Santa Cruz County
Latino Affairs Commission

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LATINO AFFAIRS COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes – August 1, 2018

Present: Rebecca Garcia *(Meeting Facilitator - City of Watsonville)*, Gilberto Reyes *(1st District)*, Martin Vargas Vega *(2nd District)*, Patricia Guevara *(City of Watsonville)*, Gloria Nieto *(5th District)*
Excused: Rebecca Hernandez Rosser *(City of Santa Cruz)*, Diana Alfaro *(City of Santa Cruz)*, Antonia Franco *(Co-Chair, 3rd District)*
Unexcused: Brianna del Franco *(Co-Chair, 4th District)*
Staff: Britt Harmssen, Esq., *EEO Officer*, Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Coordinator*
Guests: 1

I. Roll Call and Introductions
No Quorum Established.

II. Approval of May 30, 2018 Minutes

III. Agenda Review
Addition of Affordable Housing Bond Discussion

IV. Oral Communications

Quorum Established. Meeting was convened at 6:31 PM

V. Affordable Housing Bond
Commissioners discussed a draft letter to the County Board of Supervisors recommending that the Affordable Housing Bond be included in the November Ballot. Commissioners to submit individual letters to their Supervisors.

VI. Hispanic Heritage Month
Harmssen advised Commissioners of the Arts Council guidelines for art exhibited on the Community Wall. Commissioners discussed possible themes for the exhibit. Commissioners to continue outreach efforts to local artists, organizations and schools.

Approve “Art as Persistence, Art as Preservation” for the exhibit theme.
Motion/Second: Nieto/Guevara. Passed unanimously.

VII. Border Policy Discussion

Commissioners discussed current US border policies and the impact on the Latino community. Commissioner Nieto will draft a letter for discussion at the October meeting.

VIII. Commissioner Reports

a. District 1: Reyes announced that a new Executive Director has been appointed for Live Oak Family Center.
b. District 2: No Report
c. District 3: No Report
d. District 4: Vargas Vega reported that Digital Nest youth are producing a donation-funded film about machines replacing farmworkers in the future.
e. District 5: No report.
f. City of Santa Cruz: No Report
g. City of Watsonville:
    i. Guevara reported that a new passenger rail service from Salinas to Santa Clara with a stop in Pajaro has recently broken ground.
    ii. Garcia thanked the Commission for their support of the Sesquicentennial celebration for the City of Watsonville. Commission will be mentioned in the commemorative book, time capsule, and on the website.
    iii. Garcia announced that the Strawberry Festival will be held August 4th - 5th, featuring the Chicano Allstars. Mayra Ruiz-Valtierra will show her work at the festival with other young local artists.

IX. Staff Report

Harmssen introduced Kaite McGrew, the new Commissions Coordinator.

X. Approval of Minutes for the May 30, 2018 meeting.

Motion/Second: Guevara /Garcia. Passed unanimously.

XI. **Adjournment:** 7:02 pm

Submitted: Kaite McGrew, Commissions Coordinator

The next Latino Affairs Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 3, 2018 at 6:00 pm at the United Way of Santa Cruz County (4450 Capitola Road, Suite 106, Capitola, CA).

The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs or activities. The meeting location is an accessible facility. If you are a person with a disability and require assistance in order to participate in the meeting, please contact the Personnel Department at 454-2772 (TDD 711) at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to make arrangements. Persons with disabilities may request a copy of the agenda in an alternative format. As a courtesy to those affected, please attend the meeting smoke and scent free.