



# Santa Cruz County Seniors Commission

701 Ocean Street, Room 510, Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
P: (831) 454-2772 F: (831) 454-2411 TTY/TDD 711  
commissions@santacruzcounty.us  
www.sccseniors.org

## Meeting Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, August 15, 2023

TIME: 12:30 PM

LOCATION: United Way, 4450 Capitola Road, Ste 106, Capitola CA 95010

PRESENT: Dena Taylor (1<sup>st</sup> District), Suzanne Doty (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), Patricia Fohrman (4<sup>th</sup> District), Katie Limas (4<sup>th</sup> District), Carol Childers (Chair - 5<sup>th</sup> District), Lynn McKibbin (5<sup>th</sup> District)

EXCUSED: None

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Kaite McGrew (Commissions Manager), Mitsuno Baurmeister (EEO Officer)

GUESTS: Manu Koenig (1<sup>st</sup> District Supervisor), Heather Rogers (Public Defender), and 1 member of the public were present.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

Meeting convened at 12:30 PM.

2. Motion to Approve June 20, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve minutes as written.

Motion/Second: Rivas/Taylor

**Motion passed unanimously.**

3. Public Comment

4. New Business/Action Items:

4.5. Live Oak Senior Center Update

Supervisor Koenig provided an update on the status of the Live Oak Senior Center. The Live Oak School District (LOSD) extended the eviction notice to August 31<sup>st</sup> and a new lease with a two-year extension is being negotiated. Alternative mixed-use solutions are also being considered for a more long-term solution. Supervisor Koenig will continue to liaise with the LOSD and community partners. The Commission will continue to monitor the situation and advocate where appropriate.

4.6. County Office of the Public Defender Overview

Rogers provided an overview of the new Public Defender's Office structure and services providing Community-Based Whole Person Defense for justice-involved community members. Such a defense includes seamless access to legal and social support services, dynamic, interdisciplinary communication, advocacy with an interdisciplinary skill set and a robust understanding of and connection to the community being served. There is a strong emphasis on reentry supports to reduce recidivism. Commission would be interested in learning more about the CARE Court, the conservatorship process, and Veterans Court at future meetings.

5. District Reports:

5.1. District 1:

Taylor suggested that the Commission invite representation from the Valley Senior Center and the Watsonville Senior Center to present on their ongoing programs and services. Doty provided a summary of the Master Plan for Aging presentation given at a recent Board of Supervisors meeting.

5.2. District 2:

Rivas reported that the Watsonville Senior Center is preparing for their Senior Prom to be held in October. This is an intergenerational event with high school students assisting with decorations. Johannessen reported on next steps for the senior needs assessment survey and the County's progress towards AARP Age-Friendly Community designation. The Commission will promote participation in the needs assessment survey when it becomes available.

5.3. District 3:

Sones reported that the new Elderday Watsonville location is preparing to open pending approval from Public Health. A grand reopening celebration is planned.

5.4. District 4:

Fohrman recommended that travel on Green Valley Road be avoided in the coming months because of ongoing roadwork and lane closures.

5.5. District 5:

McKibbin reported that the Valley Senior Center continues to thrive, now serving seniors, the Valley Women's Club, and local community youth. Many programs serve their communities from that location. Childers reported that she had no current news regarding the Meals on Wheels program.

6. Senior Legislature Report:

Rivas reported that the California Senior Legislature continues to develop new legislation in preparation for next year.

7. Staff Report: None

8. Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Manager*