



# Santa Cruz County Seniors Commission

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## Meeting Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, June 18, 2019

TIME: 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM

LOCATION: United Way of Santa Cruz County

4450 Capitola Road, Ste 106, Capitola, CA 95010

PRESENT: Michael Lewis (1<sup>st</sup> District), Lynne Simpson (1<sup>st</sup> District), Antonio Rivas (Vice Chair - 2<sup>nd</sup> District), Mark Johannessen (2<sup>nd</sup> District), Lois Sones (3<sup>rd</sup> District), Enda Brennan (3<sup>rd</sup> District), Louis J. Tuosto (4<sup>th</sup> District), Patricia Fohrman (4<sup>th</sup> District), Lynn McKibbin (5<sup>th</sup> District), Carol Childers (Chair - 5<sup>th</sup> District)

EXCUSED: Charles Molnar (CSL Ex Officio Member)

STAFF: Kaite McGrew (Commissions Coordinator)

GUESTS: Clay Kempf (AAA/Seniors Council), John Daugherty (SCMTD/Commission on Disabilities), Jean Brocklebank (MMHC), Bill Patterson (UCSC Lifelong Learners), and 2 community members

1. Call to Order: Meeting convened at 12:30 PM.

2. Roll Call and Agenda Review

3. **Approve April 16, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

Minutes amended to include further detail on Bylaws approval and election of officers.

Motion to approve as amended/Second: McKibbin/Rivas

**Motion passed unanimously.**

4. Public Comment:

Commission heard public comment on the need for cooling centers, communications with County Human Services Director Ellen Timberlake, available farmers market vouchers for seniors, an update on the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) wait list, an introduction to the Lifelong Learners of UCSC group, and a Metro update.

5. Senior Legislature Report

Staff shared a redlined version of AB797 and provided an update from Molnar indicating that the bill is no longer supported by CSL because of significant changes made by the Assemblymember.

6. New Business/Action Items

6.1. Watsonville Senior Center Funding

Rivas reported that the Watsonville City Council defunded the Watsonville Senior Center, while continuing to fund programs that operate from the facility. Although the facility is within the city limits, many of the service recipients live in the County.

**Authorize Commission Officers to draft a letter to the Board of Supervisors in support of funding all senior centers in Santa Cruz County**

Motion/Second: Lewis/McKibbin

**Motion withdrawn for lack of support**

**Authorize Commission Officers to draft a letter to the Board of Supervisors expressing support for the continued operation of the Watsonville Senior Center**

Motion/Second: Brennan/Johannessen

Ayes: Simpson, Rivas, Johannessen, Sones, Brennan, Tuosto, Fohrman, McKibbin, Childers

Nays: Lewis

**Motion passed.**

## 6.2. Joint Retreat Next Steps

Sones reported that the Volunteer Center received State grant funding for emergency preparedness response training. The IHSS Advisory Commission will lead follow-up efforts for the Joint Retreat scarcity of providers issue. Retreat next steps will be on the August agenda.

## 7. Strategic Action Plan Reports

Elected Official Outreach: Tuosto interviewed John Laird on Community TV. Commission reviewed the Board response to their advocacy letter for cost of living increases in CORE funding contracts. Several Commissioners had informal contact with their District Supervisors.

Community Outreach: Fohrman is auditing resource contact information in the *Seniors Resource Directory*. Commission discussed the You Are Not Alone (YANA) program. Kempf reported that AAA provides training for outreach phone calls to seniors experiencing social isolation. AAA will give the following presentations: AARP Age-Friendly Designation Efforts (August), AAA Duties and Programs (October), NPO Wage Inequities (December) and 2019 Needs Assessment Results (February).

Senior Housing: Tuosto reported that he is researching the impact of developer buyouts on County affordable housing stock and will advocate to the Planning Commission on behalf of seniors.

Transportation: Lewis did not attend the last E&D TAC Advisory Committee meeting but continues to monitor and report sidewalk safety issues. Lewis discouraged the use of scooters as an affordable transportation option.

Media Outreach: Media announcements are ongoing. Lewis reported that Commission contact information is out of date on the County webpage.

Public Guardian: Commission reviewed the April 16<sup>th</sup> Board of Supervisors agenda item approving a five-position staffing expansion for the Public Guardian's office, and County Health Services' Operational Plan Objective #79 which targets an increase of four new Public Guardian probate referrals per month by June 2021.

## 8. District Reports and Announcements

8.1. **Authorize Sones to write letter of thanks to Mike McConnell, Adult Services Division Director** and invite him to present on recent developments in County Adult Services, including the new TLC program.

Motion/Second: Rivas/Sones

**Motion passed unanimously.**

8.2. AARP Age Friendly Community Designation

Johannessen requested that a discussion of Commission participation in efforts to achieve AARP Age-Friendly Community designation for Santa Cruz County be added to the August agenda.

8.3. Simpson shared information on the upcoming *Preventing Scams* presentation (by County Assistant District Attorney, Douglas Allen) which will be hosted by *Village Santa Cruz*.

8.4. Simpson shared information on a Village Santa Cruz County Mending Bee to be held on August 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Aptos Library from 12:00 to 2:00 PM.

## 9. Staff Report

9.1. The MAH has meeting space available for \$50/hour, (not including a tour of the senior isolation exhibit) for either the August or October meetings. A self-guided tour for up to 30 people is available for an additional \$30.

9.2. Commission Bylaws are scheduled to be reviewed on the consent agenda for the June 25<sup>th</sup> Board of Supervisors meeting.

10. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 2:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Coordinator*