



Sonoma County Aging & Disability Commission Meeting



Minutes

Wednesday, February 18th, 2026 | 1:00PM-3:00PM

Carnelian Conference Room, 3725 Westwind Blvd. Santa Rosa 95403

In-person Attendance: Deanna Shaat, Robin Thompson, Suzanne Edwards, Jenny Helman, Rick Baum, Priyanka Varma, Jaime Penaherrera, Alain Serkissian, Terry Kelley

Virtual Attendance: Trayce Beards, Diane Spain, Eddie Estrada

Absent: N/A

Staff Attendance: Paul Dunaway, Cody Souza-Milner, Cassandra Denson (Zoom), Joni Huntsperger, Kyle Collis

1. Welcome & Commission Member Introductions (Helman) (1:00PM)

2. New Commission Member Application – **Action**

Motion: Nominate Heather Hannan-Kramer for a seat on the Commission.

1st Motion: Robin Thompson | **2nd Motion:** Deanna Shaat | **Vote Result:** Passed

3. Approval of the 1.21.2026 Commission Meeting Minutes (Helman)

Approved as Written.

4. Public Comment and Commission Member Open Forum

Jamie Escoubas, COA: March 12th, 12pm-1pm- Soft Launch of the new Cloverdale community dining program. La Familia will be there to assist with translation services.

Pam, Community Support Network: Offers 2 supportive housing programs. Interested in how to support participants who age out of the programs. Also partnering with PACE.

Jenny Helman: North County Senior Resource Fair is looking for volunteers for the fair on June 7th, 10am-2pm. At Huerta Gym.

5. Chair Updates (Helman)

Debrief on “Elevator Pitch” Exercise from January meeting

- Commissioners were given an opportunity to discuss their experience.

Membership Task Status Update

- Groups gave an update on their task progress.
- Report presentations will be pushed back to the March Commission meeting.
- Recruitment cards are available for members to use.

Marge Ling Nominations – due March 4th



Sonoma County Aging & Disability Commission Meeting



- Jenny Helman provided a description of the award history and parameters.
- Commissioners can send Jenny Helman and Cody Souza-Milner their nominees by March 4th.
- Cody Souza-Milner will send a list of past recipients to the Commissioners for additional context.

6. Director Updates (Dunaway)

Open Doors

- Described information about the Open Doors Web tool that helps connect people with Sonoma County resources.
- The core safety net services listed on Open Doors are: health services, human services, and probation.
- Commissioners provided feedback and comments.

County Budget Update

- County Budget Workshops will be in April.

Federal Budget Update

- Federal Budget agreement has not been reached.
- Expecting a freeze on some operations.

Presentation on “Becoming an Area Agency on Aging”

- Presentation will be offered by County Welfare Directors regarding SB 1249. Will discuss what it is like to become a AAA.

Other Topics:

- North County Senior Resource Fair will need volunteers to support the event. Will be recruiting medical screening service providers to participate. There are multiple ways to participate/help. Reach out to Jenny Helman if interested.

7. Presentation from APS (Kyle Collis)

- The Commission received 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).
- APS has a 10-day window to investigate the reports they receive.
- Specialty Units: Housing, Financial.
- APS services are voluntary and confidential for the participant.
- Law Enforcement works on the criminality related to the abuse, whereas APS works on the fallout or personal needs as a result of the abuse.



Sonoma County Aging & Disability Commission Meeting



BREAK

8. Staff Update: (Souza-Milner / Huntsperger)

Area Plan Update Year 2 (FY 25/26)

- Public Hearing is scheduled for March 18th at 1pm.

Area Plan Needs Assessment Update

- Convening a community workgroup. First meeting is March 5th with a virtual option. Commissioners are welcome to join. Will be developing the survey questions.
- The Indian Cultural Center may be interested in participating in a Focus group.
- Will need volunteers to help lead focus groups, distribute surveys, and assist with processing results.

MPA and LADAP Update:

Update on Housing Action Team and Cloverdale Action Team

- Housing Team is currently on pause.
- The Health Dept. has reached out to Adult & Aging to coordinate support for older adult housing.
- AARP mini-grant is accepting applications. (Circuit Riders is applying for transportation funds. Cloverdale is applying for park benches on a new trail.)

Sonoma Valley Navigation Pilot

- Non-profits and health organizations that serve older adults will meet/partner to provide services in a no-wrong-door model.

9. Written Report Discussion (Helman)

- N/A

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.

- Start reaching out to supervisors as soon as possible to book meetings in April.

11. Ad Hoc Committee Report (Helman)

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



Sonoma County Aging & Disability Commission Meeting



- The ad hoc met in January, and they will provide a number of recommendations to make the site more accessible.

FY 26/27 Area Plan Objectives

Ad Hoc group to develop recommendations for FY 2026-27 objectives in the Area Plan – Year 2 Update.

Lead: Deanna Shaat

Due: March 4, 2026

- The Ad Hoc met in early February, where they reviewed outstanding FY25-26 objectives.
- Meeting again in late February to discuss recommendations for FY26-27.

Community Convening Topics #2 (New) - Action

Panel for DSLC Expo

Lead: Eddie Estrada

Due: April 15, 2026

- Ad Hoc will reach out to see if DSLC is willing to partner and confirm the date of the expo.

Motion: Establish the Community Convening Ad Hoc.

1st Motion: Terry Kelley | 2nd Motion: Priyanka | Vote Result: Passed

Committee members: Suzanne Edwards, Jenny Helman

12. Adjourn (Helman)(2:58PM)

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 Aging & Disability Commission, which may or may not choose to act. Breaks may be called at the discretion of the Chair. If you need any accommodations to effectively participate, please contact aaa@schsd.org or (707) 565-5238 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

To submit items for the AAA Newsletter, or to receive the AAA Newsletter: AAA@schsd.org

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: