



# Santa Cruz County Commission on Disabilities

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## Meeting Minutes

DATE: Thursday, May 14, 2020  
TIME: 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM  
LOCATION: Remote Meeting  
PRESENT: John Daugherty (*1<sup>st</sup> District*), Nancy Yellin (*1<sup>st</sup> District*), Stacie Grijalva (*2<sup>nd</sup> District*),  
Becky Taylor (*3<sup>rd</sup> District*), Richard Gubash (*3<sup>rd</sup> District*), Brenda Gutierrez Baeza  
(*Vice Chair - 4<sup>th</sup> District*), Lynn Stipes (*5<sup>th</sup> District*), David Molina (*Chair – 5<sup>th</sup> District*)  
EXCUSED: Janet Crosse (*2<sup>nd</sup> District*)  
STAFF: Kaite McGrew (*Commissions Coordinator*)  
GUESTS: One member of the public

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

Meeting convened at 12:32 PM.

2. Motion to Approve March 12, 2020 Minutes

Motion/Second: Taylor/Gutierrez Baeza

Ayes: Yellin, Grijalva, Taylor, Gubash, Gutierrez Baeza, Stipes

Nays: None

Abstain: Molina

**Motion passed.**

3. Public Comment: None

4. New Business

4.1. Election of Officers

**Motion to Elect Molina as Commission Chair**

Motion/Second: Stipes/Grijalva

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion to Elect Gutierrez Baeza as Commission Vice Chair**

Motion/Second: Yellin/Stipes

Ayes: Yellin, Grijalva, Taylor, Gubash, Stipes, Molina

Abstain: Gutierrez Baeza

**Motion passed.**

4.2. COVID-19 and the Disability Community

4.2.1. Short-Term Concerns

Commission discussed concerns related to IHSS caregivers and will invite IHSS Analyst, Juan Magaña to speak at the next meeting. Commission reviewed and discussed the State's COVID-19 Crisis Care Guidelines. Commission will invite Kathleen Conley to clarify County implementation of State guidelines at the August meeting. Commission reviewed and discussed all County Health Officer Orders and press releases related to COVID-19 to date. Concerns were

expressed about mandatory face covering impeding the ability to read lips and discussed possible solutions. Face shields may be an option and also may meet the needs of people that are unable to wear face masks for health reasons.

4.2.2. Long-Term Concerns

Commission discussed long-term re-opening strategies including recommending that accommodation be made for people with disabilities to self-isolate longer than the general public may need to.

4.2.3. Meeting the Unique Needs of the Disability Community

Commission discussed community partner programs that serve the disability community. Information about resources and programs can be found by contacting the “211” program.

4.2.4. Ad Hoc Pandemic Response Subcommittee

Molina established the ad hoc *Pandemic Response Subcommittee* to research and report on concerns related to the pandemic. Daugherty, Taylor, Gutierrez Baeza, and Yellin were appointed to the subcommittee.

5. Metro Santa Cruz Report:

Daugherty reported that Metro Paracruz transportation remains available with reservations made 1-3 days in advance. Rides are socially distanced and are for essential travel only. Fixed routes continue to run for essential travel only. Bus service complies with County orders and precautionary guidelines.

6. Meeting Schedule:

Commission agreed to continue meeting remotely until further notice.

7. Prioritizing Current Projects:

7.1. Personal Emergency & Evacuation Plan (PEEP):

Yellin reported that beta testing on the process is complete and will offer the program to *Balance Santa Cruz* clients next. Taylor reported that the process was informative and useful.

7.2. ADA Celebration has been pended until further notice.

7.3. Adaptive Swim Program has been pended until further notice.

8. Staff Report: None

9. Motion to Adjourn

Motion/Second: Stipes/Daugherty

**Motion passed unanimously.**

Adjournment at 2:15 PM

Submitted: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Coordinator*