



Santa Cruz County Commission on Disabilities

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Meeting Minutes

DATE: Thursday, October 8, 2020
TIME: 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM
LOCATION: Remote Meeting
PRESENT: John Daugherty (*1st District*), Nancy Yellin (*1st District*), Stacie Grijalva (*2nd District*)
Becky Taylor (*3rd District*), Richard Gubash (*3rd District*), Brenda Gutierrez Baeza
(*Vice Chair - 4th District*), David Molina (*Chair – 5th District*)
EXCUSED: Janet Crosse (*2nd District*), Lynn Stipes (*5th District*)
STAFF: Kaite McGrew (*Commissions Coordinator*), Juliet Hayes (*Intern*)
GUESTS: None

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review
Meeting convened at 12:32 PM.
2. Motion to approve September 10, 2020 Minutes
Motion/Second: Daugherty/Taylor
Motion passed unanimously.
3. Public Comment: None
4. New Business:
 - 4.1. CZU Lightning Fire Complex Response and Outcomes Debriefing
Commission discussed identifying individuals and organizations that were exceptional in their service to the disability community during the CZU Lightning Fire Complex as well as areas for improvement. Topic will be revisited during the January 2021 meeting, when Commissioners will bring their suggested commendations and areas for improvement.
5. Commission Reports:
 - 5.1. Metro Santa Cruz Report
Daugherty reported that he has been working at Pacific Station in a new office. Metro Paracruz and the bus service are both operating on a modified schedule. Remote workers have been directed to return to the offices. The Metro Board seat designated to represent the interests of people with disabilities who use public transportation is coming up for consideration at the end of December. Commissioners are encouraged to advocate with their District Supervisors to give priority to candidates with disabilities who use public transportation.

- 5.2. History Report:
Daugherty encouraged Commissioners to vote in the upcoming election. Mail-in ballots should be arriving this week.
- 5.3. Legislation Report:
Daugherty encouraged Commissioners to monitor County and City budgets, most of which have areas that are waiting to see if federal or state funds are forthcoming. If not, there may be significant impact to the budgets of services and programs for people with disabilities.
- 5.4. Internship Report:
Staff reported that because of constraints to available resources, the Commission history internship has been postponed, and the disability rights in education during the pandemic internship has been given priority because of its time-sensitivity. Hayes reported that she has been compiling reopening and distance-learning policies, as well as updates at the federal level regarding the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Hayes has been comparing advocacy group guidelines with required policies and government guidelines to identify any gaps.
6. Ad Hoc Subcommittee Updates:
- 6.1. Emergency Preparedness and Pandemic Response Subcommittee
- 6.1.1. Yellin will forward information on best air filtration systems for homes.
- 6.1.2. A new COVID-19 outbreak at an acute care facility in Watsonville has resulted in nine deaths to date. The National Guard is providing patient care and residents may be moved to a hotel so that the facility can be disinfected.
- 6.1.3. Staff will share Santa Cruz County debris flow probability maps provided by the United States Geological Survey website.
- 6.2. Recreation Subcommittee:
Gutierrez Baeza reported that she is working with County Park Friends as an advisor and mobilization leader for people with disabilities. In this role, she will be developing programs and events to benefit people with disabilities. She recently completed a series of videos highlighting the accessibility of four different County parks which will be released this month. County Park Friends is funding a mural project with Shared Adventures that will be completed on the restroom walls at Chanticleer Park/LEO's Haven. All events will observe COVID-19 health and safety guidelines to protect those participating.
- 6.3. Resource Directory Subcommittee:
Staff will add debris flow probability map link to the Resource Directory
7. Staff Report:
The *Equal Employment Opportunity and Cultural Competence Plan* is being reworked to include year-end workforce data that reflects changes in 2020 due to the pandemic.
8. Emerging Matters: None

Adjournment at 1:12 PM

Submitted: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Coordinator*