2025 to establish a mission statement for the committee.
- Next meeting is in February 2026.
- Looking for a Vice Chair
- There is a seat available for one additional member.

#### Ad Hoc Committees:

- Community Convening Topics

*Ad Hoc to convene disability service providers for a discussion about shared experiences and challenges, and how the Commission can better represent their voices.*

*Lead: Eddie Estrada*

*Due: February 4, 2026*

- Trayce Beards and Suzanne Edwards met with DSLC and learned that they meet regularly already.
- The Committee identified the Aging & Disability Expo as a potential space to provide a discussion panel in place of the community convening.
- An additional Ad Hoc Committee would need to be established to plan the Expo event panel.

- Research Report - **Action**

*Ad hoc will research and summarize the ways older adults, people with disabilities, and their caregivers learn about services and supports.*

*Lead: Trayce Beards*

*Due: 1/7/2025*

- Commissioners reviewed the draft report and provided feedback.
- Upload the report to the Commission Webpage.

**Motion:** Approve the content of the report to be submitted to the AAA Staff.

**1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** Diane Spain | **2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** Deanna Shaat | **Vote Result:** Approved/Passed

- Website Recommendation – **Action**



## Sonoma County Aging & Disability Commission Meeting



*Develop and make recommendations for the Commission's webpage to make it welcoming, informative, and simple to navigate.*

*Lead: Jaime Penaherrera*

*Due: March 4, 2026*

**Motion:** Establish the Website Recommendations Ad Hoc Committee.

**1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** Trayce Beards | **2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** Robin Thompson | **Vote Result:** Approved/Passed

Interested Members: Jaime Penaherrera, Diane Spain, Trayce Beards, Robin Thompson, Jenny Helman

- FY 26/27 Area Plan Objectives - **Action**

*Review, develop, and make a recommendation on the Commission's FY 2026/27 Area Plan Objectives.*

*Lead: Deanna Shaat*

*Due: March 4, 2026*

**Motion:** Establish the FY26/27 Area Plan Objective Ad Hoc Committee.

**1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** Priyanka Varma | **2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** Trayce Beards | **Vote Result:** Approved/Passed

Interested Members: Trayce Beards, Suzanne Edwards, Priyanka Varma, Deanna Shaat

### 11. Adjourn (Helman)(2:58PM)

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- Legislative Representatives to be invited to the April 2026 Commission Meeting Area Plan Public Hearing in March 2026
- Windsor Senior Expo: June 7, 2026, from 10:00 Am – 2:00 PM
- AAA Program Monitoring

#### **Upcoming ADRU Table Events:**

- None at this time