



# Santa Cruz County Seniors Commission

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## Meeting Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, April 18, 2023

TIME: 12:30 PM

LOCATION: United Way, 4450 Capitola Road, Ste 106, Capitola CA 95010

PRESENT: Dena Taylor (1<sup>st</sup> District), Suzanne Doty (1<sup>st</sup> District), Mark Johannessen (2<sup>nd</sup> District), Lois Sones (3<sup>rd</sup> District), Patricia Fohrman (4<sup>th</sup> District), Katie Limas (4<sup>th</sup> District), Carol Childers (Chair - 5<sup>th</sup> District), Lynn McKibbin (5<sup>th</sup> District)

EXCUSED: Antonio Rivas (Vice Chair - 2<sup>nd</sup> District)

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Kaite McGrew (Commissions Manager)

GUESTS: 1 member of the public was present.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

Meeting convened at 12:30 PM.

Commission welcomed new District 4 Commissioner, Katie Limas.

2. Motion to Approve February 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve minutes as written.

Motion/Second: McKibbin/Taylor

**Motion passed unanimously.**

3. Public Comment

4. Administration of the Oath of Office

5. New Business/Action Items:

5.1. Officer Elections

**Motion to re-elect Chair Childers for the office of Chair**

Motion/Second: Sones/Fohrman

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion to elect Doty for the office of Vice Chair**

Motion/Second: Doty/Johannessen

**Motion passed unanimously.**

5.2. Live Oak Senior Center Update

Commission discussed the imminent eviction of senior services from the Live Oak Senior Center at the request of the Live Oak School District (LOSD). Although Chair Childers read the Commission's letter at the LOSD Board of Directors meeting advocating for a suspension of the evictions and continued efforts to explore alternative solutions, no progress has been made and the eviction notices have not been rescinded.

**Motion authorizing Chair to send a letter to the Board of Supervisors recommending that they formally support community partner efforts to find alternative solutions.**

Motion/Second: McKibbin/Taylor

**Motion passed unanimously.**

6. District Reports:

6.1. District 1:

Taylor and Doty report that they will attend an upcoming event hosted by Supervisor Koenig for all his appointees. Staff will invite Heather Miller, the County's new Public Defender, to present at an upcoming meeting.

6.2. District 2:

Johannessen reported on the County's efforts to appeal a recent ruling allowing residents to deny public access to the only safe accessible pathway to the Rio Del Mar Beach. Staff will send out information for Commissioners interested in applying to serve on the Master Plan on Aging Steering Committee. Applicants from traditionally underserved communities are encouraged to apply.

6.3. District 3:

Sones reported that Elderday is scheduled to move into their new Watsonville facility in the early Fall. The move should solve several problems, including making transportation more accessible and less of a time constraint.

6.4. District 4:

Fohrman reported on how recent storms have impacted her personally.

Limas shared information about her background including experience as a former Commissioner on the Substance Use Disorder Commission and retirement from the County as a benefits representative for public assistance programs.

6.5. District 5:

McKibbin updated the Commission on the impact recent storms have had on District 5. The SLV Senior Center is now also hosting community events for younger residents, including a High School prom.

Childers reported that the massive slide which closed Hwy 9 for an extended period of time has now been cleared enough to allow one open lane of traffic through the damaged area.

6. Senior Legislature Report: No Report

7. Staff Report:

Staff reported that there may be upcoming changes to the kinds of allowable direct advocacy the Commission can do going forward. Review of prior activities as they relate to the itemized powers and duties is underway. Staff will add "Availability Barriers to Skilled Nursing in Santa Cruz County" to an upcoming agenda for discussion and the Commission will work on revising the Strategic Action Plan to reflect current priorities during the June meeting. Staff will add a standing agenda item for emerging matters and Commissioner announcements.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Manager*