



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, November 17, 2023
Time: 1:00PM to 3:00PM
Location: 1400 Emeline AVE, Building K, Room 206. Santa Cruz, CA
Present: Lois Sones (Seniors Commission, Vice-Chair), Jozette Irgang (Consumer), Linda Campbell (Consumer), Christine Kiebert-Boss (Consumer), Patricia Fohrman (Provider), Maria Arreola (Provider)
Excused: Michael Molesky (Consumer, Chair), Becky Taylor (Commission on Disabilities), Foster Andersen (Consumer),
Absent: None
Guests: Julie Gabriel (Division Secretary, Adult and Long-Term Care services division)
Staff: Juan Magaña (Program Manager, IHSS and Public Authority)

Agenda

1. Call to Order
 - a. Meeting was called to order at 1:10PM; a quorum was present.
2. Roll Call
3. Agenda Review
 - a. Item 7.a.i.1 (Meeting Protocols) was pulled from the agenda and to be discussed at a future meeting date.
4. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - i. October 27, 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: Kiebert-Boss/Fohrman
 - ii. Ayes: Sones, Irgang, Campbell, Kiebert-Boss, Fohrman, Arreola
 - iii. Nays: None
 - iv. Abstain: None
 - v. Absent: Molesky, Taylor, Andersen
 - d. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Oral Communications and Announcements:
 - a. Kiebert-Boss reported that Monterey Bay Horsemanship and Therapeutic Center will have a reception at the Ugly Mug in Soquel. There will be a Winter Fair on Dec. 16th at the Center.
 - i. Fohrman requested a poster of the event for Via Pacifica.
 - b. Sones reported that Elder Day had to pause operations due to a COVID outbreak among staff and participants but was anticipated to return to in-person activities on Monday 11/20.

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.

6. Regular Agenda – Action Items

a. Discussion: IHSS Advisory Commission Meeting Location

- i. Staff reported that the meeting room for the January 26, 2024 IHSS Advisory Commission was not available. As a result, staff is looking for an alternate location for said meeting. In looking for a new meeting location, staff have to consider cost (preferably no cost for use) and the location must be American Disabilities Act compliant.

1. Sones offered to host the January 26, 2024 IHSS Advisory Commission meeting at Elderday (501 Main ST in Watsonville) as they have a small conference room that will meet the needs of the IHSS Advisory Commission.

1. A motion to hold the January 26, 2024 IHSS Advisory Commission meeting at Elderday was called by:

- i. First/Second: Campbell/Kiebert-Boss
- ii. Ayes: Sones, Campbell, Kiebert-Boss, Fohrman, Arreola
- iii. Nays: None
- iv. Abstain: Irgang
- v. Absent: Molesky, Taylor, Andersen

2. Motion carried.

- ii. The commission discussed future meeting locations and considered holding meetings in north, mid and south county locations.

1. Staff reported that come spring 2024, the south county office will be moving to 500 Westridge and will have a community room available for use.
2. After careful consideration, the commission agreed to initially alternate meetings between north and south county.
3. A motion to alternate IHSS Advisory Commission meetings between North and South County was called by:
 1. First/Second: Fohrman/Campbell
 2. Ayes: Sones, Irgang, Campbell, Kiebert-Boss, Fohrman, Arreola
 3. Nays: None
 4. Abstain: None
 5. Absent: Molesky, Taylor, Campbell

4. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Biennial Report:

- i. Staff reported that a copy of the updated draft biennial report was included with the meeting packet. The updated version included changes that were discussed at October commission meeting. Staff advised that changes made today will be included in the final draft version that will be reviewed submitted for review and approval at the January commission meeting. The biennial report is due to the Board of Supervisors by January 31st, 2024.
- ii. Commission members recommended changes to staff.
- iii. Staff to incorporate changes and send a draft version of the biennial report via email for commissioners to review and provide additional feedback.

7. Regular Agenda – Information Items

a. Updates/Housekeeping

- i. Reminders from the Chair

1. Meeting Protocols – Pulled from agenda.
 - ii. Topics & Speakers
 1. Sones will present on Elderday as well as provide a tour of their facilities at the January 26th 2024 IHSS Advisory Commission meeting.
 2. The commission requesting the following guest speakers to be scheduled:
 1. Office of Emergency Services
 2. Enhanced Care Management by the Alliance
 3. Multipurpose Purpose Senior Services Program
 - b. IHSS Providers
 - i. Fohrman reported that Via Pacifica is tightening up parking enforcement to allow 15min maximum parking in handicapped spaces, making it difficult for providers.
 1. The commission suggested that letters to be sent to Fair Housing, CA Civil Rights, Building owner, etc. – Fohrman indicated she had a meeting scheduled with the management company for Via Pacifica and will keep the commission informed of the outcome of that meeting
 - ii. Arreola asked if more IHSS Career Pathways trainings would be available for IHSS Providers in Santa Cruz County.
 1. Staff reported that the IHSS Career Pathways program had been extended through 9/30/2024. In-person trainings are offered through San Francisco County’s Homebridge program, and it is up to them to offer additional courses in our county. Santa Cruz was asked to host trainings and was able to provide them with a meeting room. If they decide to return to Santa Cruz County and we have an available room for them to use, we will certainly host them again.
 - c. IHSS Program and Public Authority Updates
 - i. Staff provided the following updates:
 1. Hourly wage for IHSS Providers is increasing on Jan. 1st to \$18.75, a \$1 increase.
 2. The registry has a total of 223 care providers, of these 91 are available for additional work (41% of providers).
 3. The caregiver appreciation gift distribution event on November 4th resulted in a total of gave out 182 tote and tumbler gifts to providers in north and south counties. Everyone was very appreciative. Public Authority staff will be distributing the remaining gifts to providers when they come to pick up safety supplies, at recruitment events and at other times as opportunities present themselves.
8. Report Outs
- a. Legislative
 - i. No report out
 - b. CICA Conference Calls
 - i. Campbell was not able to participate at the last CICA conference call, asked if any commissioner would like to take this on. Commissioner Kiebert-Boss volunteered.
 - c. Website/Technology

- i. Staff reported that the website was recently updated with 2024 meeting schedule as well as Kiebert-Boss was added as a commission member.

9. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 2:36PM.

Next Regular Meeting: January 26, 2024, 1:00PM – 3:00PM @ 501 Main ST (Elderday), Watsonville, CA

Minutes approved on 01/26/2024; submitted to Board of Supervisors on 01/31/2024