



# 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, September 22, 2023  
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), Becky Taylor (Commission on Disabilities), Foster Andersen (Consumer), Jozette Irgang (Consumer), Linda Campbell (Consumer), Christine Kiebert-Boss (Consumer), Patricia Fohrman (Provider),  
Excused: Maria Arreola (Provider)  
Absent: None  
Guests: Rita Sanchez (Sr. Admin Analyst, County Administrative Office); Julie Gabriel (Division Secretary, Adult and Long-Term Care services division)  
Staff: Juan Magaña (Program Manager, IHSS and Public Authority)

#### Agenda

1. Call to Order
  - a. Meeting was called to order at 1:02PM; 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. August 25, 2023, Meeting
  - b. Commission Vacancies
    - i. One (1) – Consumer Representative
    - ii. One (1) – Representative of Advocate Organization
  - c. Motion to approve consent agenda called by:
    - i. First/Second: Sones/Fohrman
    - ii. Ayes: Molesky, Sones, Jordan, Andersen, Irgang, Campbell, Taylor, Fohrman
    - iii. Noes: None
    - iv. Abstain: None
    - v. Absent: Areola
  - d. Motion carried unanimously.

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.

5. Oral Communications and Announcements:

- a. Kiebert-Boss reported that there will be a Harvest Festival at Monterey Bay Horsemanship and Therapeutic Center on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- b. Kiebert-Boss reported that there will be a Day of the Dead Celebration in Pajaro Valley on October 5<sup>th</sup>.
- c. Sones reported that the Certificate of Occupancy was granted for Elderday.
- d. Taylor will put together a calendar of Farmer's Markets and Library Storytelling for distribution to committee members.
- e. Molesky requested a calendar of other committee meetings.

6. Presentation: Representational Government - Rita Sanchez

- a. Ms. Sanchez presented on "A Santa Cruz Like Me", a partnership between Santa Cruz Ventures and Santa Cruz County to "paint a picture of Santa Cruz County's representative bodies". Ventures used data from a survey given to Santa Cruz, Boards, Commissions and Supervisors, to reveal how well the county reflects the diversity of our region. Some of the key findings included:
  - i. Critical underrepresentation of South County on county boards and commissions.
  - ii. Critical underrepresentation of renters.
  - iii. Critical underrepresentation based on race, ability, and age.
  - iv. Critical overrepresentation of college graduates.
- b. The committee offered several suggestions to attract new committee members, such as offering stipends, childcare, increased accessibility (virtual participation), and better communication to attract diverse members.
- c. A hard copy of the presentation was given to committee members present.

7. Regular Agenda – Action Items

- a. Consumer/Provider Survey
  - i. The decision was made to hold off on the survey pending input from the Master Plan on Aging (MPA).
- b. Summit Planning
  - i. Staff gave brief background on previous summits, which have paused due to COVID.
  - ii. There was a suggestion that small grants from the Seniors Council or the Alliance on Aging could help for future Summits.

8. Regular Agenda – Information Items

- a. Updates/Housekeeping
  - i. Reminders from the Chair
    - 1. Biennial Report Due 01/31/2024
      - A. Staff proposed starting to discuss the report in October, then completing the final report in November.

2. Staff provided the following reminders:

- A. Staff will reach out to members who have not yet completed their Oath of Office, which must be done by September 30<sup>th</sup>. Commission members that have not completed their Oath of Office by September 30<sup>th</sup> will not be able to vote or count towards a quorum in meetings beginning October 2023. There is a separate oath for each commission.
- B. The Clerk of the Board will be sending a survey to all county commissioners. The survey will include the required Brown Act training, which be completed by all appointed commissioners (county wide).

ii. Topics & Speakers

- 1. Molesky will look into guest speakers.

b. IHSS Providers

- 1. Fohrman mentioned parking concerns at Via Pacifica.

c. IHSS Program and Public Authority Updates

- i. The IHSS provider registry currently has 219 care providers, with 37% (81 ppl) of those available for additional work.
- ii. The Master Plan for Aging Steering committee is continuing to meet. There have been 3 focus groups (caregivers, monolingual Spanish speaking, and older adults with a focus on access and functional needs). Feedback from steering committee was given to marketing firm, who is currently working on branding for our local age friendly and MPA efforts. Anticipate the survey will be ready for release early 2024.
- iii. Senior's Council was awarded a \$170K planning grant from California Department of Aging with letter of support from HSD. Plans to coordinate solutions summit.
- iv. November is the Home Caregiver Recognition Proclamation. Consumers are needed to attend the BOS meeting on October 17<sup>th</sup> to present impact statements. Public comments are accepted at 9:00AM after the consent agenda.
- v. In honor of Home Caregivers in November, gifts will be given away to those in attendance, which include a lunch tote and 2 tumblers with the Public Authority logo. Emails and flyers will be distributed.

d. Subcommittee Reports

- i. Staff reported that a recent commission liaison training dealing with Subcommittees. Staff informed that subcommittees would be added to the October meeting agenda so the commission can take action.
- ii. Legislative/Advocacy (Molesky)
  - A. No report.
- iii. Website (Taylor/Andersen)
  - A. No report.

iv. CICA Conference Calls (Campbell)

- A. Campbell reported that Justice on Aging was the guest speaker at this month's COCA call. The highlights of their presentation included the fact that there is a disparity in services to Black, Indigenous and People of Color individuals. More availability needed for unhoused.
- B. Campbell reported that she will be unable to attend next conference call and requested others to join.

v. Technology (vacant)

- A. No report.

9. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 2:40PM

**Next Regular Meeting:** October 27, 2023, 1:00PM – 3:00PM @ 1400 Emeline AVE, Building K, Room 206. Santa Cruz, CA

**Minutes approved on 10/27/2023; submitted to Board of Supervisors on 10/30/2023**