



County of Santa Cruz

IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES PUBLIC AUTHORITY

18 W. Beach Street, Watsonville, CA; P.O. Box 1300, Santa Cruz, CA 95061

(831) 454-4036 FAX: (831) 763-8906

IHSS Advisory Commission

Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, April 26, 2024
Time: 1:00PM to 3:00PM
Location: 1400 Emeline AVE, Building K, Room 206. Santa Cruz, CA
Present: Michael Molesky (Consumer, Chair), Lois Sones (Seniors Commission, Vice-Chair), Christine Keibert-Boss (Consumer), Foster Andersen (Consumer), Becky Taylor (Commission on Disability), Linda Campbell (Consumer) Maria Arreola (Provider), Patricia Fohrman (Provider)
Excused: Jozette Irgang (Consumer)
Absent: None
Guests: Julie Gabriel (Division Secretary, ALTC), Jasmine Marquardt (Senior Network Services), Alicia Morales (ALTC Division Director), Elizabeth Byrd (ALTC Sr. Analyst), Stephanie Auld (Public), Anna Cerna, (PA SW Supervisor), Joel Campos (Lead organizer, SEIU)
Staff: Juan Magaña (Staff)

Agenda

1. Call to Order
 - a. A meeting was called to order at 1:01 PM; a quorum was present.
2. Roll Call
3. Agenda Review
 - a. Agenda reviewed; no changes were made.
4. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - i. March 22, 2024, Meeting
 - b. Commission Vacancies
 - i. One (1) – Consumer Representative
 - ii. One (1) – Representative of Advocate Organization- Stephanie submitted app.
 - c. Motion to approve consent agenda called by:
 - i. First/Second: Sones/Keibert-Boss
 - ii. Ayes: Molesky, Sones, Kiebert-Boss, Andersen, Taylor, Campbell, Arreola, Fohrman
 - iii. Nays: None
 - iv. Abstain: None
 - v. Absent: Irgang

The County of Santa Cruz complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. This meeting room is accessible for people with disabilities. If you wish to discuss reasonable modifications or accommodations, please call 454-4036 prior to the meeting. For the comfort of those with allergies and chemical sensitivities, please do not wear perfume or scented products to the meeting.

d. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Oral Communications and Announcements:

- a. Molesky reported on the upcoming May 5 “Wings for Life”- Worldwide Race, fundraiser for spinal cord injury and awareness.
- b. Keibert-Boss reported on the fair at Monterey Bay Horsemanship & Therapeutic Center on April 21, 100’s in attendance.
- c. Anderson reported on upcoming May 11, “Day in the Park”, featuring bands, food, etc.
- d. Joel Campos (SEIU Representative) reported on IHSS Provider’s contract ends June 30. The 2 priorities are protection of the program and living wage increases. They will keep us informed about upcoming meetings.

6. Regular Agenda – Action Items

a. Election of Officers

i. Chair

1. Staff reported that Christine Kiebert-Boss was nominated to be the Chair for the IHSS Advisory Commission; Kiebert Boss confirmed that she accepted the nomination.
2. Motion to approve the nomination of Christine Keibert-Boss as Chair for the IHSS Advisory Commission was called by:
 - A. First/Second: Sones/Arreola
 - B. Ayes: Molesky, Sones, Kiebert-Boss, Andersen, Taylor, Campbell, Arreola, Fohrman
 - C. Nays: None
 - D. Abstain: None
 - E. Absent: Irgang
3. Motion carried unanimously.

ii. Vice-Chair

1. Staff reported Becky Taylor was nominated to be the Vice-Chair for the IHSS Advisory Commission; Taylor confirmed that she accepted the nomination.
2. Motion to approve nomination of Becky Taylor as Vice-Chair was called by:
 - A. First/Second Campbell/Fohrman
 - B. Ayes: Molesky, Sones, Kiebert-Boss, Andersen, Taylor, Campbell, Arreola, Fohrman
 - C. Nays: None
 - D. Abstain: None
 - E. Absent: Irgang
3. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Approval of IHSS Advisory Commission Meeting Schedule: May 2024 – April 2025

- i. Staff reported that as part of the recent changes to section 2.38 of county code, all commissions are to approve their meeting schedule each year in the month of April. A copy of the May 2024 – April 2025 meeting schedule was included in the meeting packet. Staff reminded the commission that for now, the meeting location for the IHSS Advisory Commission was set to 1400 Emeline Ave, but per the commission's vote in February, the commission will revisit the location of its meetings at the June 2024 commission meeting.
- ii. Motion to approve IHSS Advisory Commission Meeting Schedule for May 2024 – April 2025 was called by:
 1. First/Second: Taylor/Fohrman
 2. Ayes: Molesky, Sones, Kiebert-Boss, Andersen, Taylor, Campbell, Arreola, Fohrman
 3. Nays: None
 4. Abstain: None
 5. Absent: Irgang
- iii. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Guest Speakers:

a. Alicia Morales, Division Director, Adult and Long-Term Care

- i. Morales provided a brief intro about herself: has been working in the Aging field for almost 30 years: Adult Protective Services in Los Angeles County, Alameda County, and has been with Santa Cruz County for the past 4 years. She has served on the Executive Board for Public Guardians for 7yrs and was president at one time. This is our time, by exec order on MPA/council member integrate elder justice system, make structural changes. Elder justice, APS, LTC, PGO, SNS including disabilities. Morales provided info on the following topics:
 1. Provider recruitment – Morales indicated that this is a challenge in every county. On average, statewide 70% of providers are family members; in Santa Cruz County, only 56% of providers are family members. This makes provider recruitment much harder. The registry has seen increase in new providers of 20%. This was due to internal changes, more employees, and strengthening the Public Authority. Anna Cerna was recently hired as the new Public Authority Social Work Supervisor which will include provider recruitment. At the State level, there was legislation introduced last year to allow undocumented family members to be eligible to be providers. This bill has been reintroduced this year. Non-family members would be the next step.
 2. Contract mode, Morales indicated that only San Francisco County has this mode, and it may not happen locally due to its high cost. There is an ask for funding from the state and we are working with managed care (Alliance and Kaiser) to establish relationships with local Managed Care Plans via Memorandums of Understandings with IHSS, among others. There is a strong focus on referrals for Enhanced Care Management services through Senior Network Services, Community Bridges and other community-based

organizations. At the regional level, the Bay Area Social Services Consortium is offering a stipend for Master of Social Work training focusing on older adults, like the title 4E Waiver for Family and Children Services.

3. Master Plan for Aging, concerned with funding. No planned cuts to adult services, but no additional funding. The Master Plan for Aging supports policies that promote healthy aging. In Santa Cruz County, 1 in 3 residents will be over age 65 by 2030. The Older American's act is being reviewed.

- A. Auld (public) mentioned that she can't get a provider. There is no quality control, consumers are the QA as an employer. Do you audit IHSS program. Is it successful?

- i. Morales responded that the IHSS program came from disability movement in Berkley. Care from the community will care for the community. 90% of providers are known by the individual. Public Authority is a back-up plan, they recruit providers and maintains the registry.

- b. Elizabeth Byrd, Sr. Human Services Analyst, Adult and Long-Term Care

- i. Elizabeth Byrd reported that Santa Cruz County is working on the Master Plan for Aging. In June 2023, the Board of Supervisors and the American Association of Retired Persons recognized Santa Cruz County as age friendly. An age friendly community is one where its residents can age in place, break down isolation, and allow for aging in an empowered way. A governance group was formed which comprised of elected officials. A county Needs Assessment survey was initiated by ALTC. The goal was to have 1K respondents; we received 2500 online survey responses alone. We recognize that not all pops were represented, so we are looking at how to address the needs of those who didn't answer. Data is a starting point, who's missing? Working with Clarity, who uses focus groups to inform next steps. Includes other data sets, surveys, etc. Dientes, CSOA, US Census.

8. Regular Agenda – Information Items

- a. Updates/Housekeeping

- i. Reminders from the Chair
 1. None provided
 - ii. Topics & Speakers
 1. Staff reported there are no guest speakers lined up for May. Please contact staff if you have a guest speaker in mind.

- b. IHSS Providers

- i. Arreola reported she continues to get calls from providers having trouble with the check in/check out process.
 1. Staff advised that Providers will be paid regardless, they should continue working with the system.

c. IHSS Program and Public Authority Updates

- i. Staff reported that all Human Services Department staff at 18 West Beach Street in Watsonville will be moving to 500 Westridge Drive in Watsonville. The last day of lobby operations will be 5/17; effective 5/20 500 Westridge will be open. There is no planned interruption for provider supply pick up.
- ii. Staff introduced Anna Cerna Social Work Supervisor with Public Authority.

9. Report Outs

a. Legislative

- i. No report out.

b. CICA Conference Calls

- i. Kiebert-Boss reported this month's meeting was very interesting, she will send notes to staff to share.

c. Website/Technology

- i. No report out.

d. Commission on Disabilities

- i. Taylor reported they still need 1 more member to hold a meeting; website has not been updated.

e. Seniors Commission

- i. No report out.

10. Meeting adjourned at 2:59pm by Christine Keibert-Boss, new Chair.

Next Regular Meeting: May 24, 2024, 1:00PM – 3:00PM @ 1400 Emeline AVE, Building K, Room 206, Santa Cruz, CA

Minutes approved by commission on June 28, 2024; submitted to Board of Supervisors on June 28, 2024.