



County of Santa Cruz

IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES PUBLIC AUTHORITY

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

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IHSS Advisory Commission

Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, June 23, 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), Foster Andersen (Consumer), Jozette Irgang (Consumer), Rebecca Jordan (Relative of Consumer), Patricia Fohrman (Provider), Maria Arreola (Provider)
Excused: Linda Campbell (Consumer), Becky Taylor (Commission on Disabilities)
Absent: None
Guests: Yesenia Cerna (Program Coordinator, Human Services Department)
Staff: Juan Magaña (Program Manager, IHSS and Public Authority)

Agenda

1. Call to Order
 - a. Meeting called to order at 1:03PM; 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. May 26, 2023 Meeting
 - b. Commission Vacancies
 - i. Two (2) – Consumer Representatives
 - c. Motion to approve consent agenda called by:
 - i. First/Second: Fohrman/Sones
 - ii. Ayes: Molesky, Sones, Jordan, Andersen, Irgang, Fohrman, Arreola
 - iii. Noes: None
 - iv. Abstain: None
 - v. Absent: Campbell, Taylor
 - d. Motion carried unanimously
5. Oral Communications and Announcements:
 - a. Andersen reported that the 29th annual Day at the Beach will be held on July 15th.

- b. Jordan reported that she attended the Housing Element public meeting for District 1 (under Supervisor Koenig). Jordan informed that the next public meeting will be on Wednesday June 28th, 2023 from 5:30 – 7:00pm at 275 Main Street in Watsonville, food will be provided. Commissioner Jordan encouraged all commissioners to participate in these meetings.
- c. Molesky provided the following documents, to be added to the correspondence folder:
 - i. “Living with Disabilities”, AARP Bulletin May 2023
 - ii. “California: Special Phones”, AARP Bulletin August 2009
 - iii. “Expanded Supper for Family Caregivers”, AARP Bulletin June 2023
 - iv. “The Worth of Family Caregivers”, AARP Bulletin May 2023
 - v. “Speech to Speech Service”, California Relay Service pamphlet

6. Presentation: Medi-Cal

- a. Yesenia Cerna, Program Coordinator with the Employment and Benefits Services Division of the Human Services Department presented an overview of the Medi-Cal program. Information presented included:
 - i. General overview of the Medi-Cal program, including Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) and Non-MAGI (classic) Medi-Cal;
 - ii. Eligibility requirements for MAGI and Non-MAGI Medi-Cal
 - iii. Recent program changes: increase to asset limits; redeterminations
 - iv. Future changes: elimination of asset limits
- b. Cerna also informed that the department will be transitioning to a new benefits system on July 3, 2023. In preparation for the transition, there will be limited lobby/phone hours from 06/26/2023 – 07/14/2023; hours will be 10am – 12pm and 1pm to 3pm.

7. Regular Agenda – Action Items

- a. CICA Membership Renewal – FY 23-24
 - i. The commission discussed renewing its membership to the California IHSS Consumer Alliance (CICA)
 - ii. Commissioners felt that CICA provides historical/foundational information for new commission members, but minimal information for members who have been appointed for multiple terms. Additionally, some commission members felt that their requests for information are not responded to timely.
 - iii. A motion to not renew the CICA membership for FY 23-24 was called by:
 - 1. First/Second: Sones/Fohrman
 - 2. Ayes: Molesky, Sones, Jordan, Andersen, Irgang, Fohrman, Arreola
 - 3. Noes: None
 - 4. Abstain: None
 - 5. Absent: Campbell, Taylor

iv. Motion carried unanimously

8. Regular Agenda – Information Items

a. Updates/Housekeeping

i. Reminders from the Chair

1. Molesky reminded the commission of its responsibility to meet with their local representatives to inform them of the IHSS program. Molesky asked staff to compile a listing of the contact info for local representatives and send to the commission.

ii. Topics & Speakers

1. Molesky reported that he attended the community needs assessment steering committee meeting and met with Sven Stafford from the CAO's office. Molesky would like to invite Sven to the commission meeting so he can talk about the work he is doing on making public meetings more accessible.
2. Molesky would also like to revisit the dual-mode delivery of IHSS for this county.
3. Molesky also requested that a representative from the regional center be invited to present at a future IHSS advisory commission meeting.

b. Discussion: Consumer Survey

- i. Molesky informed the commission that he would like to conduct a survey of IHSS consumers in Santa Cruz County. Molesky stated that this item will be added to the agenda in August and asked the commission to start thinking of what questions and data they would like to see from the survey.

c. IHSS Providers

- i. Fohrman stated that she would like to get data on IHSS providers, thinks a survey for providers would also be beneficial.
- ii. Arreola stated she has received several calls from Spanish speaking providers requesting assistance with the new Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) requirement.
 1. Fohrman stated the union has been offering trainings on EVV.
 2. Jordan stated she will be forwarding information on EVV that she received from CICA.

d. IHSS Program and Public Authority Updates

i. Magana provided the following information

1. IHSS Program – the steering committee for the community needs assessment held its first meeting. More information will be provided as the group continues to meet.
2. Public Authority – there are 195 providers on our registry; only 65 are available to take on additional work. We continue to work on recruitment for our registry, focusing our efforts on providers

currently working less than 40 hours per week. These efforts have resulted in an increase in applications for our registry.

e. Subcommittee Reports

i. Legislative/Advocacy (Molesky)

1. Molesky reported that we are currently at the end of the legislative cycle; he also reported that he, along with commissioner Fohrman, are part of the steering committee for the community needs assessment.

ii. Website (Taylor/Andersen)

1. Andersen asked if the SOC 426A could be added to the website.
2. Molesky requested that this subcommittee be cancelled as we now have a technology subcommittee.

iii. CICA Conference Calls (Campbell)

1. Campbell was not present at meeting; Jordan provided the following information:
 - a. There was a lot of discussion about EVV, lots of concerns on how this will pan out.
 - b. CICA also discussed AB 1672 – not in favor of this bill, as well as legislation on the Brown Act – CICA is in support.
 - c. CICA is looking to update its Binder (has not been updated in 15 years), requests Public Authorities to send samples of their binders.

iv. Technology (vacant)

1. Molesky appointed commissioner Jordan to this subcommittee.

9. Adjournment

- a. Meeting was adjourned at 3:01PM

Next Regular Meeting: August 25, 2023, 1:00PM – 3:00PM @ 1400 Emeline AVE, Building K, Room 206. Santa Cruz, CA.

Minutes Approved on 08/25/2023; Submitted to Board of Supervisors on 08/25/2023