



# 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 20, 2024  
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 (Chair - 1<sup>st</sup> District), Mark Johannessen (2<sup>nd</sup> District), Lois Sones (3<sup>rd</sup> District), Alicia Rodriguez (3<sup>rd</sup> District), Patricia Fohrman (4<sup>th</sup> District), Katie Limas (Vice Chair - 4<sup>th</sup> District), Carol Childers (5<sup>th</sup> District)  
EXCUSED: Antonio Rivas (2<sup>nd</sup> District)  
ABSENT: None  
STAFF: Kaite McGrew (Commissions Manager)  
GUESTS: Edith Driscoll (County Auditor-Controller), Sheri Thomas (County Assessor-Recorder). No members of the public were present.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review  
Meeting convened at 12:33 PM.
2. **Motion to Approve June 18, 2024 Meeting Minutes**  
Minutes revised to eliminate typographical errors.  
Motion to approve minutes as amended.  
Motion/Second: Taylor/Sones  
Ayes: Taylor, Doty, Sones, Rodriguez, Limas and Childers  
Abstentions: Johannessen  
**Motion passed.**

3. Public Comment: None

Fohrman arrived.

4. New Business/Action Items:

### **4.1. Property Tax Issues Impacting Seniors**

Driscoll provided an overview of tax information available to the public, including new features on the website (e.g., e-notifications, on-line applications for tax penalty cancellations (death, medical, etc.), as well as a new location in South County. Driscoll explained senior and disabled citizen exemptions and the various application deadlines. Contact information on the County website is always the most current.

### **4.2. Intrafamilial Property Transfers**

Thomas provided an overview of services provided by the County Assessor's office and summarized property tax considerations such as transferable Prop 13 tax base, owner-occupied exemptions, disabled veterans exemptions, property reassessment parameters, and intrafamilial property transfer concerns including property tax accrual, and tax lien sales.

#### **4.3. Commission Strategic Action Planning Update**

Doty will facilitate an exercise with the Commission to help identify priorities once the Solutions Summit priorities have been published.

#### **4.4. Solutions Summit Update**

Doty reported that the Santa Cruz County Solutions Summit will be held on October 16 at the Mount Hermon Conference Center. Five bold goals (housing, health, inclusion and equity, caregiving, and affordable aging) have been established. Doty will request that the Commission is included on the invitation list.

### **5. District Reports**

#### **5.1. District 1**

Doty reported attending a Village Santa Cruz event and suggested inviting them to present to the Commission to a future meeting. Taylor had no report.

#### **5.2. District 2:**

Johannessen reported on topics discussed during the recent *Area Agency on Aging* meeting which included hospice and Medicare eligibility, Senate Bill 1249, status of the Live Oak Senior Center, opposition to bond measure M and the upcoming Solutions Summit among others.

#### **5.3. District 3:**

Rodriguez recommended that hospice information to be included in any information shared with local hospital emergency rooms. She reported that data collected from the three senior surveys conducted recently (State Master Plan for Aging survey, AAA, and the County's "Age Well" survey) appear to contradict one another and suggested that invite speakers to provide additional detail. Sones met with Supervisor Cummings and confirmed his commitment to advancing the interests of County seniors.

#### **5.4. District 4:**

Fohrman, Doty and Rivas will serve on a panel reviewing CORE funding applications. Results will be released in September. The SEIU is providing an opportunity for IHSS workers to participate in a political training in Berkeley.

#### **5.5. District 5: No Report**

### **6. Senior Legislature Report: None**

### **7. Staff Report:**

Staff will invite Eva Holt-Rusmore to share information about compiling a "Senior Wellness Index" on the DataShareSCC health information website.

### **8. Correspondence: None**

### **9. Emerging Matters and Commissioner Announcements:**

Rodriguez will invite a speaker from *Serving Communities Health Information Organization* (SCHIO), a multi-stakeholder health information exchange.

### **10. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Manager*