



# Santa Cruz County Seniors Commission

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## Meeting Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, August 20, 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*), Mark Johannessen (*2<sup>nd</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: Antonio Rivas (*Vice Chair - 2<sup>nd</sup> District*), Lois Sones (*3<sup>rd</sup> District*), Enda Brennan (*3<sup>rd</sup> District*), Charles Molnar (*CSL Ex Officio Member*)

STAFF: Kaite McGrew (*Commissions Coordinator*), Britt Harmssen (*County EEO Officer*)

GUESTS: Clay Kempf (*AAA/Seniors Council*), Patty Talbot (*AAA/Seniors Council*), John Daugherty (*SCMTD/Commission on Disabilities*), Jean Brocklebank (*Mobile and Manufactured Home Commission*)

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

Meeting convened at 12:30 PM. Commission revised language to specify that public comment is for members of the public only and includes items not on the agenda.

**Authorize adding an agenda item regarding Sidewalk Safety and Shared Mobility Devices**

Motion/Second: Lewis/McKibbin

**Motion passed unanimously.**

2. Approve June 18, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Motion/Second: Lewis/McKibbin

**Motion passed unanimously.**

3. Public Comment:

3.1. Daugherty reported on SCMTD's fixed-route bus driver shortage, text alert service for route cancelations, proposed fare waivers for riders with vision impairment, and Daugherty's commendation for 30 years of service.

3.2. Talbot announced the Area Agency on Aging senior (over sixty) bilingual survey online and in hard copy. It is conducted every four years and addresses a variety of issues impacting seniors.

4. Senior Legislature Report: No Report

5. AARP Age-Friendly City Designation

Kempf gave an overview of Santa Cruz County's efforts to achieve AARP Age-Friendly designation. AARP monitors 8 domains impacting quality of life for seniors and assigns a livability score. The County Board of Supervisors recently voted to adopt the Seniors Council's proposed plan to become an Age-Friendly Community. Santa Cruz, Scotts Valley and Watsonville cities will meet to discuss next steps. A County-wide working group will decide on domains, although cities can further customize with activities that better meet their needs. Commission discussed the "digital divide" and the 2020 Census survey process. Census representatives will present at the October meeting.

**Authorize Commission leadership to send letter of acknowledgement to the Board of Supervisors**

Motion/Second: McKibbin/Simpson

**Motion passed unanimously.**

6. New Business/Action Items

6.1. Cooling Centers

Lewis reported on cooling centers to address heat waves in Santa Cruz County. The County works cooperatively with local agencies and organizations on providing cooling centers as needed but no contracts are in place. Commissioners suggested developing a list of cooling centers for each district to make available on their website. Commission also discussed the availability of transportation to cooling centers and home cooling strategies. The Seniors Council will also promote awareness.

6.2. Sidewalk Safety and Shared Mobility Devices

Lewis reported on Jump bikes and sidewalk safety for seniors and people with disabilities.

**Authorize Childers to draft a letter to the Board of Supervisors regarding the potential impact of Jump bikes on sidewalk and intersection safety for seniors and people with disabilities.**

Motion/Second: Lewis/McKibbin

**Motion passed unanimously.**

7. Strategic Action Plan Reports

7.1. Focus #1: Elected Officials Outreach & Advocacy: Lewis met with Supervisor Leopold to discuss sidewalk safety. Commissioners updated their Supervisors. Tuosto is scheduled to interview Representative Panetta in September regarding issues that impact seniors.

7.2. Focus #2: Community Outreach, Advocacy & Resources:

Simpson worked with Twin Lakes Church to host a successful anti-scamming presentation by Douglas Allen. McKibbin will facilitate hosting the same presentation at the SLV Senior Center. Childers reported that ADA accessible facilities being installed at the SLV Senior Center. Fohrman continues to monitor the status of the Watsonville Senior Center. Lewis continues to promote Commission meetings via his website.

7.3. Focus #3: Local Services, Programs and Agencies

Childers reported that Whitney Barnes (County Adult Protective Services) presented on scam prevention to Ben Lomond seniors, and Meals on Wheels staff. Lewis reported that the E&D TAC ad hoc intersection subcommittee to review intersection design issues that could impact pedestrian safety. Childers reported on the difficulty implementing safety measures on Hwy 9 because it involves State rather than local agencies. Villages Santa Cruz has membership scholarships and offers free transportation to members.

**Authorize County Staff and Sones to draft proclamation acknowledging Michael McConnell**

Motion/Second: McKibbin/Simpson

**Motion passed unanimously.**

7.4. Focus #4: Issues that Impact Seniors: No Report

8. District Reports and Announcements: None

9. Staff Report

9.1. Harmssen will be leaving the County to pursue a career opportunity at UCLA.

9.2. Commission Bylaws were approved at the June 25<sup>th</sup> Board of Supervisors meeting.

9.3. E&D TAC has vacancies.

9.4. IHSS Advisory Group will follow-up on *Scarcity of Providers*, and Commission on Disabilities may select *Emergency Preparedness*, leaving *Transportation* as a potential Seniors project.

10. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 2:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Coordinator*