MINUTES
SENIOR CITIZENS COMMISSION

Commissioners Present
Antonio Rodella, Chair
J. "Kitty" Preston, Vice-Chair
Henry De La Mora
Connie Dunay
Judy E. Huitt
Madeline Jensen
Robert Kuehn

STAFF
Cathy Glasgow, Recreation Services Manager
Jan Branich, Recreation Services Supervisor
Beth Lapkowski, Sr. Secretary

AGENDA

ACTION TAKEN

1. CALL TO ORDER
The Senior Citizens Commission meeting for April 10, 2008, was officially called to order by Chair Rodella at 1:36 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Vice-Chair Jensen led the commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS & PUBLIC COMMUNICATION
   A. Scheduled Public Oral Communication
      None.
   B. Unscheduled Public Oral Communication
      Ruth Kizior was present in the audience.

4. CORRESPONDENCE
   A. Incoming
      None.
   B. Outgoing
      None.

5. PRESENTATION:
   No presentation.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 3/13/08:
   Commissioner De La Mora indicated that under Agenda Item #9 (A), the minutes indicated “537 funds” and they should be corrected to read “1537 funds.” In addition, his name was misspelled under Agenda Item #6 and should reflect “De La Mora.” With those corrections, Commissioner Huitt made a motion to approve the March 13, 2008, minutes as presented; Commissioner De La Mora made a second and all voted in favor.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
A. Advertising SCC Meetings: Vice-Chair Preston reported that she took flyers to two churches in her neighborhood, Knott Avenue Christian Church and Magnolia Baptist Church.

B. Future Presentations: Jan Branich reported that Debbie Schultz from Paint Your Heart Out will do a presentation for the commission at the May 10th meeting. They are doing their projects in the month of April, so they will be able to report to the commission about how many seniors they were able to help, as well as explaining the process. She will also contact the Family Justice Center to arrange for a presentation from them, hopefully in June. She mentioned that she has tried contacting the L.E.A.R.N. program at Cal State Fullerton but has not been successful, and inquired whether any commissioners had contact information for the pharmacist previously mentioned, and Commissioner Huitt indicated she could provide that.

8. NEW BUSINESS None.

9. REPORTS

A. Senior Transportation - Commissioner De La Mora: Commissioner De La Mora said the representative for the Senior Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (SNEMT) Program for North Orange County indicated that they provided 2,359 trips with a total of 16,404 miles. The contract rate per mile is approximately $4.08, which totals $66,928.32. Also, the Orange County Transportation planners want cities to help fund innovative ways to encourage motorists to forsake their cars and embrace mass transit. Each city is given $100,000 for ideas for shuttling commuters from Metrolink stations to residential areas, major resort areas and shopping areas. Most cities want to rely on rubber tire technology, but Santa Ana is looking into a street car modeled after Portland, Oregon, and Anaheim has entertained an idea of elevated people movers. Chair Rodella asked if the City of Anaheim still rents electric vehicles to people who commute on Metrolink, and Commissioner Jensen said she thought they used to but have discontinued that program. Cathy Glasgow confirmed the Anaheim Transportation Network did have that program but it has been dissolved due to lack of funding. She also indicated the city has a shuttle service for employees that use the Metrolink.

B. OC Roundtable - Commissioner Kuehn: Commissioner Kuehn reported that Mark Odem, LCSW, from the Orange County Behavioral Health Services talked about community outreach and crisis intervention for seniors. Chair Rodella also mentioned that at SCAC, Dr. Brenda Ross, a council woman from Laguna Woods and a panel member for mental health funds, indicated that funds allocated for mental health services for seniors is 10 or 15% of the total budget and she feels it is not adequate.

C. Housing Committee - Commissioner Dunay: Commissioner Dunay reported the focus was mostly on the status
report on affordable housing strategies. They had pictures of the various units that will be open soon, including two in Anaheim: Summercrest Apartment Homes (49 units), and Diamond Isle, a mental health housing facility. She mentioned that Santa Ana backed out of the deal they had with the County to build affordable housing units for people with development disabilities on 2.93 acres they bought from the County; they have decided to use that property for a park.

D. Senior Citizen Advisory Council - Commissioner Jensen reported that at the last meeting there was a report on Alzheimer’s, OCTA, and Karen Roper gave a report on aging, homeless and veterans. The next meeting will be held April 11 in Cypress.

E. Human Services Network – Vice-Chair Preston: Vice-Chair Preston reported the meeting was held at Ponderosa Park Family Resource Center but no senior issues were addressed.

F. Health & Nutrition – Commissioner Huitt: Commissioner Huitt distributed flyers to the Commission with information about Super Foods for the Brain, as well as a page comparing various breakfast foods.

G. Legislative Committee – Chair Rodella: Chair Rodella reported they haven’t had a meeting since the last Senior Commission meeting.

10. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Commissioner De La Mora Commissioner De La Mora reported that 195 notices were sent to seniors for the Senior Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Program in January and 200 in February, and out of those 11 were already deceased and many others were already on contract with OCTA. There are currently 11,093 people enrolled, 2,340 are active, and they refer approximately 195 to OCTA ACCESS each month. He also attended the Round Table meeting and found it very interesting.

B. Commissioner Dunay Commissioner Dunay reported that Pacific Health is buying Anaheim Memorial. They pledge to invest $18 million over three years, and it will become a for-profit hospital. She also reminded everyone that anyone eligible for one of the tax rebates must file a tax return first, even if they don’t usually do so. Commissioner Huitt said that they will be having assistance at the Center on April 14 and 21 for those people.

C. Commissioner Huitt None.

D. Commissioner Jensen None.

E. Commissioner Kuehn None.

F. Vice-Chair Preston Vice-Chair Preston reported that she attended the free health screening at Brookhurst Community Center recently. She picked up some pamphlets that she shared with the Commission, including: California Low-Cost Auto Insurance (under $400 per year, liability
only); What Seniors Need to Know about Annuities; Quick Tips for Insurance Consumers, Bill of Rights and Personal Planning Guide; Anatomy of the Pyramid; and Anaheim Achieves Read with Me program. She also reported that the CERT Program training will begin on Friday, April 11 at Albert Schweitzer School at 229 S. Dale Street. She also had information about Sexual Predator and Internet Safety Program, a free training in Santa Ana on Saturday, April 26, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. They will review how the predators operate, their behavior and the resources for monitoring and protecting your children online. There will be a free concert, a chorus from Utah, at the Buena Park Senior Center on April 11 from 10-11 with refreshments served. She also had a brochure called Active Life, Golden Age, with good nutrition information, and a County of Orange Health Care Agency Guide to Services booklet.

G. Chair Rodella

Chair Rodella reported that the Board of Supervisors had a legislative report at their meeting, including an update on AB 1491 to reauthorize the transfer of the court facilities from the county to the state; it has passed and is now up for a vote. Also, the support by the County of Proposition 98 in the upcoming election, which is a prohibition of eminent domain, would mean that if a property was taken by eminent domain and the county/city doesn’t do anything with it, then the original owner would have the right to buy the property back at the price they received for it. He also reminded everyone again about the digital converter coupons for older television sets.

H. Staff

Jan Branich also indicated that they have the applications available at the Senior Center for the coupons for digital converters; each person can receive up to two coupons. Commissioner De La Mora noted that he saw the applications as well as the boxes available at Best Buy.

Jan also reported that the Downtown Community Center has been closed for annual maintenance and will reopen on Saturday. She announced the following special events: Annual fashion show on April 18th at the Downtown Community Center, and tickets are almost sold out; a special OCTA workshop on April 22nd called “Public Transportation Project Development Workshop,” that will bring human services organizations and community-based transportation providers together to prioritize needs, consider future funding, etc. She also announced that the Anaheim Senior Citizens Club will have their monthly membership lunch on April 26 with entertainment by a 40-piece string orchestra from the AUHSD GATE Program. Tickets will be on sale starting Monday.

Jan announced the annual bocce ball tournament at Emerald Court on April 23rd at 12 Noon; lunch will be first with the tournament following. She also gave an update on the 9-1-1 cell phone program. To date over 20 phones have been given out with approximately 75 people on the waiting list. They also collect hearing aids and eye glasses for the Lion’s Club, and in kind, the
Lion’s Club has been donating phones to the senior center. In addition, the City of Anaheim Utilities D.E.V.O.T.E. program also donated 30 phones. They have all been sent for refurbishing and will be ready for distribution in about a month. Finally, Jan announced a Senior Olympics fundraiser, Super Saturday Resource Fair, will be held on May 17\textsuperscript{th} from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Downtown Community Center with health screenings, and Providence Hearing & Speech will provide hearing screenings at the Brookhurst Community Center sometime in May.

11. ADJOURNMENT: Chair Rodella adjourned the meeting at 2:25 p.m.