



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, February 25, 2022
Time: 1:00PM to 3:00PM
Location: Remote Meeting – Teleconference
Present: Michael Molesky (Consumer, Chair), Lois Sones (Seniors Commission, Vice-Chair), Becky Taylor (Consumer), Linda Campbell (Consumer), Foster Andersen (Consumer), Patricia Fohrman (Provider), Jozette Irgang (Consumer), Maria Arreola (Provider)
Excused: None
Absent: None
Guests: None
Staff: Juan Magaña (IHSS Public Authority)

Agenda

1. Call to Order
 - a. Meeting was called to order at 1:05PM, a quorum was present.
2. Roll Call
3. Agenda Review
 - a. The following changes were made to the agenda:
 - i. Moved item 6.c – New Subcommittees to 7.d.iv
 - ii. Deleted item 7.b – IHSS Program Updates
4. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of January 28, 2022 Minutes
 - i. Motion to approve consent agenda called by:
 1. First/Second: Irgang/Sones
 2. Ayes: Molesky, Sones, Taylor, Andersen, Campbell, Irgang, Arreola, Fohrman
 3. Noes: None
 4. Abstain: None
 - ii. Motion carried unanimously
5. Oral Communications and Announcements:
 - a. None
6. Regular Agenda – Action Items

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- a. IHSS Advisory Commission Meeting Location (AB 361)
 - i. The commission reviewed the AB 361 findings and determined the need to continue holding meetings remotely.
 - ii. Motion to approve the AB 361 findings and hold the next IHSS Advisory Commission meeting remotely was called by:
 - 1. First/Second: Taylor/Andersen
 - 2. Ayes: Molesky, Sones, Taylor, Andersen, Campbell, Irgang, Arreola, Fohrman
 - 3. Noes: None
 - 4. Abstain: None
 - iii. Motion carried
- b. Commission Vacancies Recruitment
 - i. Staff reported current vacancies as follows:
 - 1. Two consumer representatives
 - 2. One at-large representative of an organization that advocates for people with disabilities or seniors.
 - a. Staff reminded commission that if this seat is vacant for more than three months, county code/by-laws allow for this seat to be filled by either an additional current or past consumer or a family member of a consumer.
 - ii. Sones stated that she would reach out to staff at Elderday to see if anyone is interested in joining the commission as a representative of an organization that advocates for people with disabilities or seniors
 - iii. Molesky stated that he would reach out to representatives from Central California Alliance for Health and California Children Services to see if they have anyone that would be interested in joining our commission.
 - iv. Commission members were asked to forward contact info of potential commission candidates to staff so staff can reach out to them and provide them with information on commission.
- c. ~~New Subcommittees~~ *This item was moved to 7.d.iv.*

7. Regular Agenda – Information Items

- a. Updates/Housekeeping
 - i. Reminders from the Chair
 - 1. Molesky provided the following reminders:
 - a. A local consortium has been formed to keep Watsonville Community Hospital open
 - b. Kaiser Permanente has been granted a contract to take on Medi-Cal beneficiaries – additional information to be provided in the Legislative subcommittee report
 - c. Reverend Ryan Althaus from Sweaty Sheep Ministry has a radio show on KQSD and is looking to use this platform to provide awareness on the caregiver shortage issue in our county.

2. Sones informed the group that starting Monday, February 28, 2022, Elderday will resume full congregate care.

- ii. Topics & Speakers

1. This item was not discussed

~~b. IHSS Program Updates - This item was deleted~~

- c. Public Authority Updates

- i. Staff reported that the Public Authority began a new recruitment campaign for its Registry. This campaign consists of targeted direct outreach to currently enrolled IHSS care providers residing and providing care in key areas of the county.

- d. Subcommittee Reports

- i. Legislative/Advocacy (Molesky)

1. Molesky reported that Kaiser Permanente received a no-bid contract with the state of California to provide Medi-Cal services outside of the County Operated Health System that is in place in various counties. The contract allows Kaiser to pick and choose who their members will be. The Central California Alliance for Health, Santa Cruz county's County Operated Health System, is looking into this as it can impact the services offered in our county. Molesky to forward additional info to Staff so it can be shared with the commission.

- ii. Website (Vacant)

1. Taylor and Andersen volunteered to be part of this subcommittee.

- iii. CICA Conference Calls (Campbell)

1. Campbell provided the following summary of the February 16, 2022 conference:
 - a. Guest speaker was Marty Omoto from the California Disability-Senior Community Action Network – provided information on changes in the Medi-Cal program, Master Plan on Aging, Career Pathways, and the future increase of assisted living beds statewide.
 - b. Next months training will be on how to effectively relate to the Board of Supervisors.

- iv. New Subcommittees

1. Staff reported that at last month's IHSS Advisory Commission meeting there was a desire to establish new subcommittees – enrollment and registry subcommittee.
2. Andersen reported that he has had problems enrolling new providers – such as providers not being able to obtain a replacement Social Security card as the Social Security Administration office is closed to the public.

3. Staff reported that Enrollment requirements are set by the Department of Social Services and the Public Authority has no authority to change them. Public Authority staff only request what is required by the State. Staff also reported that the enrollment process has been updated at various points in order to streamline the process. Most recently, the COVID-19 pandemic forced the Public Authority to complete revamp the enrollment process as in-person activities were not allowed.
4. Sones recommended that Public Authority provide a presentation on how enrollment has changed.
5. Molesky reminded the group that the purpose of the commission is advocate for consumers and providers.
6. The group agreed to not form any new subcommittees at this time.

8. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 2:19PM

Next Regular Meeting: March 25, 2022, 1:00PM – 3:00PM