**SHASTA COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING**

**Minutes for December 15, 2023**

Shasta County Administration Center

1450 Court Street, Room 311

10:00 AM

**Call to order 10:05 am**

**Commissioners Present:** Kristie Mathews, Carolyn Gomes, Jean Blankenship, Patty Plumb, Bonnie Simmons, Barbara Ghidinelli, Lynn Dorroh

**Commissioners Absent:**

**Others present:** Cindy Lane, Kathy Penoli

**Approve the minutes**: November 17, 2023-Approved

**Discuss advocacy needs for older adults:** There is a lack of advocacy for older adults. Possibly this body can establish some kind of advocacy program. Issues: If an older adult is in a facility, and having some type of medical issues, they are sent to the ER, however the ER has a revolving door and sends them back. An advocate can help them navigate through the hospital red tape when they need to be admitted not sent home.

**Motion to have, Kristine Boban, come back to discuss a plan to create an advocacy program**: Approved

**Discuss revising Commission on Aging bylaws:** It has been a challenge to get the old bylaws. We have no money to fund anything and no power to get financials from agencies we intend to evaluate even though our bylaws say we are to evaluate those agencies.

**Motion to form an ad hoc committee to revise the Commission on Aging bylaws:** Approved.

**Review draft of evaluation form:** On hold for now.

**Discuss Chair and Vice-Chair positions for 2024**: Members would like Kristie to continue as she is a great leader. Motion to approve, Approved. We do need to appoint a vice chair. Nomination of Carolyn Gomes & Bonnie Simmons to co-Vice Chair. Motion Approved.

**Reports from Commissioners:**

**Carolyn Gomes:** Reached out to 2 senior facilities to get a feel for concerns of the residents. She visited Hilltop Estates. They were very welcoming, and she was able to meet with some people and let them know about the Commission on Aging. They feel that there seems to be neglect in the medical community of the county towards seniors.If you are low or fixed income, you are being pushed aside.

**Cindy Lane:** June is Elder Abuse Awareness Month. Possibly the members can partner with other agencies to be more involved in the events surrounding that.

**Bonnie Simmons:** Our family hosts a Christmas dinner at the Anderson Senior Center. It started out as a dinner for the homeless and seniors who have no place to go. We serve between 125 up to over 300 meals. All food is donated. We have music and its open to anyone.

**Adjournment**: 11:30am  **Next meeting date:** January 19, 2024