



Santa Cruz County Commission on Disabilities

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Meeting Minutes

DATE: Thursday, August 14, 2025
TIME: 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM
LOCATION: Santa Cruz County Building, Fifth Floor – Coastlines Conference Room
701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060
PRESENT: John Daugherty (1st District), Tymothie Hale (2nd District), Becky Taylor (3rd District),
Brenda Gutierrez Baeza (4th District Co-Chair), David Molina (5th District Co-Chair),
Mitali Weiglein (5th District)
EXCUSED: Jonathan Zinnanti (2nd District), Richard Gubash (3rd District), Jessica Liddy Hayford
(4th District)
ABSENT: None
STAFF: Kaite McGrew (Commissions Manager)
GUESTS: Gina De Martini Kuhns (CEO Sr. Administrative Analyst) was present.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
Meeting convened at 12:32 PM.
2. Agenda Review
3. Approve June 12, 2025 Minutes
Motion to approve minutes as written
Motion/Second: Taylor/Hale
Motion passed unanimously.
4. Public Comment
5. New/Continuing Business/Action Items:
 - 5.1. 2025 Kudos Debrief and Follow Up
Commission discussed successes and opportunities for improvement including allowing for more lead time, more Commissioner engagement, better technology for speakers, uploading the event video to the County's YouTube channel. Staff will invite a speaker to present to the Commission on youth advocacy engagement, and work with BOS staff to develop a proclamation if the individual is willing to accept it.
Motion to draft a proclamation pending the individual's consent.
Motion/Second: Molina/Gutierrez Baeza
Motion passed unanimously
 - 5.2. Santa Cruz City Affordable Housing Measures
Commission discussed two Santa Cruz City housing measures that will be on the November ballot. While this topic is adjacent to the Commission's to the scope and purpose, it does not fall directly under their subject matter jurisdiction.

6. Commission Reports

6.1. Cabrillo College Accessibility Center Advisory Committee Report:

Gutierrez Baeza reported a great turnout at the last meeting and agreed with the request made at the last Commission meeting to invite the Cultural Center's director to present to the Commission on how disability culture is being represented in the center.

6.2. Ad Hoc Collaborative Event Subcommittee Update

De Martini Kuhns gave an overview of her project on fostering a neuroinclusive County workplace using a targeted universalism approach to increased equal access for candidates and employees. Subcommittee will review De Martini Kuhns' proposal and the Autism Workplace Playbook and return to the September meeting with feedback. Subcommittee members will serve on the taskforce once established.

Chair appointed Weiglein and Taylor to the Ad Hoc Subcommittee

6.3. Ad Hoc Kudos Planning Subcommittee Report: **Commission dissolved.**

6.4. Ad Hoc Legislative Priorities Subcommittee Report

Staff reported that the pending legislation related allowing remote meetings for Brown Act Commissions (SB-239) was placed in the Inactive File by the bill's author. Commission will consider an advocacy letter at the September meeting.

7. Commission Priority Reports:

7.1. Accessibility Awareness Priority Report: No Report

7.2. Accessible Recreation Priority Report: No Report

7.3. Affordable Accessible Housing Report: No Report

7.4. Affordable Accessible Transportation Report:

8. Correspondence: None

9. Staff Report: None

10. Announcements/Emerging Matters:

Gutierrez Baeza announced that the Arts Council is seeking artists with disabilities to advise them on making their processes more accessible. Taylor announced that she is relaunching her book about her disability experience alongside the launch of a new book by another author with disabilities.

11. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Manager*