



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS
COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
May 11, 2021
110 East Main Street
LOS GATOS, CA
2:00 p.m.**

*George Rossmann, Chair
Laura Kramer Rahmil, Vice Chair
Jeffrey P. Blum, Commissioner
Dick Konrad, Commissioner
Lydia Norcia, Commissioner
Arshia Mathur, Youth Commissioner
Commissioner – Vacant
Council Liaison - Vice Mayor Rennie*

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE MAY 11, 2021 COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICE COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING

This meeting is being conducted utilizing teleconferencing and electronic means consistent with State of California Executive Order N-29- 20 dated March 17, 2020, regarding the COVID- 19 pandemic. **In accordance with Executive Order N-29- 20, the public may only view the meeting teleconference and not in the Council Chamber.**

PARTICIPATION

Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:

Please click this URL to join. <https://losgatosca.gov.zoom.us/j/87246026272?pwd=K3A3ZzV5dEpnNEg2T25XNnZ2aFFwQT09>

Passcode: 856393

Or Telephone:

Dial:

USA 636 651 0002 US Toll

USA 877 336 1829 US Toll-free

Conference code: 986172

During the meeting:

- When the Chair announces the item for which you wish to speak, click the “raise hand” feature in Zoom. If you are participating by phone on the Zoom app, press *9 on your telephone keypad to raise your hand. If you are participating by calling in, press #2 on your telephone keypad to raise your hand.
- When called to speak, please limit your comments to three (3) minutes, or such other time as the Chair may decide, consistent with the time limit for speakers at a Council meeting.

If you are unable to participate in real-time, you may send an email to PublicComment@losgatosca.gov with the subject line “Public Comment Item #__” (insert the item number relevant to your comment) or “Verbal Communications – Non Agenda Item.” Comments will be reviewed and distributed before the meeting if received by 3:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. All comments received will become part of the record. The Chair has the option to modify this action on items based on comments received.

REMOTE LOCATION PARTICIPANTS

The following Commission Members are listed to permit them to appear electronically or telephonically at the Community Health and Senior Services Commission meeting: Commissioner George Rossman, Commissioner Kramer Rahmil, Commissioner Blum, Commissioner Konrad, Commissioner Norcia, Youth Commissioner Mathur, and Vice Mayor Rennie (Council Liaison). All votes during the teleconferencing session will be conducted by roll call vote.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Blum article submission (Attachment 1)

CONSENT ITEMS (TO BE ACTED UPON BY A SINGLE MOTION)

1. Approve Community and Senior Services Commission Minutes of April 27, 2021 (Attachment 2)

VERBAL COMMUNICATIONS *(Members of the public may address the Community Health and Senior Services Commission on any matter that is not listed on the agenda consistent with the Participation instructions contained on page 1 of this agenda. Unless additional time is authorized by the Community and Senior Services Commission, remarks shall be limited to three minutes.)*

OTHER BUSINESS *(Up to three minutes may be allotted to each speaker on any of the following items consistent with the Participation instructions contained on page 1 of this agenda.)*

2. Discussion of Town Council FY 2021/23 Strategic Priorities, CHSSC Goals for FY 2020/21, and Identification of Senior Service Gaps
 - a. Presentation by City of Cupertino Recreation Coordinator for Cupertino Senior Center (Attachment 3)
 - b. CHSSC Workplan (Attachment 4)
3. Staff Liaison Report
 - a. Updates from CHSSC partners
 - b. Update from staff liaison

ADJOURNMENT

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, IF YOU NEED SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING, PLEASE CONTACT THE CLERK DEPARTMENT AT (408) 354-6834. NOTIFICATION 48 HOURS BEFORE THE MEETING WILL ENABLE THE TOWN TO MAKE REASONABLE ARRANGEMENTS TO ENSURE ACCESSIBILITY TO THIS MEETING [28 CFR §35.102-35.104]

Inform Your Community To Improve Your Community's Success and Health
by Jeffrey P. Blum

Since serving as director of legislation for the Palo Alto Council of PTA's many years ago, I've embraced the idea that an informed community makes for a more successful and perhaps healthier community. My task in my volunteer role was to inform the Palo Alto PTA's (about 11 of them) and by extension, the parents of students in Palo Alto, about education related activities in the California State Assembly and Senate. The goal was to keep Palo Alto schools excellent in part through knowledge of the educational trends arising at the government level.

Currently, I've reprised my "inform and improve your community" mantra via my role as a commissioner with the Los Gatos Community Health and Senior Services Commission ("CHSSC"). In fact our mandate is to inform the town council about the needs of the community, in particular, in relation to seniors. Further, we are also tasked with informing residents about available social, public health and transportation resources. Thus, when I heard from Tom Picraux, the leader of the Los Gatos/Saratoga Service Providers group, about pending legislation to make CalFresh more accessible to the poor and to seniors, I immediately recognized my obligation to learn more and possibly broadcast this information to Los Gatos residents.

CalFresh, is known federally as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP. It provides monthly food benefits to individuals and families with low-income and provides economic benefits to communities. CalFresh is the largest food program in California.

CalFresh benefit eligibility and benefit amounts are determined by the size of the household involved, the amount of income available to the household and the amount of household living expenses expended by the household. The program issues monthly benefits on an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card. Food may be purchased at any grocery store or farmers market that accepts EBT cards.

The CalFresh bill, designated as State Senate 107 (SB 107), seeks to expand access to CalFresh food benefits for low-income Californians.

SB 107 aims to make it easier for people to apply for CalFresh, by allowing people to apply by telephone (currently, people must apply in person) and by creating a simplified application process for seniors and people with disabilities. Currently a low percentage of eligible people actually receive CalFresh, in part due to a general lack of awareness of its existence and the difficulty in applying for its benefits.

SB 107 comes at a time of unprecedented food insecurity due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the economy. According to the Brookings Institute, rates of food insecurity observed in April 2020 were considerably higher than at any point for which there is comparable data. That data is from a year ago. Presumably the problem of food insecurity only worsened as the pandemic persisted. The Brookings Institute notes that food insecurity is particularly dire for families with children.

Senator Bill Dodd (D-Napa), Assembly member Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (D-San Ramon), Assembly member Devon Mathis (R-Visalia), and Assembly member Buffy Wicks (D-Oakland)

are co-authors of SB 107. SB 107 is sponsored by Nourish California, AARP California, the San Francisco Marin Food Bank, and the California Association of Food Banks.

Whether as a commissioner with CHSSC or as a new member of the Los Gatos town I've quickly grown to love in the short time I've lived here, I intend to continue to be governed by my "inform and improve your community" mantra, hoping it inspires others to spread important messages, such as information about CalFresh and SB 107.



DRAFT
MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
APRIL 27, 2021

The Community Health and Senior Services Commission of the Town of Los Gatos conducted a Special Meeting on Tuesday, April 27, 2021, at 5:08 p.m.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioner Blum, Commissioner Rahmil, Commissioner Norcia, Commissioner Mathur, and Commissioner Konrad

Absent: Commissioner Rossmann

Also Present: Vice Mayor Rennie, Library Director Baker, and Liaison Andrews

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Konrad article submission

Commissioners discussed the article and provided approval for publication.

Commissioner Blum informed the group of the Senior Drive through scheduled for the Town sponsored by SASCC

CONSENT ITEMS (TO BE ACTED UPON BY A SINGLE MOTION)

1. Approve Community and Senior Services Commission Minutes of April 13, 2021

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Norcia to approve the minutes of April 13, 2021. Seconded by Commissioner Rahmil

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

2. Saratoga Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults

VERBAL COMMUNICATIONS *(Members of the public may address the Community and Senior Services Commission on any matter that is not listed on the agenda. Unless additional time is authorized by the Community and Senior Services Commission, remarks shall be limited to three minutes.)*

Tom Picraux offered that 2 areas of importance for senior services in Town are the increasing need for socialization and a quick return to in person services and the lack of knowledge and registrations regarding the State Cal Fresh food program.

OTHER BUSINESS *(Up to three minutes may be allotted to each speaker on any of the following items.)*

3. Discussion of Town Council FY 2021/23 Strategic Priorities, CHSSC Goals for FY 2020/21, and Identification of Senior Service Gaps
 - a. Presentation by SCC Department of Aging and Adult Services
 - i. SCC Age-friendly Three-year Action Plan
 - ii. Master Plan on Aging Action Items
 - iii. Senior Nutrition Program Survey Results

Diana Miller Project Manager Seniors Agenda provided an overview of her areas of responsibility for the County. Ms. Miller provided a description of the County led WHO Age-friendly initiative which ultimately included all 15 County Cities receiving the age-friendly designation. She shared that AARP is now the official WHO age-friendly sponsor for the US and has developed a lot of resources. Ms. Miller identified digital inclusion, dementia friends campaign, and healthy brain initiative as the primary domains of focus for the coming year. Commissioners asked questions regarding various County programs.

- b. Presentation by Los Gatos Director of Library Services

Director Baker provided an overview of senior and intergenerational programming provided by the Town Library. Director Baker described a multitude of programs ranging from technology help, writing forums, arts and crafts, genealogy, and book clubs. Director Baker described an oral history project which memorializes the history of residents in Town. Commissioners asked questions and complimented the breadth of program offerings.

- c. CHSSC Workplan and Staff Report

4. Staff Liaison Report
 - a. Updates from CHSSC partners
 - b. Update from staff liaison

No reports

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the April 27, 2021 meeting as approved by the Community Health and Senior Services Commission.

Arn Andrews, Assistant Town Manager

CHSSC WORKPLAN

| | TOPICS | TOPICS | TOPICS |
|---|---|--|-----------------------|
| MARCH 23, 2021 | LGS Rec 55+ Presentation | Live Oak Senior Nutrition Presentation | Commission Discussion |
| APRIL 13, 2021 | West Valley Community Services Presentation | Saratoga Area Senior Coordinating Council Presentation | Commission Discussion |
| APRIL 27, 2021 | SCC Department of Aging and Adult Services TBD | Los Gatos Library Director | Commission Discussion |
| MAY 11, 2021 | City of Cupertino Senior Center Coordinator | Commission Discussion | |
| MAY 25, 2021 | Identification of Senior Service Provision Gaps | Commission Discussion | |
| JUNE 8, 2021 | Review of Commission Report to Council | | |
| JUNE 15, 2021 COUNCIL PRESENTATION | | | |