

# CITY OF RICHMOND

## Commission On Aging

Friday, June 7, 2024, 10 AM – Noon  
Richmond Memorial Auditorium, Bermuda Room,  
403 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804

PRESENT: Michelle Hayes, Chair, Myrtle Braxton, Vice Chair, Bryan Harris, Acting Secretary, Rose Brooks, Treasurer, Kiran Agarwal,  
ABSENT: Bev Wallace, Cate Burkhart, Kymberlyn Carson-Thrower (A), Gayle McLaughlin (CC)  
STAFF: Carlette Harris-Virgil, Steve Lipson (tech)  
GUEST: Gerry La Londe-Berg, Jacquetta Alexander, Lorene Holmes Dee, and Claudia Jimenez (CC)

This meeting is being held in a wheelchair accessible location. To request disability related accommodations to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact City Attorney's Office, ADA Coordinator, at 510-620-6509 at least five (5) business days before the meeting date.

### MINUTES

1. Meeting called to Order by Chair Hayes – 10:16AM
2. Roll Call by Acting Secretary Harris – *Secy. Harris announced that we now have 7 commissioners; former commissioners Naomi Williams and Regina Whitney have resigned. Five (5) commissioners were present and 2 were absent. We have a quorum.*
3. Councilmember Gayle McLaughlin – *The council liaison was absent however she presented an email report to Chair Hayes to be announced to the commission. It reads as follows: the city budget to be approved on June 18<sup>th</sup>. The new budget has provisions to hire additional Recreation positions. Furthermore, the city is hiring in all departments including Public Works, Housing, RPD, etc. The grand re-opening of the Booker T. Anderson Community Center happened June 6<sup>th</sup>. Hoped that some commissioners were in attendance as she was there. The Tiny Village Farm & Garden is coming along. The goal is to house 6 unhoused youth by early 2025. More details will be provided at the July meeting.*
4. Tech Training by Steve Lipson – *The Brown Act AB 817 revisions are in progress, House approved, Senate pending. This would affect us if we could have hybrid meetings using teleconferencing mediums to attend future meetings. REMINDERS: the Imagination AI Workshops meets weekly on Tuesdays from 10:00A to 12:00N in 1-hour segments. And the TECH Academy Training meets weekly on Fridays from 10:00A to 11:00A. NOTE: new Bluetooth technology coming out that will connect via wireless devices.*
5. Open Forum & Introductions – *we had three guests at our meeting. Two are interested in membership: Gerry LaLonde-Berg. He's a retired social worker and interested in senior housing and shared housing issues. Lorene Holmes-Dee attended her 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, her application is pending approval. And a special guest, vice mayor Claudia Jimenez was in attendance. She stated that she was here to learn more about current senior issues. She also announced that 1.2 million is being budgeted towards traffic programs and 1.6 million being allocated for safety provisions. She also shared that the*

*city is looking to creating a “food courts” so as to allow for food trucks and farmers markets to expand in the next few years.*

6. Review and Approve Minutes – *majority vote, MAY minutes APPROVED with corrections to Announcements per Chair Hayes.*
7. Discuss and recommend Senior winter ball updates - *Com. Harris stated that he has notified the caterer (El Sol Catering) that they have been awarded the bid. The manager has been on vacation since Easter, she just returned to Richmond at the end of May. Josephine is reviewing our proposal for menu suggestions and will advise by July meeting when she will also present the per person price quote cost. (Tentative range: \$22-25\* and “Chicken” will be the entrée protein.) Save the Date flyers and Poster flyers are being prepared, they are to be ready by Juneteenth per Kymberlyn. Regarding servers, it was suggested by Vice-chair Braxton that we inquire with RPAL (Larry Lewis) and ask if they could provide table servers? Secy. Harris agreed to take the lead on RPAL. Chair Hayes recommended Girls, Inc. and offered to follow-up.*
8. Discuss the need for the commissioners to commit to attending upcoming events. Sign up and be there in the beginning and the end for clean-up. Sign up for 6/22/24, Juneteenth event. – *Per Chair Hayes, we need commissioners to sign-up and to commit to tabling a booth at the Juneteenth event. Secy. Harris suggested 2-hour time slots. Com. Burkhart announced that she was tabling another booth, Chair Hayes said she was going to be out of town. And several other commissioners were not available due to personal conflicts. It was suggested that we leave our outreach materials with the CDS vendor table. That we’d need to confirm with department staff. Chair Hayes would follow-up via email.*
9. Discuss upcoming presentations – *nothing planned for the month of July, reminder of the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July fireworks in Richmond.*
10. Staff Report: Kymberlyn & Carlette – *Per Carlette, the city budget is still in the process of being approved. Hoping not to have any budget cuts to the Recreation programs. The senior center on Macdonald in how open on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of each month from 10:00A to 2:00P. A new class began in Quilting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month.*
11. Reports
  1. Transportation, ECIA, VIA and Measure X:
    - *ECIA – Secy. Harris reported that the ECIA meeting, set for Monday 5/6, was rescheduled for Friday May 10<sup>th</sup>. Both he (the transportation chair) and commissioner chair Michelle Hayes attend the meeting and presented our request for funding, The ECIA committee seemed agreeable to fund our needs for translation service, marketing cost and refreshments but salary for the program coordinator, that had some work to be done. We can enquire back at the next meeting.*

- *VIA – Transp. Chair Harris emailed Joe Martin; he has linked him with Yesenia Covarrubias. She is the local regional manager that includes Richmond. He is in talks with both, to see if we can present a hands-on workshop for later this year. He plans to reach out after the upcoming holidays with Yesenia to see if she can do a meet & greet at the senior center. He wants her to observe and introduce to the senior community how Richmond MOVES could work more effectively with the growing senior population in Richmond. The workshop TBA for later.*
  - *Secy. Harris sat in on the Measure X Community Fiscal Oversight Committee on June 5<sup>th</sup>. A very brief meeting, July is to be a more involved meeting, they are voting for new chair and vice-chair. He is also registered with the Contra Costa County Transportation, Water & Infrastructure Committee. Their June meeting was cancelled. Next meeting is for July 8, 2024, at 9:30AM.*
2. Commissioners' feedback on the Senior Information Day – *no discussion*
  3. Commissioners to report on other meetings and events they attended. – *none*
  4. Discuss planned 2024 Calendar workshops and need people to help with the planning
    - *The Soul Line Dance event will be held on Saturday, August 24, 2024, at the Richmond Auditorium from 1:00PM to 5:00PM (doors open 12:30PM). Lite refreshments will be provided. Cost: \$15.00 per person. All commissioners will attend the event. Need to arrive by 12 Noon. And Lenord Plummer lead the event.*
    - *The Senior Safety Prevention Workshop is set for Thursday, September 26, 2024, in the Bermuda Room at the Richmond Auditorium. Time: 10:00A-12:00P. Doors open at 9:30A. Cost: FREE. Lite refreshments will be offered. Revised flyers will be available by Juneteenth.*
  5. Finance Report – *no report*

Announcements – *Vice chair Braxton made a motion that the Line Dance admissions cost be FREE for the attending commissioners. It was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Secy. Harris. All approved, motion passes.*

Adjourn – *meeting ended at 12:02PM*

Community Services-Recreation Staff Liaison: Kymberlyn Carson-Thrower (510) 620-6789  
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