



Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission

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Meeting Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, February 3, 2021

TIME: 6:00 PM

LOCATION: Meeting held remotely

PRESENT: Gilberto Reyes (*1st District*), Abbygale Gonzalez (*2nd District*), Christina Granados (*4th District*), Leo Gomez (*5th District*), Diana Alfaro (*City of Santa Cruz*), Rebecca Hernandez (*City of Santa Cruz*), Rebecca Garcia (*City of Watsonville*), Patricia Guevara (*City of Watsonville*)

EXCUSED: None

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Kaite McGrew (*Commissions Coordinator*)

GUESTS: Hannah Rogers (*Community Action Board*), Paulina Moreno (*Community Action Board Director of Special Projects*) and 1 Member of the Public

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

Meeting convened at 6:00 PM.

2. Approve December 2, 2020 Minutes

Motion to Approve Minutes

Motion/Second: Garcia/Granados

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment

4. New Business/Action Items

4.1. Community Action Board 2021 Immigrant Forum

Moreno reported that the Community Action Board will be hosting an immigrant forum and would like the Commission to co-sponsor the event. Gomez, Garcia, Gonzales and Hernandez will represent the Commission in planning and participation.

Motion to support the Community Action Board Immigrant Forum to the extent possible

Motion/Second: Garcia/Hernandez

Motion passed unanimously.

4.2. 2021-2024 Equal Opportunity and Cultural Competence Plan Feedback

Commission provided feedback recommending clarification of terminology, standardized best practice elements, quantifiable metrics and standardized progress on these elements across all County departments. Additionally, the Commission recommended highlighting data identifying racial and ethnic disparities across job classifications and job categories (full-time vs. part-time, and permanent vs. temporary). Commissioners will email any additional feedback before February 17, 2021 for consideration.

4.3. County Anti-Racism Efforts

Commission considered a letter to the *Ad Hoc Advisory Body To Address Racism* requesting that representation from the Commission be included in the advisory body membership and that membership of the formal *Santa Cruz County Commission on Anti-Racism, Social and Economic*

Justice include at least one seat designated for a member of the Latino Affairs Commission as nominated by same.

Motion to approve letter to the Ad Hoc Advisory Body to Address Racism

Motion/Second: Garcia/Granados

Motion passed unanimously.

4.4. Latino Representation in the United States Senate

Commission considered a letter to Governor Newsom expressing their appreciation for his having appointed Alex Padilla to fill Vice President Kamala Harris' vacated seat in the United States Senate. Senator Padilla's appointment gives voice to the more than 15 million Latinos living in California.

Motion to approve letter as amended

Motion/Second: Garcia/Guevarra

Motion passed unanimously

5. Ongoing Business:

5.1. Pajaro Valley COVID-19 Outreach Task Force Update

Granados shared information on the County's vaccination distribution plan and myturn.ca.gov vaccination eligibility site. Commissioners are encouraged to share SAVE Lives information with their communities. Commission considered submitting a letter of support for to bolster coalition grant-seeking efforts. Commission will discuss fundraising during the April meeting. Granados completes her coalition attendance in February. A new representative has not been established.

Motion to authorizing Chair to send a letter supporting *Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance (PVPSA)*

Motion/Second: Garcia/Gonzales

Motional passed unanimously.

6. Commissioner Reports

6.1. District 1 Report (Reyes): The Board of Supervisors has approved a 57-unit affordable housing project off Capitola Road including a medical clinic.

6.2. District 2 Report (Gonzalez): No Report

6.3. District 3 Report: Seat Vacant

6.4. District 4 Report (Granados): No Report

6.5. District 5 Report (Gomez): Gomez reported on San Lorenzo Valley evacuations.

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

6.7. Santa Cruz City Report (Alfaro): Alfaro reported on AB-2162 streamlining approval process for affordable housing projects. New city-specific affordable housing measures are being considered.

6.8. Watsonville City Report (Garcia): Garcia will speak on an upcoming two-day affordable housing panel webinar. Garcia suggested Chairs review Strategic Action Plan (SAP) for possible updates and Commission consider process for SAP reporting.

6.9. Watsonville City Report (Guevara): Watsonville Film Festival begins on March 5, 2021.

7. Staff Report:

Staff reported on the County's emergency response to anticipated mudslides. A schedule of potential disaster service worker deployment has been developed to meet emerging needs through March.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.

Submitted: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Coordinator*