



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, May 24, 2019
Time: 1:00PM to 3:00PM
Location: 1400 Emeline Ave. Room 206, Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Present: Michael Molesky (Consumer, Chair), Foster Andersen (Consumer), Linda Campbell (Consumer), Lois Sones (Seniors Commission), Becky Taylor (Consumer),
Excused: Maria Arreola (Provider), Patricia Howes (Provider, Vice-Chair)
Absent: None
Guests: Mike McConnell (ALTC Division Director), Vicki Jones (SEIU), Jerry (Guest)
Staff: Juan Magaña (IHSS Public Authority Manager)

Reminder from the Chair – Please remember to bring a guest to Commission Meetings

Agenda:

1. Call to Order
 - Meeting was called to order @ 1:08PM
2. Roll Call
3. Agenda Review
 - No changes made to agenda
4. Review and Approval of *April 26, 2019 Minutes*
 - Reviewed minutes of the April 26, 2019 meeting, no changes made
 - Motion to approve minutes called by:
 - o First/Second: Campbell/Sones
 - o Ayes: Andersen, Taylor, Molesky
 - o Noes: None
 - o Abstain: None
5. Oral Communications and Announcements: *Anyone wishing to address the commission on any item within the jurisdiction of the Commission and not listed on the agenda may do so at this time. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes in duration.*
 - Andersen stated that one of his providers is interested in joining the Commission
 - o Magaña reported that there are 2 vacancies for current or former consumers of in-home care, 1 vacancy for a representative of the Commission on Disabilities, and 1 vacancy for a representative of a community organization that works with seniors and disabled individuals.
 - o Taylor reported that she would be checking with the Commission on Disabilities to see if one of their members would like to join our commission
6. Correspondence
 - No correspondence was presented
7. Updates/Housekeeping

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.

a. Topics & Speakers

- Magaña provided the following info:
 - o Based on past meeting minutes, the following topics/speakers were suggested for future meetings:
 - Fraud
 - Sr. Companion Program
 - Area Agency on Aging (overview of services provided)
 - Emergency Preparedness
 - Seniors Council - disaster readiness bags
 - Adaptive technologies for persons with Disabilities (Look for center in Berkeley)
 - John Beleutz from HPC
 - CCAH present on services available for individuals with TBI, dementia, head injuries
 - Janie Whiteford for CICA
 - CA Exchange - presentation on free phones
- Magaña informed the group, that staff will be compiling the lists of topics/speakers and inviting guests to present on these topics; as topics are covered, the list will be updated.
- Sones requested a presentation on the changes in the assessment methodology for IHSS – Magaña to add this to the list

8. Joint Commission Meeting Recap (Staff)

- Magaña provided a copy of the Joint Commission Retreat Takeaways
 - o Takeaways handout summarized the challenges and barriers, potential solutions and next steps for each of the three breakout sessions: Affordable, Accessible Transportation, Emergency Preparedness and Scarcity of Providers.
- Commission members provided input on the meeting, their experience and overall feeling.
- Overall, the Joint Commission Retreat was well organized
- The commission reviewed the next steps from the Scarcity of Providers group.

9. Caregiver Issues (Chair)

- Molesky reported that one of the issues with finding IHSS caregivers is the fact that there are private caregiving agencies that offer better wages than IHSS
- Molesky would like to see if there is a way to obtain the number of private in-home caregiving agencies and their respective wages so we can report this info to the Board of Supervisors.
- Sones reported that this information may already be available from Senior Network Services, she will check with Brenda Moss and bring this information to the next meeting
- Jerry (Guest) – a provider for Commission member Andersen made the following comments:
 - o The current IHSS onboarding process is hellish, the orientation videos are absurd and degrading – they are difficult to work through
 - o There should be a database that lists providers and recipients in need of caregivers by location
 - A lengthy discussion took place regarding this topic, the commission agreed that this would be a good idea (and was part of the Next Steps from the Scarcity of Providers breakout group)

- The commission would like to look into a third-party development of a database but needs to look into what is needed to get this done.

10. IHSS Program Updates (McConnell)

- McConnell provided the following IHSS program updates:
 - SB440 – Cognitive Impairment Safety Net System Task Force – bill has received unanimous support and is moving along. The bill would create a task force to study and assess the need for a cognitive impairment safety net system to serve at-risk adults with cognitive impairment.
 - Long term case management unit (TLC unit) has started (currently being piloted as a soft launch). The unit consists of 2 Public Health Nurses (currently on board) and 1 Licensed Clinical Social Worker (to be hired). To date, the unit has received 16 referrals for IHSS and 12 from Adult Protective Services. Eventually, the unit will be able to receive referrals from partner agencies.
 - The department has some funding available for emergency care – Pacific Angels Home Care and Familiar Surroundings Home Care are the agencies that we can use for this service.
 - The department is working with Ryan Althaus to find caregivers from non-traditional sources. So far, we have worked with Homeless Garden Project, Downtown Streets Team and Sober Living Environments
 - Museum of Art and History exhibit “We’re Still Here” (extended to January 2020) – Senior isolation/loneliness. Hoping to connect with community agencies and ultimately establish a volunteer system for individuals that want to volunteer and in-home caregivers.

11. Public Authority Updates (Staff)

- Magaña reported the following Public Authority updates:
 - Registry
 - There are currently 183 active providers on the registry
 - 81 providers are currently available for additional work; an average of 25 hours per week
 - 5 applicant providers
 - Latino Caregiver University – the PA will be presenting at the Latino Caregiver University on June 8th in Watsonville. The PA’s presentation will be on How to Find and Hire and IHSS Caregiver. This is event is being put on by Del Mar Caregiver Resource Center and is free for all formal and informal caregivers.
 - One-Stop Enrollment at the Museum of Art and History on Wednesday, June 26th from 2-6pm. Enrollment will take place from 2-4PM; from 4-6, Ryan Althaus will be hosting a Companion Café for IHSS consumers to meet new IHSS caregivers. The intent for this event is for IHSS consumers to meet and hopefully find new IHSS caregivers.

12. SEIU 2015

- Vicki Jones provided the following information:
 - Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) – there are many concerns with EVV; how will it work for consumers/providers? There is hesitance with technology on both the consumer and provider side. Who will be responsible for training providers and consumers on ETS? These are all questions the union is looking to address.
 - May revise – 7 % cut restoration – currently extended for 2.5 years. The union will be mobilizing to Sacramento on Thursday, 5/30/19, to request that the 7% be permanently restored.

13. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Seniors Commission (Sones) – no update, next meeting will be in 2 weeks
- b. Commission on Disabilities (Taylor) – no update as there was no meeting this month; Taylor will encourage member of this commission to attend our commission
- c. Legislative (Molesky) – Currently working/following the following: SB440; wages at for provider care agencies being a threat for IHSS; following up on caregiver issues
- d. Website (Taylor) – no update
- e. CICA Conference Calls (Molesky) – has not participated in CICA calls.
- f. CCAH – no update.

Meeting adjourned @ 2:54PM

Next Regular Meeting: June 28, 2019, 1:00PM – 3:00PM at 1400 Emeline Ave, Room 206, Santa Cruz, CA 95060