



County of Santa Cruz

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

701 OCEAN STREET, SUITE 500, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4069

(831) 454-2200 FAX: (831) 454-3262 TDD: (831) 454-2123

JANET K. BEAUTZ
FIRST DISTRICT

WALTER J. SYMONS
SECOND DISTRICT

MARDI WORMHOUDT
THIRD DISTRICT

TONY CAMPOS
FOURTH DISTRICT

JEFF ALMQUIST
FIFTH DISTRICT

AGENDA: 2/9/99

January 27, 1999

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RE: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIORS COMMISSION

Attached is the Annual Report of the Seniors Commission for calendar year 1998. I recommend that the Board accept and file this report and direct the Chairperson to thank the members of the Commission for their efforts on the County's behalf.

Sincerely,

JEFF ALMQUIST, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors

JA:ted

cc: Seniors Commission

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County of Santa Cruz

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SENIORS COMMISSION

1400 EMELINE AVE., 3rd FLOOR, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060
(831) 454-4864 FAX (831) 4544290
PRISCILLA LOEWENSTEIN, CHAIR

January 26, 1999

Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street, Room 500
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Dear Board of Supervisors:

Please find attached the Seniors Commission Annual Report for 1998, which was approved by the Commission at their annual meeting on January 11, 1999. The Commission respectfully requests that the Board of Supervisors approve and accept the 1998 Annual Report.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Bentley

Human Resources Agency Analyst
Seniors Commission Assigned Staff

cc: CAO



County of Santa Cruz

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SENIORS COMMISSION

(831) 454-4864
FAX (831) 454-4290
1400 Emeline Avenue., 3rd Floor, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

1998 ANNUAL REPORT

ROLES OF THE COMMISSION:

1. To advise the Board of Supervisors on all matters affecting senior citizens and make recommendations to the county administrative officer and the Board of Supervisors on any senior citizens program proposal to be considered by the Board of Supervisors.
2. To review the needs of senior citizens in the county, and develop a set of comprehensive goals and objectives for effectively meeting those needs.
3. To monitor the various services made available to senior citizens by public and private agencies in Santa Cruz County to ensure efficient delivery of those services.
4. To communicate with Federal and State agencies and commissions serving senior citizens, and assist in the preparation, implementation and review of any regional plan or program designed to serve senior citizens.

MEETING DATES, TIMES AND LOCATION:

Seniors Commission meetings are held regularly on the second Monday of each month, convening at 1:30 p.m., at the Visiting Nurse Association Community Room, 1041 41st Avenue, Santa Cruz. If the second Monday is a County holiday, the Commission meets on the third Monday. There are no Commission meetings in the months of July or December.

COMMISSION STRUCTURE:

The Seniors Commission is composed of ten voting members, two each appointed by the five Supervisors; and two ex officio members representing the California Senior Legislature. The Commissioners are, by Supervisorial District:

1 st District: Charles Molnar; Priscilla Loewenstein
2nd District: Marian Wood
3rd District: Barbara Schaller; Paul Sanford
4th District: James Carter; Jeane Kelley
5th District: Grace Verutti
California Senior Legislature: George "Bud" Winslow and Anne Candia

COMMISSION STAFF:

Cheryl Bentley is the HRA Analyst assigned to staff the Seniors Commission.

ATTENDANCE: Please see attached Attendance Roster.

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ACCOMPLISHMENTS - 1998 :

1. Seniors Services

- A. The Commission heard reports from the following Community Agencies and County programs:
- Mobility Training, a program of METRO - Pat Cavataio, Accessible Services Coordinator
 - “Helping Hands” Senior Home Repair Program – Corinna Lewis
 - Consumer Affairs – Robin Gysin
 - Senior Network Services/HICAP Program – Barbara Holman
 - SCCHO Member Advocacy Program – Danita Carlson
 - Seniors Council – Mitsu Kumagai, Executive Director
- B. Representatives of the California Senior Legislature sit on the Seniors Commission as ex officio members. The Seniors Commission also had representation on the Seniors Council/Area Agency on Aging (Commissioner Kelley); County Parks and Recreation Programs for Seniors (Commissioner Verutti) and the Human Care Alliance (Commissioner Sanford).
- C. As liaison with other county commissions/committees, Commission members served on the IHSS Planning Advisory Committee (Commissioner Wood); the Long Term Care Interagency Commission (Commissioner Wood) and the Domestic Violence Commission (Commissioner Schaller). Additionally, commissioners attend the Mobile Home Commission meetings (Commissioner Loewenstein) and the Elderly and Handicapped transportation committee meetings (Commissioners Sanford and Loewenstein). Commissioner Molnar serves as a liaison to “SOLA”, the Seniors Organizational Leaders Alliance. Commissioner Loewenstein has been invited to participate in the newly formed Courts and Community Planning Committee.
- D. The Commission is mandated to participate in monitoring of senior services. The Commission collaborated with the Seniors Council in this endeavor, and guidelines were received from the Seniors Council to assess jointly monitored programs. Teams of commissioners and members of the public made monitoring visits to eleven (11) senior service providers that contract with the Seniors Council. These eleven programs had not been scheduled for review by the County of Santa Cruz in 1998. The commissioners issued a written monitoring report on services provided by these eleven programs which was submitted to the Seniors Council and the County Board of Supervisors. Commissioners also evaluated nutrition sites for treatment of participants, the quality of meals provided and other amenities.

2. Seniors Housing

- A. The commission monitored extension of the HUD Contracts for low-income senior housing.

3. Transportation

- A. Pat Cavataio, Mobility Trainer for Santa Cruz Metro, attended many Seniors Commission meetings and was available as a liaison. He made a presentation at one Commission meeting. The newly hired Accessible Services Coordinator, John Daugherty, will be attending the Seniors Commission meetings in 1999.
- B. Paul Sanford once again summarized the benefits of the Volunteer Center's senior transportation program and enlisted the support of the commission in recruiting new drivers.

4. Legislative Review

- A. The Commission routinely heard updates on the status of state and federal legislation that affects seniors. Letters were sent to local, state and federal legislators, as appropriate, asking for support on senior legislation or thanking them for their assistance. Commissioners sent thank you letters to Assemblyman Keeley and Senator McPherson for their support of SB2199 and AB1780, legislation to expand Adult Protective Services.
- B. The California Senior Legislature (CSL) is represented on the Seniors Commission by ex officio members. The progress of the CSL top priorities was routinely reported.

5. Health Care

- A. Senior Legislator Winslow kept the Commission apprised of state and federal health care reforms.
- B. The Seniors Commission was represented on the IHSS Planning Advisory Committee and the Long Term Care Interagency Commission (Commissioner Wood). As a member of the IHSS Planning Advisory Committee, Commissioner Wood assisted in the development of the IHSS independent provider emergency back-up plan.
- C. Commissioners Wood and Loewenstein participated in the contract bidding process for the IHSS contract provider.

6. Outreach

- A. Commission members assisted in distributing the 1998 edition of the *Senior Resource Directory*.
- B. Commission meetings minutes were distributed to agencies that serve seniors and to interested community members who have asked to be kept informed on seniors issues.
- C. Portions of the Seniors Commission regular meetings were televised on the public access television channel.

- D. The Commission created and distributed a brochure which explains the history of the Commission, listing the Commission's goals and objectives as well as a roster of Commission members.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR 1999

1. Senior Services Monitoring

- To monitor the senior service providers contracting with the Seniors Council that are not scheduled for review by the County of Santa Cruz in 1999. The monitoring process will include: 1) teams of commissioners and members of the public making site visits to service providers; 2) review by the teams of monthly reports on file at the Seniors Council office; and 3) a final written report from the Seniors Commission to be submitted to the Board of Supervisors and the Seniors Council.
- To adopt a comprehensive plan before years end for future monitoring of local senior services.
- To continue hearing reports from senior service providers, evaluating their services, and responding with action whenever possible and necessary, either by assignment to a sub-committee or to a designated commissioner.

2. Senior Services Needs

- a To review needs of senior citizens as brought to the attention of the Commission by individual citizens, or as assessed by other agencies. To evaluate available information regarding senior needs and concerns including United Way and Seniors Council Needs Assessments, and to explore other means of gathering information on senior needs and concerns.
- To maintain close communication with the Board of Supervisors on an individual and collective basis.

3. Senior Centers Review

- To monitor senior centers and to work with their Boards of Directors as requested.
- To participate in and represent the Commission at the Seniors Organizational Leaders Alliance (SOLA) Meetings.

4. Seniors Housing Review

- To continue monitoring existing affordable senior housing.
- To continue to support the county Mobile Home Commission through a liaison to this commission.

- To review future housing projects for seniors, including but not limited to congregate, continuing care, cooperative, rental, and “second unit” housing. To coordinate with County Planning Department, the Housing Authority and other appropriate agencies to accomplish this goal.

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5. Transportation

- To coordinate with the County Metro, Paratransit and various groups that implement the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), including participation on the Elderly and Handicapped Transportation Committee.
- To assess cost effectiveness of available senior transportation programs in the County.

6. Legislative Review

- To monitor senior legislation at **the** local, state **and** federal levels, **and** take action when appropriate.

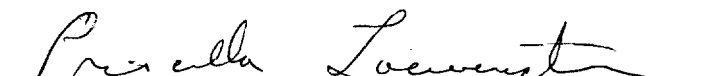
7. Health Care for Seniors

- To monitor health services for Santa Cruz County seniors, including Santa Cruz County Health Options (SCCHO).
- To continue cooperation with the Long Term Care Interagency Commission on health care issues and to monitor the development of the Long Term Care Integration Pilot Project.

8. Outreach

- To communicate and be accessible to members of the public concerning issues related to seniors through public access TV, senior centers, senior agencies, senior communities, newsletters and other means.
- To work collaboratively with other community agencies to enhance the dissemination of the local Senior Resource Directory.
- To continue exploring ways to communicate with the public, including increasing and improving local media coverage of the Seniors Commission.

This Annual Report was accepted by the Seniors Commission at the annual meeting on January 11, 1999.


Priscilla Loewenstein, Chairperson
PL/cb

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SENIORS COMMISSION

ATTENDANCE ROSTER

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1998

COMMISSIONER	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
1st Dist. - Jan Beautz												
Charles Molnar	X	A	X	X	X	X		E	X	X	X	
Priscilla Loewenstein	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
2nd Dist. - Walt Symons												
Marion Wood	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
Claire Moxley	E	E	E	E	A	R		-	-	-	-	
3rd Dist. - Mardi Wormhoudt												
Barbara Schaller	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
Paul Sanford	X	X	X	X	X	E		X	E	X	X	
4th Dist. - Ray Belgard												
James Carter	X	X	E	A	X	X		A	A	A	X	
Jeane Kelley	E	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
5th Dist. - Jeff Almquist												
Grace Verutti	x	x	X	X	x	X		X	X	X	X	
Harvey Neiblum	-	-	-	-	X	X		X	X	R	-	
Calif. Senior. Legislature												
George "Bud" Winston	A	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	E	X	
Anne Candia	X	A	X	X	X	X		X	X	E	E	

CODE: X = Present
 E = Excused
 A = Absent
 R = Resigned
 - = Vacant

NOTE: No meetings in July or December