



County of Santa Cruz
Public Health Commission Meeting Minutes
4/26/07

Motions passed
Action Item

Commissioners Present: Jean Poulos (Chair First District), Bernie Goldner (Fifth District), Vera Sarkissian (Second District)

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Dena Loijos (Health Education), and Denise Parodi (Public Health Admin)

1. **Call to Order-** The meeting was called to order at 12: 30
2. **Announcements-None**
3. **Approval of 4/26/07 Minutes-Bernie Goldner motioned to approved the minutes, motion seconded by Vera Sarkissian. Motion approved unanimously.**
4. **The following communications were reviewed by the Committee:**
 - Commission on Disabilities Agenda 5/10/07,
 - Women's Commission Agenda 5/10/07
 - Human Services Commission Minutes 3/21/07, Agenda 5/16/07
5. **Addition or Deletions to agenda: None**
6. **Sewer Report Update-deferred**
7. **Emergency Room/Nursing Shortage Update-Deferred**
8. **Hospice Tour**
 - Ann Pamper, Hospice Director provided the committee with a brief overview of the services that are provided for end of life care. Hospice is a Medi-Cal Medi-Care provider that works along with the County. Fifty seven (57) days is the average length of stay for a hospice patient. Care is usually provided in the homes and the caregivers work closely with the patient and family. The importance of having a central repository for health directives was discussed. Jean suggested that it might be a good idea for key players such as hospice, and hospitals to come together and discuss the needs and options for setting this up. Then the idea can possibly be brought before the Board of Supervisors. The group was then taken on a tour of the new Hospice facility.

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- Salima Cobb, RN talked about the Transition, Grief and Loss Programs. Transitions is a community service that will provide support to individuals and families living with life limiting illness. This group also works with skilled nursing facilities and assisted living homes. The nurses are specially trained specific to hospice/palliative care. There is a special certification CPHN (Certified Hospice /Palliative Nurse) that can be obtained.
 - Silvia Austerlic is the Latino Community Liaison for HCP and gave a brief overview of the Latino Outreach programs that are available through Hospice. This program started about a year ago and was the result of a two-year grant to study this issue.

9. Next Meeting /Agenda Items:

- November 8, 2007 1080 Emeline Ave. Room 200
- The Commissioners expressed interest in meeting with both Dominican and Watsonville Hospitals CEO's at future meetings. Denise will contact both hospitals to arrange.