



# Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission

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## Meeting Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, April 7, 2021

TIME: 6:00 PM

LOCATION: Meeting held remotely

PRESENT: Abbygale Gonzalez (2<sup>nd</sup> District), Christina Granados (4<sup>th</sup> District), Leo Gomez (5<sup>th</sup> District), Diana Alfaro (City of Santa Cruz), Rebecca Garcia (City of Watsonville)

EXCUSED: Rebecca Hernandez (City of Santa Cruz)

STAFF: Kaite McGrew (Commissions Coordinator), Mitsuno Baurmeister (EEO Officer)

GUESTS: Sven Stafford (Administrative Analyst), and 1 Member of the Public

### 1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

Meeting convened at 6:06 PM.

Agenda item 4.4 title was revised to include former Commissioner Guevarra.

### 2. Approve February 3, 2021 Minutes

Minutes were amended to include additional detail in Commissioner Garcia's Watsonville City report.

**Motion to approve minutes as amended**

Motion/Second: Garcia/Gonzalez

**Motion passed unanimously.**

### 3. Public Comment

### 4. New Business/Action Items

#### 4.1. FY 2021-2023 Operational Plan Development Update

Stafford presented on the County's Operational Plan development and Baurmeister clarified concepts around equity, bias and privilege. Several frameworks are used to standardize equity efforts across departments. Granados recommended principles from Dr. Estela Mara Bensimon's *Equity Scorecard* process and requested that data be further disaggregated. An equity consultant will work with *Ad Hoc Advisory Body to Address Racism* and the intention is to include the Commission in their efforts once underway. Alfaro recommended the Winters Group and suggested including community education in advisory body efforts.

#### 4.2. Election of Officers

**Motion to elect Alfaro as Chair and Gomez as Vice Chair**

Motion/Second: Garcia/Granados

**Motion passed unanimously.**

#### 4.3. 2021-2024 Equal Opportunity and Cultural Competence Plan Feedback Memorandum

Commission reviewed a memorandum summarizing their feedback on the EEO/CC Plan.

**Motion to approve memorandum as written**

Motion/Second: Garcia/Gonzales

**Motion passed unanimously.**

#### 4.4. Acknowledging Former Commissioners

Commission considered commendations for former Commissioners Reyes and Guevara whose terms ended on April 1, 2021.

**Motion authorizing Chair to send letters of commendation to Reyes and Guevara.**

Motion/Second: Garcia/Gonzales

**Motion passed unanimously.**

#### 4.5. Commission Strategic Action Plan

Chairs will bring the *2021 Strategic Action Plan* to the next meeting with revised objectives and actions for consideration.

#### 4.6. Commission Fundraising Opportunities

Staff is working with County Counsel to define fundraising parameters. Item will be revisited when more information becomes available.

### 5. Ongoing Business:

#### 5.1. Pajaro Valley COVID-19 Outreach Task Force Representation

Future representation on the Task Force will be considered at the next meeting. Chair will assign someone to represent the Commission during the interim.

### 6. Commissioner Reports

#### 6.1. District 1 Report: Seat Vacant

#### 6.2. District 2 Report (Gonzalez):

*White Hawk/Ixtatutli Indian Council for Children* began practice and Gospel Church in Las Lomas held Easter Sunday youth activities. Community fishing at Kirby Park has increased.

#### 6.3. District 3 Report: Seat Vacant

#### 6.4. District 4 Report (Granados):

Instagram has 146 followers. Granados joined the Santa Cruz Community TV Board education subcommittee.

#### 6.5. District 5 Report (Gomez):

District 5 schools are reopening for optional part-time in-person classes. Gomez advocated for the Commission to consider the proposed rail service from Watsonville to Davenport and its potential impact on the Latinx community. Gomez will work with Staff to identify a guest speaker to present to the Commission on the subject.

#### 6.6. Santa Cruz City Report (Hernandez): No Report

#### 6.7. Santa Cruz City Report (Alfaro):

Housing Santa Cruz will host a townhall style event with mayors from each of the four cities and a County District Supervisor during May (National Affordable Housing Month). They are recruiting for an Executive Director and seek new members. Santa Cruz City is considering building standards to streamline the new housing permitting process. A recent presentation on equity in highlighted the need for further community education on the subject, particularly in Spanish.

#### 6.8. Watsonville City Report (Garcia):

Commissioner Hernandez represented the Commission excellently during the Thriving Immigrant Forum. Negotiations on the sale of the historic Porter Building have been halted for 60 days.

### 7. Staff Report:

Staff reported that the Commission's letter regarding Latino representation in the US Senate was mailed to Governor Newsom, Senator Padilla, and the County Board of Supervisors on March 8, 2021.

### 8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Submitted: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Coordinator*