



Santa Cruz County Seniors Commission

701 Ocean Street, Room 510, Santa Cruz, CA 95060
P: (831) 454-2772 F: (831) 454-2411 TTY/TDD 711
commissions@santacruzcounty.us
www.sccseniors.org

Notice of Public Meeting and Agenda

DATE Tuesday, October 17, 2023
TIME: 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM
LOCATION: United Way of Santa Cruz County
4450 Capitola Road, Ste 106, Capitola, CA 95010

As a courtesy to those who are affected, kindly attend the meeting **scent-free** and **smoke-free**.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review
2. Approval of *August 15, 2023 Meeting Minutes*
3. Public Comment
Any member of the public may address the Commission for a period not to exceed 3 minutes on any issue within the jurisdiction of the Commission not on the agenda.
4. New and Continuing Business/Action Items:
 - 4.1. Live Oak Senior Center Update
5. District Reports
 - 5.1. District 1
 - 5.2. District 2
 - 5.3. District 3
 - 5.4. District 4
 - 5.5. District 5
6. Senior Legislature Report
7. Staff Report
8. Correspondence
9. Emerging Matters and Commissioner Announcements
10. Adjournment

Next Regular Meeting: December 19, 2023 at 12:30 PM, United Way, Capitola

The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs, or activities. If you are a person with a disability and require assistance to participate in the meeting, please contact (831) 454-2772 TTY/TDD:711 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to make arrangements.



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Meeting Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, August 15, 2023

TIME: 12:30 PM

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

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

EXCUSED: None

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Kaite McGrew (*Commissions Manager*), Mitsuno Baurmeister (*EEO Officer*)

GUESTS: Manu Koenig (*1st District Supervisor*), Heather Rogers (*Public Defender*), and 1 member of the public were present.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

Meeting convened at 12:30 PM.

2. Motion to Approve June 20, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve minutes as written.

Motion/Second: Rivas/Taylor

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment

4. New Business/Action Items:

4.5. Live Oak Senior Center Update

Supervisor Koenig provided an update on the status of the Live Oak Senior Center. The Live Oak School District (LOSD) extended the eviction notice to August 31st and a new lease with a two-year extension is being negotiated. Alternative mixed-use solutions are also being considered for a more long-term solution. Supervisor Koenig will continue to liaise with the LOSD and community partners. The Commission will continue to monitor the situation and advocate where appropriate.

4.6. County Office of the Public Defender Overview

Rogers provided an overview of the new Public Defender's Office structure and services providing Community-Based Whole Person Defense for justice-involved community members. Such a defense includes seamless access to legal and social support services, dynamic, interdisciplinary communication, advocacy with an interdisciplinary skill set and a robust understanding of and connection to the community being served. There is a strong emphasis on reentry supports to reduce recidivism. Commission would be interested in learning more about the CARE Court, the conservatorship process, and Veterans Court at future meetings.

5. District Reports:

5.1. District 1:

Taylor suggested that the Commission invite representation from the Valley Senior Center and the Watsonville Senior Center to present on their ongoing programs and services. Doty provided a summary of the Master Plan for Aging presentation given at a recent Board of Supervisors meeting.

5.2. District 2:

Rivas reported that the Watsonville Senior Center is preparing for their Senior Prom to be held in October. This is an intergenerational event with high school students assisting with decorations. Johannessen reported on next steps for the senior needs assessment survey and the County's progress towards AARP Age-Friendly Community designation. The Commission will promote participation in the needs assessment survey when it becomes available.

5.3. District 3:

Sones reported that the new Elderday Watsonville location is preparing to open pending approval from Public Health. A grand reopening celebration is planned.

5.4. District 4:

Fohrman recommended that travel on Green Valley Road be avoided in the coming months because of ongoing roadwork and lane closures.

5.5. District 5:

McKibbin reported that the Valley Senior Center continues to thrive, now serving seniors, the Valley Women's Club, and local community youth. Many programs serve their communities from that location. Childers reported that she had no current news regarding the Meals on Wheels program.

6. Senior Legislature Report:

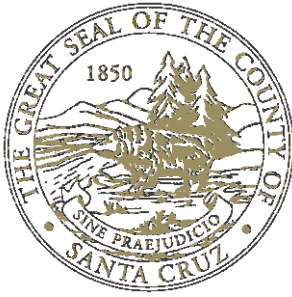
Rivas reported that the California Senior Legislature continues to develop new legislation in preparation for next year.

7. Staff Report: None

8. Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Manager*



County of Santa Cruz

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

701 OCEAN STREET, SUITE 500, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4069
(831) 454-2200 • FAX: (831) 454-3262 TDD/TTY - Call 711

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THIRD DISTRICT

FELIPE HERNANDEZ
FOURTH DISTRICT

BRUCE MCPHERSON
FIFTH DISTRICT

September 26, 2023

President Pfothenhauer
Live Oak School District
984-1 Bostwick Ln.
Santa Cruz, CA 95062
VIA EMAIL: kpfotenhauer@losd.ca

RE: Lease Agreement with Community Bridges and Senior Network Services

Dear President Pfothenhauer,

I have had the opportunity to review the Live Oak School District's proposed lease agreement with Community Bridges and Senior Network Services for facilities at 1777 Capitola Rd. I applaud the District's efforts to reach a mutually beneficial agreement with these essential community organizations. Last year, the parties seemed far apart on the issue of maintenance costs. Now an agreement looks likely thanks to creative lease terms. Allow me to offer additional perspective on some of the other lease terms currently under discussion and how agreement could be reached between the parties.

First, we should frame this discussion with the demonstrated fact that the School District and Senior Center win when they work together. This collaboration was the playbook for success with Measure E, the 2004 Live Oak School District Bond Measure. This measure was responsible for so many essential school facility projects, including the new joint-use multipurpose room at Live Oak Elementary. The leading ballot argument for this measure stated:

Measure E funds will also be used to make sure the Live Oak Senior Adult Education Center is able to continue to serve our community. The Senior Center will lose its lease and be forced to close if the land on which it is located is not purchased by someone willing to lease it back to the Center. Allowing the Senior Center to close, which supports many valuable programs like Meals on Wheels, Senior Network, and the Alzheimer's Association would be a loss to the entire community. If the District buys this land, the Senior Center will remain open. (Voter Information Pamphlet, 2004 March 4th - Primary Election, Measure E)

September 26, 2023

This unequivocal statement was signed by then State Senator Bruce McPherson, State Assembly Member John Laird, and local surfing legend Jack O'Neil. While keeping the Senior Center open is not strictly a legal requirement of Measure E, it is a community expectation that should be upheld if the District ever wants to pass another bond measure. No matter what the circumstances, I believe the community will blame the School District if it flips from the hero maintaining senior services, to the villain evicting them.

Moreover, Santa Cruz County is the fastest aging county in the State of California with an 80% increase in the 65+ population between 2010 and 2020. If anything, the importance of collaboration between the School District and Senior Services has only grown since 2004.

With this in mind, I offer the following suggestions on the currently proposed lease terms:

- **Eliminate the requirement to publicly support and endorse a future School District Project and G.O. Bond.** Senior Services' support should be earned through continued collaboration, not required. This term has no place in a lease agreement.
- **Allow shared use of the Dining Room & Multipurpose Area between the District and Senior Services.** Our community and particularly seniors are suffering from an epidemic of loneliness. The ability for seniors to have congregate meals at 1777 Capitola Rd has always been one of the facility's most valuable attributes. Moreover, a future mixed use project that serves both students and seniors would likely have a shared Dining Room Area. It will benefit future collaboration if a system to share this part of the facility is established now.
- **Eliminate Two Year "Hard Stop" and right to terminate in 60 days without cause.** The School District may be prepared to construct a teacher housing project before two years time is up, it may take much longer. Rather than including a 24 month "hard stop" when Senior Services would be evicted, I suggest a 20 year lease length and an additional term that the School District may terminate the lease once it has secured permits to construct the Project from the County.

Similarly, the right to terminate the lease without cause with 60 days notice should be eliminated. It will not benefit the School District to own a vacant building. The enclosed courtyard at the property, which is hidden from public view, could easily lead to an unwanted encampment. The County's Water St Recovery Center burned down from an encampment fire after it was closed down

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RE: LEASE AGREEMENT WITH COMMUNITY BRIDGES

September 26, 2023

at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. The best way to avoid a similar fate for the current building is to maintain an active tenant right up to the moment that construction of the Project is ready to begin.

In addition, I encourage the School District to contact our County Planning Division for a Design Review as soon as possible. This will provide the opportunity for our planners and other divisions responsible for permitting to give the School District detailed feedback on what can be built on the site under current County Code and State Law. The details of a facility and its approximate cost will be needed for any future ballot measure.

In closing, I offer my support for the School District's goals of building more teacher housing on this site in conjunction with mixed-use space for senior services. Clearly, how you pursue such a project and the terms of the lease for the current facility are the sole jurisdiction of your Live Oak School District Board of Trustees. I offer this letter only as additional perspective and potential solutions. I hope for continued collaboration in our community that meets the needs of students and seniors alike.

Sincerely yours,



MANU KOENIG
Supervisor, First District
Santa Cruz County



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Scheduled Meetings

Unless otherwise specified, regularly scheduled Seniors Commission meetings are generally held as follows:

DAY: Third (3rd) Tuesday
MONTH: Every other month (February, April, June, August, October, and December)
TIME: 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM
LOCATION: **United Way of Santa Cruz County***
4450 Capitola Road, Ste 106, Capitola, CA 95010

* Unless noted otherwise below

Changes to the schedule, including special meetings, changes of location, or meeting cancellations, will be listed on the website at www.sccseniors.org as soon as information becomes available.

2023 Meeting Dates		
DATE	TIME	LOCATION
February 21, 2023	12:30 – 2:30 PM	Remote
April 18, 2023	12:30 – 2:30 PM	United Way
June 20, 2023	12:30 – 2:30 PM	United Way
August 15, 2023	12:30 – 2:30 PM	United Way
October 17, 2023	12:30 – 2:30 PM	United Way
December 19, 2023	12:30 – 2:30 PM	United Way

Public Participation

- Please check the meeting agenda to learn details about how to participate in the commission meeting.
- If you need special accommodations, please call 454-2935 or TDD: 711 (California Relay Service) at least 48 hours before the meeting.