



Santa Cruz County Seniors Commission

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Meeting Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, December 21, 2021
TIME: 12:30 PM
LOCATION: Remote Meeting
PRESENT: Dena Taylor (1st District), Antonio Rivas (*Vice Chair - 2nd District*), Mark Johannessen (*2nd District*),
Enda Brennan (*3rd District*), Patricia Fohrman (*4th District*), Carol Childers (*Chair - 5th District*),
Lynn McKibbin (*5th District*)
EXCUSED: Lois Sones (*3rd District*), Charles Molnar (*CSL Ex Officio Member*)
ABSENT: Tom Haid (*1st District*)
STAFF: Kaitie McGrew (*Commissions Manager*)
GUESTS: No members of the public were present

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review
Meeting convened at 12:34 PM.
2. **Motion to Approve August 17, 2021 Meeting Minutes**
Motion/Second: Brennan/Johannessen
Motion passed unanimously.
3. Public Comment: None
4. Senior Legislature Report:
Commission reviewed and discussed *California Senior Legislature Top Legislative Priorities for 2022* and 2021 legislative summaries for the Assembly Human Services Committee, Insurance Committee and the Health Committee. The Aging and Long Term Care Committee has not yet posted their 2021 legislative summary.
5. New Business/Action Items:
 - 5.1 2020-2021 Biennial Report
Commission reviewed and discussed the Biennial Report and amended it to: include specific language related to the Live Oak Senior Center in the Goals and Recommendation section; correct an error; and update meeting attendance report to include attendance for this meeting.
Motion to approve 2020-2021 Biennial Report as amended
Motion/Second: Taylor/McKibbin
Motion passed unanimously.
 - 5.2 Assembly Bill 361 Statement of Findings
Commission considered whether to authorize meeting remotely under the provisions of AB 361 in February. Commissioners prefer the Zoom meeting platform for 2022.

Motion to approve statement of findings authorizing the Commission to hold their next meeting remotely under the provisions of AB 361.

Motion/Second: Johannessen/Taylor

Motion passed unanimously.

5.3 *Justice in Aging 2021-2022 California Budget Summary* Discussion

Commission reviewed and discussed a 2021-2022 California budget summary compiled by the *Justice in Aging* organization. Staff will research potential speakers to update the Commission on how State budget decisions are impacting Santa Cruz County programs and services.

5. District Reports:

5.2. District 1:

Taylor reported outreach to Supervisor Koenig, the Area Agency on Aging, the Mid-County Senior Center, the Retired Public Employees Association (via their newsletter) and the Commission on Disabilities. Issues discussed were senior volunteerism, proposals for the rail corridor, senior loneliness, senior housing, status of the senior center location, and aging and disability resource center (ADRC) funding. The pandemic is impacting senior volunteerism.

5.3. District 2:

Rivas reported having met with Watsonville's new mayor and the status of senior services and programs in Watsonville City. Johannessen reported that recent Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) meetings have addressed State budget decisions and will continue to update the Commission.

5.4. District 3: No Report

5.5. District 4:

Fohrman reported that caregiver scarcity is ongoing.

5.6. District 5:

McKibbin reported that the San Lorenzo Valley Highland Senior Center is open and thriving, though substantial repairs to the facility are needed. Supervisor McPherson is working with representatives to obtain funding for repairs. Boulder Creek and Felton Sheriff's offices are scheduled to reopen in July 2022. Childers is monitoring the recent purchase of a resort property on Hwy 9 to be converted to veteran's housing. Hopefully some units will be set aside for senior veterans. Meals on Wheels continues to operate, using safety precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

6. Staff Report:

Staff invited Commissioners to attend the January 13, 2022 meeting of the Commission on Disabilities to hear the Friends of Rail and Trail (FORT) presentation.

7. Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Manager*