



County of Santa Cruz

HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

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DRAFT MINUTES

March Meeting Minutes

This meeting was the final meeting of the Human Services Commission, therefore there is no future meeting to be held at which these draft minutes would be officially approved and adopted.

DATE: March 20, 2024
TIME: Scheduled 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
PLACE: *Hybrid Meeting: In person at Watsonville Hospital, 75 Nielson Rd, Watsonville, CA, and Virtually via Microsoft Teams*

Commissioners Present: Lisa Smith (1st District); Stephen Gray (2nd District); Serg Kagno (3rd District); Stoney Brook (4th District); Karina Moreno (4th District) Denise Hitzeman (5th District)

Commissioners Excused: None

Commissioners Unexcused: Danny Keith (2nd District, participated as guest, virtually); Betsy Clark (3rd District); Jennifer Anderson-Ochoa (5th District)

Commission Seats Vacant: Supervisor Manu Koenig (1st District, 1 seat)

Staff Present: Randy Morris, HSD Director; Jamie Murray, CSS Director; Adam Spickler, HSD Senior Analyst, Heather Viola, HSD Executive Secretary

Guests: Betsy Clark (3rd District, participated as guest, virtually)

1. Call to Order—upon reaching quorum of the Commission: 9:03 am
2. Approval of Minutes (Action): The Commission approved January 17, 2024, meeting minutes. (Gray/Moreno)
AYES: Smith, Gray, Brook, Moreno, Kagno, Hitzeman
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Keith, Clark, Anderson-Ochoa
3. Director's Report (Informational): The Human Services Director provided certificates of appreciation to

Commissioners, noting how long they each served on the Human Services Commission, and thanking them for their contributions. A discussion followed as to what initially prompted the change in commission structure by the Board of Supervisors, and information was provided to Commissioners on the 13 other public facing meetings that take place on a recurring basis that the Human Services Department's leadership participates in and where members of the public can go to address concerns on a specific topic to Human Services Department leadership. It was noted that the Human Services Department will be undertaking some changes in the coming months to its website, including making information on these meetings more easily accessible and public facing. Commissioner Kagno advised that the City of Santa Cruz website would be a good model for including this type of information on the department's website, as well as a model for allowing the public to sign up to receive information about topics and meetings of interest.

4. Review Potential Human Services Advisory Group Bylaws (Informational): As a conclusion to the work of the *Ad Hoc* Committee charged with drafting a set of potential Human Services Advisory Group (HSAG) Bylaws, the Commission had a discussion beginning with members of the *Ad Hoc* Committee providing a brief overview of what the draft bylaws contain and what they attempt to accomplish. Each Commissioner was then invited to share any feedback, questions or concerns they may have about the draft bylaws. All Commissioners present noted appreciation for the work done, and overall were in favor of the bylaws language as drafted. A majority of Commissioners indicated being in favor of the less structured format for HSAG meetings as drafted, and voiced favor of the structure for scheduled HSAG meetings as drafted to be non-public, and to use HSAG meetings to plan for other meetings and/or opportunities for public engagement. One member provided feedback about minor edits that would clarify or streamline draft bylaws language related to meetings.
5. Potential Human Services Public Engagement Opportunities (Informational): The Human Services Director reviewed a list of upcoming public engagement opportunities that divisions within the Human Services Department are undertaking. Commissioners who are interested in helping publicize and volunteer for any of these opportunities for public engagement were encouraging to contact Human Services staff to sign up to assist.
6. Motion to Adjourn: The Commission meeting adjourned early when quorum was lost, at 9:32 am.
(Brook/Gray)
AYES: Smith, Gray, Brook, Moreno, Kagno, Hitzeman
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Keith, Clark, Anderson-Ochoa

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