



Santa Cruz County Syringe Services Program Advisory Commission

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<https://bit.ly/SSP-Program>

Meeting Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, December 7, 2021
TIME: 6:00 PM
LOCATION: Remote Meeting
PRESENT: Steve Plumb (1st District), Damon Bruder (3rd District), Eric Sturm (4th District), Patty King (At Large)
EXCUSED: Jim Hart (2nd District)
ABSENT: None
STAFF: Rahshan Williams (Program Coordinator), Socorro Gutierrez (Health Services Manager), Jennifer Herrera (Assistant Health Services Agency (HSA) Director), Nicole Meza (Administrative Aide), Megan Holland (Administrative Services Manager)
GUESTS: None

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Introductions:

Meeting convened at 6:10 PM.

2. Review and Approve November 2, 2021, Meeting Minutes:

Motion to approve minutes

Motion/Second: King/Plumb

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Program Updates:

Williams reviewed October 2021 activities compared to September 2021. There was a slight decline in the number of participants at the Watsonville exchange from September to October. Also reviewed the Syringe Exchange Script, which is the information collected on the individual visiting the exchange. Information on HIV and HEP-C testing is being offered at each exchange. SSP continues to work towards the finalization of the mysantacruzcounty app and are working with partners to establish the proper routing of reports of syringe litter. The Commission requested to see more trending information on charts/graphs. Ideas were discussed regarding support to provide this data with updating the database software and/or hiring interns. SSP Staff requested clarification on what trending information the Commission would like to see. SSP Staff reported that HEP-C testing is not yet being utilized by the public and the Commission posed questions on how it can be better advertised to the community. Gutierrez presented information on SSP data collection which helps us understand what is needed vs. what is available. The data comes from various sources: database,

participant surveys, focus groups and interviews. The goal of this data is to improve documentation and create successful linkages.

Presentation slides will be made available.

4. Continuing Business Items:

4.1 Public Works Follow Up

Public Works is still actively recruiting to replace Tim Goncharoff but has not yet hired anyone.

4.2 Public Engagement

Commissioner Sturm requested that this update be carried forward into the next meeting.

4.3 Follow up with Vice Chair King on Questions Regarding Kiosk Syringe Collection from Sharps Solutions and Department of Public Works

Vice Chair King stated that based on the information from the two presentations from Larry McCarty and Tim Goncharoff, they had both disclosed that no one will ever know what is inside kiosks aside from syringes. She expressed that because of that, the data collected from kiosks will always be inaccurate and proposed to only include the data collected from the exchanges on the reports. Williams confirmed that they do disclose both data points in their reports: collection from kiosks and collected syringes at the exchanges. The Commission commented that they feel that including the data collected from kiosks can be misleading and will continue this discussion into the next meeting.

5. Public Comment: None

6. New Business/Action Items:

Motion to Approve Findings to Authorize Remote Meetings and remain virtual for January Meeting

Motion/Second: King/Plumb

Motion passed unanimously

5. Topics for Future Meetings & Action Items

7.1 Follow up on DPW replacement for Tim Goncharoff, Resource Planner IV.

7.2 Follow up with Commissioners Plumb and Sturm on idea for public engagement.

7.3 Continue discussion on the data for kiosks vs. syringes collected at the exchange.

7.4 Commission to vote on AB 361 document for next meeting location.

6. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting

Motion/Second: King/Plumb

Motion passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM

Submitted by Nicole Meza (*Administrative Aide*)