

Minutes for the Monterey County Commission on Disabilities



Minutes

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2003 2:00 PM TO 4:00 PM

MINUTES FOR THE
MONTEREY COUNTY COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES
AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCE CENTER
1432 ABBOTT STREET - SALINAS, CA 93901

I. CALL TO ORDER - Vice-Chair Flynn called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS/GUEST SPEAKERS**A.** Commissioners Present - Alma Almanza, Roger Baez, Kalah Bumba, Merryll Carr, Stanley Cook, Fred Crummey, Barbara Flynn, Anna Foglia, James S. Gunter, Tim Meroney, John Pinio, Carol A. Ryan, Richard Smith, John Villalpando, and Charlene Wiseman.

B. Commissioners Absent - Bill Cornelius and Juan Garcia.

C. Commissioners Excused - Byrl Smith.

D. Guests, Members of the Public, & Staff - Kristen Aldrich, Linda Arceo, Rudy Asunsolo, Claudia Pizarro, and Elsa Quezada. **III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA & MINUTES** August 18th Minutes

Com. Almanza suggested to leave personal numbers out of minutes. Com. Almanza moved to approve the minutes. Com. Ryan seconded the motion. Motion passed 14/0/0.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Elsa Quezada, Executive Director of Central Coast for Independent Living, announced that CCCIL is doing some community work organizing a group of brain injury survivors who will be meeting Thursday, Oct. 2nd, to share their experiences with various services or lack of services in Monterey County. This is in an effort to address and document those unmet needs in Monterey County. Another group will meet in November. A CCCIL representative will be back before this Commission to provide more information.

Presentation by Claudia Pizarro (Mo. Co. Health Consortium Executive Director)

The mission of the Monterey County Health Consortium (Consortium) is to improve the health status of the residents of Monterey County conducting periodic comprehensive assessments, creating a broad consensus on

priorities, and implementing comprehensive and sustained community health initiatives. The Consortium is funded by the Masters Settlement from the 1998 Lawsuit against Tobacco Companies. The Board has taken lead on finding out which are the important issues to tackle for Monterey County residents and created community forums based on health. The Consortium identified 3 top health priorities/issues; 1) diabetes and obesity, 2) teenage pregnancy, and 3) workforce health. These priorities will change as the priorities for Monterey County residents change. The Consortium is working closely with Tellus/Diganos, conducting bilingual online surveys, focus groups with a total of 100 people, and about 85 one-on-one interviews. The Consortium does not provide services, rather it provides funding for organizations that need to augment their staff, resources, etc. Ms. Pizarro went on to state the names of the current Board members and announced that there are 3 vacancies. She then opened up for questions.

V. APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

Kalah Bumba stated she has been appointed to this Commission and represents Supervisor Edith Johnsen, District 4.

VI. OFFICER REPORTS

A. CHAIR - None.

B. VICE CHAIR - Vice-Chair Flynn distributed and presented her report, "Transportation/Language Service to Alliance Members" from the Central Coast Alliance for Health (CDAH). Vice-Chair Flynn stated that finances for the Alliance are underfunded and are using reserves to supplement the funding shortfall. They have to cut down on transportation and interpreter services. She explained the clinical criteria and the different coverages under the proposed cuts. CDAH is looking at anticipated savings of \$850,000 per year. This is not a reduction in benefits, but rather an enforcement of Medi-Cal policies. Many members and providers have been using transportation and interpreter benefits for non-medically related activities of daily living.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Unmet Transportation Needs - Com. Almanza announced dates for the hearings; Sept. 23rd for King City, Oct. 1st for Soledad, Oct. 20th for Gonzales, and Oct. 21st for Board of Supervisors. Please contact Comm. Almanza for more information.

B. Website - Com. R. Smith stated Kristen Aldrich from IT will be presenting the Website under New Business.

C. Legislative Committee - None.

D. Public Relations Committee - None.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Annual Report - Rudy Asunsolo stated Annual Report should focus on accomplishments, one being the Website.

B. Workshop on Building Regulations - Com. Ryan asked if the topic of subcommittees had been agendaized. Comm. R. Smith responded that we will get to that under New Business/Retreat.

C. Measure Q - Mr. Asunsolo stated he will contact a representative for the other side (being that we have already heard from Shawn Clark - Yes on Measure Q) to speak before this Commission. Measure Q is on the

Dec. 2nd ballot.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Financial Resources for COD - Mr. Asunsolo stated the EOO is under a tight budget, but as far as financial resources, the EOO is it.

B. Website - Kristen Aldrich presented the Website by walking through and explaining the various links. She stated she is updating the antiquated voice mail message center. Elsa Quezada asked regarding translation to other languages, such as Spanish. Kristen stated it can be done. Mr. Asunsolo suggested to direct emails to one computer. Comm. R. Smith suggested emailing Mr. Asunsolo with new links. Mr. Asunsolo commented on the wonderful job done by Commissioners Ryan and R. Smith, as well as staff from IT, Kristen Aldrich and Trudy Karl. Mr. Asunsolo stated that with the Commission's direction, he can start working on the Annual Report and present it at the next meeting as an action item to go before the Board sometime early November. The Commission agreed. Elsa Quezada suggested including the California Relay Service as a link.

C. List of Meeting Dates - Comm. Pinio commented on confusion with meeting dates, whether it is the fourth or the last Monday of the month. Mr. Asunsolo stated the list of meeting dates was provided and for all to bring back to next meeting to take action on it.

D. Comm. Bumba asked regarding action items on agenda. Mr. Asunsolo stated action items would be spelled out for all commissioners on future agendas.

E. Comm. Foglia asked, regarding the roster which was distributed, to correct information under her name. Mr. Asunsolo stated to email him with any additions and corrections.

F. Retreat - Vice-Chair Flynn suggested to have a retreat as soon as possible. Mr. Asunsolo stated to have the next regular meeting here to discuss the items that need to be discussed and to have the retreat in November or January. All agreed on the last Monday of the month as a good date for the retreat. Mr. Asunsolo stated he would communicate with Elsa Quezada to discuss possibility of her being the facilitator at the retreat.

X. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION/FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMISSION

A. Vice-Chair Flynn stated she will be out of town for the next meeting. Comm. Almanza stated her concern regarding Chair Garcia's absence and asked who would chair the next meeting. Mr. Asunsolo stated the group can look at appointing new officers in November since there is no meeting in December. Comm. Foglia will chair October's meeting should Chair Garcia.

XI. ADJOURNMENT