



# Santa Cruz County Syringe Services Program Advisory Commission

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## Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Monday, February 22, 2021  
**Time:** 6:00pm – 7:30pm  
**LOCATION:** Remote Meeting  
**PRESENT:** Angela Chestnut (*1st District*), Damon Bruder (*3rd District*), Eric Sturm (*4th District*), Sharon DeJong (*5th District*),  
**EXCUSED:** None  
**ABSENT:** Jim Hart (*2nd District*), Patty King (*At Large*), Les Gardner (*At Large*)  
**STAFF:** Megan Holland (*Public Health Administration Services Manager*), Jennifer Herrera (*Chief of Public Health*), Socorro Gutierrez (*Health Services Manager*), Rahshan Williams (*Program Coordinator*), Crystal Garcia (*Administrative Aide*), Gail Newel (*Health Officer*)  
**GUESTS:** Jenna Shankman (*Guest*), Jen (*Guest*), DF (*Guest*), 831-325-8562 (*Guest*), Eric S. (*Guest*)

### **1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Introductions**

Meeting convened at 6:08PM.

### **2. Review and Approve December 08, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

- Motion to approve by Damon B.
- Seconded by Angela C.

Angela C. - Yay, Damon B. - Yay, Eric S. - Yay, Sharon D. - Yay

### **3. Presentations**

- a) Review/Discussion Upcoming Board of Supervisor Requested SSP IV Drug Use – Jennifer Herrera
  - i. Copy of presentation to be forwarded
  - ii. Question from Angela C. – Regarding secondary users, are efforts from HRC included?
    - a) Response from Jen H. – Breakdown is not included
  - iii. Question from Angela C. – What does the percentage of referrals to drug treatment data represent?
    - a) Response from Jen H. – The data captured is how many successful referrals to drug treatment programs were made. The data does not currently reflect referral process and/or follow-through however, this is a continued priority to begin to track.

- iv. Question from Angela C. – Of the 40% who participated whom are homeless, what percentage requested drug treatment referrals?
  - a) Response from Jen H. – Did not collect that data
- v. Question from Damon B. – Is it possible to ask participants where else, if not only from exchange, they receive their needles from?
  - a) Response from Jen H. – This could potentially be explored
- vi. Question from Eric S. – With homeless shelters more active since COVID, is outreaching to these shelters taking place?
  - a) Response from Jen H. – Outreach services has increased
- b) FY21-22 SSP Budget Review - Megan Holland
  - i. Copy of presentation to be forwarded and budget to be approved in July
  - ii. Question from Sharon D. – The budgeted syringe litter contracts are not County employees?
    - a) Response from Megan – Correct. For syringe litter, working with Downtown Streets Team
  - iii. Question from Damon B. – What is the purpose of Downtown Streets Team contract?
    - a) Response from Rahshan W. – Board directive to have syringe litter contract in place; Downtown Streets Team is contracted to cleanup syringes in hotspots throughout Santa Cruz area. Syringes acquired are not brought to exchange

**4. Syringe Litter At San Lorenzo River Levee**

- a) How/is there a possibility to alleviate syringe litter at San Lorenzo River and what else can be done to help prevent syringe disposal? – Sharon DeJong
  - i. Eric S. volunteered to connect with Fish & Wildlife to discuss their potential assistance with syringe litter cleanup
  - ii. Damon B. made suggestion to begin brainstorming different opportunities: fundraising, community involvement/engagement etc.

**5. Public Comment:**

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

- a) Jen (Guest) – Would like to express her gratitude and emphasize the need for clean needles to continue preventing the transmission of Hepatitis C and/or HIV

**6. New Business/Action Items: Topics for Future Meetings & Action Items**

- a) Setting permanent meeting cycle – second Tuesday of month, third Wednesday, etc.
  - i. First Tuesday of each month. Next potential meeting, Tuesday April 6, 2021
- b) Difference between 1:1 Exchange vs. Needs Based Exchange
- c) Overview of Sharps Solutions
- d) Non-virtual tour of SSP after March 1st

**7. Adjournment**

Motioned to adjourn by Angela C., Seconded by Eric S.

- a) **Motion to adjourn passed**
- b) Meeting was adjourned at 7:38PM

Respectfully submitted by: Crystal Garcia, Administrative Aide