



Santa Cruz County Commission on Disabilities

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Meeting Minutes

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

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review
Meeting convened at 12:35 PM.
2. Roll Call
3. Agenda Review
4. **Motion to approve October 8, 2020 Minutes**
Motion/Second: Yellin/Molina
Ayes: Daugherty, Yellin, Grijalva, Taylor, Gutierrez Baeza, Molina
Nays: None
Abstain: Crosse, Stipes
Motion passed.
5. Public Comment:
Commission heard public comment from Sonia Plageman on behalf of the *Special Parents Information Network (SPIN)* regarding difficulty some parents of children with disabilities are having obtaining respite caregivers during the pandemic. Plageman will share results of a recent parent survey when available.
6. New Business: None
7. Commission Reports:
 - 7.1. Metro/Measure D Report
Daugherty reported that Metro services continue with safety measures. They are considering making same-day Paracruz services available. Daugherty may retire and encouraged the Commission to monitor the hiring process. Historically, the Commission was included in the hiring process, though budget cuts may postpone hiring.

7.2. History Report:

Supervisor Leopold, long-time ally to the Commission and the Santa Cruz County disabilities community, was not re-elected.

Motion to authorize Chair Molina to send a letter acknowledging Supervisor Leopold's contribution to the disabilities community.

Motion/Second: Taylor/Daugherty

Motion passed unanimously.

7.3. Legislation Report: None

7.4. Internship Report:

Intern Juliet Hayes collected and compared school reopening and distance learning guidelines for students with disabilities. A school-district survey to review guideline implementation is being developed in consultation with Commission liaisons Gubash and Molina. A subsequent online parent survey will help to identify gaps, barriers and any disproportionate impact on students with disabilities.

8. Ad Hoc Subcommittee Updates:

8.1. Recreation Subcommittee:

Gutierrez Baeza reported on her work with County Park Friends promoting social distanced activities for people with disabilities. Events include a recent outdoor socially distanced art event, as well one to be held at Pinto Lakes Park involving wheelchairs. Molina reported that the Adaptive Swim Program has been pended indefinitely.

8.2. Social Media Subcommittee: No Report

8.3. Resource Directory Subcommittee

Staff reported that a link to voter information and other resources for people with intellectual disabilities has been added to the directory.

8.4. Emergency Preparedness and Pandemic Response Subcommittee

Yellin reported on the recent increase in County positive COVID-19 cases and encouraged Commissioners to sustain health and safety protocols, despite lifting of restrictions. One Personal Emergency and Evacuation Plan (PEEP) was completed with collaborative efforts from both the County Office of Emergency Services and the Fire Marshall. Interested Commissioners are encouraged to participate in the process.

9. Staff Report:

The *Equal Employment Opportunity Commission* heard updates on the EEO Commission activities, including those of the Commission on Disabilities. 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.

10. Emerging Matters:

Yellin updated the Commission on Rail to Trail proposals being considered by the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC). Commissioners are encouraged to participate in the RTC's survey and share it with other community partners to better represent the disability community in feedback collected. Staff will share link with the Seniors Commission as well.

Adjournment at 1:25 PM

Submitted: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Coordinator*