



Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission

701 Ocean Street, Room 510, Santa Cruz, CA 95060
P: (831) 454-2772 F: (831) 454-2411 TTY/TDD 711
commissions@santacruzcounty.us
www.scclatinoaffairs.org

Meeting Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, April 5, 2023

TIME: 6:00PM

LOCATION: Meeting held remotely

PRESENT: Yadira Flores-Martinez (*1st District*), Oscar Sanchez (*2nd District*), Cesar De Santos (*4th District*), Leo Gomez (*5th District*), Rebecca Hernandez (*City of Santa Cruz*), Kristal Salcido (*City of Watsonville*)

EXCUSED: None

ABSENT: Fe Silva-Robles (*3rd District*), Sylvia Mendez (*City of Watsonville*),

STAFF: Kaite McGrew (*Commissions Manager*), Juliette Burke (*Chief Deputy Clerk of the Board*), Miriam King (*Spanish Language Interpreter*)

GUESTS: No members of the public were present.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

Meeting convened at 6:01 PM.

Commission welcomed new Commissioners Kristal Salcido (representing the City of Watsonville) and Oscar Sanchez (representing District 2).

2. Approve December 7, 2022 Minutes

Motion to approve minutes as written.

Motion/Second: Gomez/Salcido

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment: None

4. Administration of the Oath of Office

Burke administered the oath of office to all Commissioners in attendance.

5. New Business/Action Items

5.1. Election of Officers

Motion to elect Sanchez to serve as Commission Chair.

Motion/Second: Hernandez/Flores

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to elect Hernandez to serve as Commission Vice Chair.

Motion/Second: Gomez/Salcido

Motion passed unanimously.

6. Commissioner Reports

6.1. District 1 Report (Flores-Martinez):

Flores-Martinez encouraged Commissioners to promote participation in a local bicycling event.

6.2. District 2 Report (Sanchez):

Sanchez shared information about himself including his work as Quality Improvement Director for Santa Cruz Community Health, his drive to eliminate disparities and barriers to equity in public

health and his service on the boards of Encompass Community Service, the United Way of Santa Cruz County, and as Chair of the Emerging Leaders Circle. Santa Cruz Community Health is hosting an upcoming event at UCSC's Merrill Cultural Center featuring a panel of Santa Cruz County public health champions to discuss equity in public health.

6.3. District 3 Report (Silva-Robles): No Report

6.4. District 4 Report (De Santos):

De Santos met with Supervisor Hernandez to discuss County response to Pajaro Valley flooding and advocate for an increase in Latino representation in leadership roles within County law enforcement. Commission will consider elements for the 2023 Strategic Action Plan and discuss potential opportunities to address the matter of Latino representation in County law enforcement leadership roles during the next meeting.

6.5. District 5 Report (Gomez):

Gomez reported that Supervisor McPherson and Representative Jimmy Panetta convened a panel of local, statewide, and federal agency representatives for a town hall in Ben Lomond to share updates about the ongoing storm response in the Santa Cruz Mountains and address community concerns. Commissioners are encouraged to speak to their District Supervisors about holding similar events. Work on reopening Hwy 9 in the wake of a mudslide in February is ongoing.

6.6. Santa Cruz City Report (Hernandez):

Hernandez reported on a variety of issues including the Community Foundation's online directory of community flood recovery resources, Supervisor Cummings' support for the Commission's efforts, and an upcoming free screening of the documentary "Dolores," a portrait of labor and feminist activist Dolores Huerta to be held at the Del Mar Theatre.

6.7. Watsonville City Report (Mendez/Salcido):

Salcido shared information about her background including her service on the Watsonville City Council, the Police Activity Leagues Board, and her work as a County Deputy District Attorney. She reported on a variety of issues including the disparate Federal response to Pajaro Valley flooding relative to other areas of Santa Cruz County, a recent *Community Organized for Relational Power in Action* (COPA) meeting to address the housing crisis, Watsonville City's upcoming grand reopening of Ramsey Park and the expansion of *Si Se Puede*, the only Spanish-speaking drug and alcohol treatment program in Santa Cruz County.

7. Staff Report:

Staff reported that the Office of Recovery, Response, and Resilience has an exceptional webpage with great community information and flood recovery resources. The County is standardizing Commission protocols and standards, and the Commission is encouraged to ensure that all activities fall within their purview, and to consider how they can support

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:07 PM.

Submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Manager*