



Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission

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Meeting Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, August 6, 2025

TIME: 6:00PM

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

PRESENT: Yadira Flores-Martinez (*1st District*), Kassandra Flores (*3rd District*), Cesar De Santos (*4th District*), Emmanuel Nevarez (*City of Santa Cruz*), Micaela Lopez (*City of Watsonville*), Bibianna Rocha (*City of Watsonville*)

EXCUSED: Oscar Sanchez (*2nd District*)

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Kaite McGrew (*Commissions Manager*)

GUESTS: 8 members of the public were present.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

Meeting convened at 6:18 PM.

2. Approve June 4, 2025 Minutes

Motion to approve minutes as written.

Motion/Second: De Santos/Flores

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment

Nevarez read a statement acknowledging the 80th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima.

4. New Business/Action Items

4.1. Immigration Policy: Review Community impact and Response and Consider Next Steps

The Commission discussed community concerns related to immigration enforcement and access to services. Rocha and Flores reported on local organizing efforts and the work of YARR in providing rapid response and safe spaces for allies. The Commission agreed to draft a letter to the Board of Supervisors highlighting community concerns, including the use of masks by ICE officers, potentially problematic County investments, the need for increased funding for services and safety net benefits for families impacted by ICE activities, avoiding hiring individuals with prior ICE employment for County law enforcement roles, and ensuring the confidentiality of data collected by the County, such as automatic license plate reader data.

Motion to establish an ad hoc *Immigration Policy Subcommittee* to draft a letter to the Board of Supervisors sharing community concerns

Motion/Second: De Santos/ Flores Martinez

Motion passed unanimously.

Nevarez appointed Nevarez, Lopez, Rocha, and Flores-Martinez to the subcommittee.

4.2. Sheriff's Department Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Update

Staff invited Chief Deputy Sheriff Clark to update the Commission on Latino representation in the Sergeant's classification among Peace Officers and Special Teams.

4.3. 2025 Hispanic Heritage Art Wall Exhibit Ad Hoc Subcommittee Report

The subcommittee met to discuss visual themes for the exhibit. Staff requested additional information and photographs from Community Action Board and will work with the Board of Supervisors to draft a proclamation honoring CAB's achievements.

Rocha left.

5. Commissioner Reports

5.1. District 1 Report (Flores-Martinez)

Flores-Martinez reported that the Seaside Company would like to remove the Jardin le Playa near the beach flats apartments. The garden is a ladybug habitat that is within the Santa Cruz City limits. Nevarez will liaise with Santa Cruz City to learn more.

5.2. District 2 Report (Sanchez): No Report

5.3. District 3 Report (Flores):

Flores reported that the County Office of Education's "Stuff the Bus" event happened and families in need can contact to COE to receive backpacks full of supplies until the end of August.

5.4. District 4 Report (De Santos): No Report

5.5. District 5 Report (Seat Vacant): No Report

5.6. Santa Cruz City Report (Nevarez) No Report

5.7. Watsonville City Report (Lopez/Rocha)

Flores-Martinez shared details about the Valle de Pajaro ribbon cutting event. The new County park is the first to have a Spanish name. Young Outdoor Leaders surveyed more than 900 community members to select the name.

6. Staff Report: No Report

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.

Submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Manager*