



Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission

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Meeting Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, February 7, 2024

TIME: 6:00PM

LOCATION: United Way of Santa Cruz County, 4450 Capitola Road, Ste 106, Capitola, CA 95010

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*),

EXCUSED: None

ABSENT: Kristal Salcido (*City of Watsonville*), Micaela Lopez (*City of Watsonville*)

STAFF: Kaite McGrew (*Commissions Manager*)

GUESTS: No members of the public were present.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

Meeting convened at 6:09 PM.

2. Approve December 6, 2023 Minutes

Motion to approve minutes as written.

Motion/Second: Hernandez/Flores-Martinez

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment: None

4. New Business/Action Items

4.1. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in County Law Enforcement Leadership Data Collection Update
Staff provided an update on the project. Personnel finished data collection and analysis and developed slides to present the data. Slides will be shared with Sheriff's Office leadership, and we'll meet with them to discuss next steps. When the data is presented, they will be invited to help present and answer questions.

4.2. Commission Restructuring Effort Update

Staff provided an update on the County's recent efforts to restructure the County Commission system. The Board heard a follow-up report from the CAO's office with their restructuring recommendations. Because the Latino Affairs Commission was not mentioned in the recommendations, it was decided to postpone sending the advocacy letter until August when the CAO's office will return to the Board with further recommendations.

4.3. Amendments to Santa Cruz County Code Chapter 2.38 Governing Advisory Bodies

Staff provided an update on recent amendments to County Code Chapter 2.38 which governs all County advisory bodies. Highlights of the new provisions include a requirement that the Commission approve the meeting calendar each April, limiting Commission officer terms to no

more than two consecutive years, allowing Commissions to have Co-Chairs instead of a Chair and a Vice Chair, and the addition of \$75 Commissioner stipends for each public meeting they attend.

5. Commissioner Reports

5.1. District 1 Report (Flores-Martinez):

Flores-Martinez reported that Supervisor Koenig allocated his discretionary funds to County Parks for the installation of a new sunshade structure LEO's Haven accessible park. The Women in Leadership Diverse Roles (WILDR) organization is hosting an event recognizing local women who have had a positive impact for other local women. The InspireHer event will be held in March. Commissioners are encouraged to participate.

5.2. District 2 Report (Sanchez):

Sanchez encouraged Commissioners to participate in the upcoming elections.

5.3. District 3 Report: Seat Vacant

5.4. District 4 Report (De Santos):

Attended a community meeting hosted by Supervisor Hernandez that summarized ongoing work to repair the Pajaro River Levee. New projects will be implemented in 2024-2025. De Santos also spoke with Undersheriff Chris Clark about the upcoming DEI in leadership date presentation.

5.5. District 5 Report (Gomez):

Winter storms had a huge impact on District 5, including road closures and storm damage. Residents have had to rely upon home insurance companies assessing the value of their homes, but the County has a free service providing an inspection with a report residents can include with their claims. More information can be found at stormdamage@santacruzcountyca.gov or 831-454-3171.

5.6. Santa Cruz City Report (Hernandez):

Hernandez shared information on two upcoming community events. In February, George Ow, a long-time resident and philanthropist, will speak at the Museum of Art and History in February on his family's history in Santa Cruz County. The Watsonville film festival, which uplifts Latine and Indigenous filmmakers, will be held at the Green Valley Theatre in March this year. More can be found at www.Watsonvillefilmfest.org.

5.7. Watsonville City Report (Salcido): No Report

5.8. Watsonville City Report (Lopez): No Report

6. Staff Report: No Report

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:44 PM.

Submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Manager*