



Santa Cruz County Syringe Services Program Advisory Commission

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Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, May 04, 2021
Time: 6:00pm – 7:30pm
LOCATION: Remote Meeting
PRESENT: Steve Plumb (*1st District*), Jim Hart (*2nd District*), Damon Bruder (*3rd District*), Eric Sturm (*4th District*), Sharon DeJong (*5th District*)
EXCUSED: None
ABSENT: Patty King (*At Large*), (*At Large*)
STAFF: Jennifer Herrera (*Chief of Public Health*), Rahshan Williams (*Program Coordinator*), Crystal Garcia (*Administrative Aide*), Socorro Gutierrez (*Health Services Manager*), Gail Newel (*Health Officer*), Megan Holland (*Administrative Services Manager*), Sven Stafford (*Principal Administrative Analyst*), Nicole Meza (*Administrative Aide*)
GUESTS: 845 991 979# (Guest), Jane (Guest), DF (Guest), Montana Trotta (Guest)

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Introductions

Meeting convened at 6:00PM.

2. Review and Approve April 06, 2021 Meeting Minutes

- Motion to approve by Damon B.
- Seconded by Eric S.

Steve P. – Yay, Jim H. – Yay, Damon B. - Yay, Eric S. - Yay, Sharon D. – Yay

3. Welcome of New Commissioners

- a) Introduction from Commissioner Steve Plumb

4. Review of Commission & Election of Officers

5. Presentations

- a) FY 21-23 County Operational Plan – Sven Stafford
 - i. Copy of presentation to be forwarded
 - Question from Eric S. - Does the CAO office have any equitable goals they would like to see the SSP Advisory Commission achieve?
 - ii. Response from Sven S. - There may be an objective generated in coming operational plan acquired between board direction and advice from this group in regards to syringe services

6. SSP Report Back to Board of Supervisors – Jen Herrera

- a) Copy of presentation to be forwarded
 - i. Question from Sharon D. – Will feedback be obtained from individuals with lived experience as well as from those who have been or are currently in recovery?
 - Response from Jen H. – That is the goal. SSP is closely connected and supported by the MAT program and goal is to incorporate MAT program workers more into the SSP program
 - ii. Question from Damon B. – Based on the reporting, it appears the number of syringes given out has dropped by nearly half. Could this partially be because of COVID or could this also be due to other syringe programs available in the community? Could reporting be obtained from these other programs?
 - Response from Jen H. – There are multiple factors that could contribute to this change and the other syringe programs could be outreached to see if there is a possibility of sharing data
 - iii. Question from Damon B. – What other County departments are being added to support and oversee consolidation of litter cleanup efforts?
 - Response from Jen – The other departments include County Department of Public Works
 - iv. Question from Damon B. – Being there are other organizations that provide harm reduction and syringe exchange services, where does County fill in gap? Should the County be as involved or should County consider stepping back, offering less hands-on support?
 - Response from Jen H. – This can be added as a recommendation
 - Comment from Sharon D. – Really appreciate the 1:1 exchange as well as the functionality of the syringe program
 - Comment from Eric S. – There is strength in diversity

7. Public Comment:

3 minutes per speaker: raise hand or speak up or use chat function

A. New Business/Action Items

- a) Jen H. to reach out to the Harm Reduction Coalition for reporting data based on their syringe exchanges
- b) Review Syringe Services Program webpage on County of Santa Cruz site, specifically the Frequently Asked Questions section, to ensure links and information up to date

1. Topics for Future Meetings & Action Items

- a. Overview of Syringe Collection Procedures

B. Adjournment

Motioned to adjourn by Eric S., Seconded by Damon B.

- a) **Motion to adjourn passed**
- b) Meeting was adjourned at 7:28PM