



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, August 25, 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), Maria Arreola (Provider)
Excused: None
Absent: None
Guests: Grecia Quintero (Presenter, SARC); Ivett Vazquez (Presenter, SARC)
Staff: Juan Magaña (Program Manager, IHSS and Public Authority)

Agenda

1. Call to Order
 - a. Meeting was called to order at 1:04PM; a quorum was present.
2. Roll Call
 - a. Welcome new Commissioner – Christine Kiebert-Boss
3. Agenda Review
 - a. Agenda reviewed, no changes were made.
4. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - i. June 23, 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/Arreola
 - ii. Ayes: Molesky, Sones, Taylor, Andersen, Irgang, Campbell, Kiebert-Boss, Fohrman, Arreola
 - iii. Noes: None
 - iv. Abstain: None
 - v. Absent: None
 - 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. Anderson reported that there will be a dedication for a new beach chair that can roll into the water at Simpkins Swim Center on September 8, 2023.
- b. Sones reported that the work on the new Elderday building in Watsonville is almost complete and she anticipates Elderday will move to its new location at the end of September 2023.

6. Guest Speaker: San Andreas Regional Center

- a. Grecia Quintero and Ivett Vazquez presented information on the services provided the San Andreas Regional Center. Information presented to the commission included:
 - i. The Early Start Program;
 - ii. Transition from Early Start to Preschool;
 - iii. General intake and who can apply for services;
 - iv. The referral process;
 - v. Services offered by SARC for the various age groups SARC serves; and
 - vi. Contact information for SARC.
- b. A copy of the slide deck that was presented was made available for commission members to reference.

7. Regular Agenda – Action Items

- a. By-Laws/County Code Review Changes
 - i. Molesky informed the commission that he wanted to explore updating the commission's by-laws to reference the following:
 - 1. A commissioner's ability to take a leave of absence from their appointment in order their absence to not impact the commission's ability to maintain a quorum.
 - a. Staff informed that an inquiry had been sent out to county counsel to see if a leave of absence is allowed.
 - 2. Updating section 8 – Membership, subsection a.c.iii of the bylaws to provide more specificity to who can be appointed as an at-large representative.
 - ii. The commission discussed these changes and agreed to bring this item back to the commission at a future meeting.
 - iii. No action was taken on this item at this time.

8. Regular Agenda – Information Items

- a. Updates/Housekeeping
 - i. Reminders from the Chair
 - 1. Molesky reminded commissioners of their responsibility to reach out to their local elected representatives to discuss the work being done by the commission.
 - ii. Topics & Speakers

1. Molesky suggested that a standing Board of Supervisor member be invited to the commission.
- b. Discussion: Caregiver Shortages
- i. Molesky opened the floor for the commission to provide input on what to do to address the caregiver shortage.
 1. Suggestions from the group included doing a one-stop enrollment, resuming the caregiver café recruitment event that occurred pre-COVID, and exploring a dual mode for IHSS services.
- c. IHSS Providers
- i. No report from IHSS providers was made.
- d. IHSS Program and Public Authority Updates
- i. Staff provided the following updates:
 1. The county received Age Friendly designation from AARP in May 2023– This is a nice anchor to and compliments our Master Plan for Aging (MPA) work.
 2. The steering committee continues to meet to help inform the comprehensive countywide assessment tool and process for MPA.
 3. We contracted with Senior Network Services for Medi-Cal outreach program for APS and IHSS clients through June 30, 2024. This program provides in-home assistance to establish and maintain benefits.
 4. We contracted with Senior Network Services for the Access to Technology program through December 31, 2023. This program provides in home assistance and training for IHSS and APS clients for up to 8 weeks along with a tablet and connectivity.
 5. The Public Authority has 217 active providers on its provider registry; of these, only 82 are available for more work – that is only 38% of our registry pool.
 6. The Public Authority is planning a provider recognition event for the month of November. The goal is to have a proclamation from the Board of Supervisors acknowledging November as Caregiver month. In addition, the Public Authority was able to use one-time funds to purchase a limited number of gifts to distribute to IHSS providers during that month. We are still in the planning phases for this and will seek input from the commission soon.
- e. Subcommittee Reports
- i. Legislative/Advocacy (Molesky)
 1. Molesky reported that he met with supervisor Friend (district 2) and informed him of what is happening with the IHSS program.
 - ii. Website (Taylor/Andersen)
 1. No report out.
 - iii. CICA Conference Calls (Campbell)

1. Campbell reported that the last CICA conference call was about the regional centers, which was just covered by the earlier presentation. She reported that statewide, there are 317k individuals are receiving services from regional centers throughout California.

iv. Technology (vacant)

9. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 2:59PM

Next Regular Meeting: September 22 2023, 1:00PM – 3:00PM @ 1400 Emeline AVE, Building K, Room 206. Santa Cruz, CA

Minutes approved on 09/22/2023; submitted to Board of Supervisors on 09/26/2023