



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

Notice of Public Meeting and Agenda

DATE: Wednesday, April 6, 2022
TIME: 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY AND PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF AB 361 AND CAL. GOV. CODE 54953, THIS WILL BE A REMOTE MEETING WITH NO PHYSICAL LOCATION AVAILABLE, BUT ACCESS AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT WILL BE PROVIDED. PLEASE DIAL-IN TO THE TELECONFERENCE WITHIN TEN MINUTES OF THE MEETING START TIME.

ACCESS REMOTE MEETING VIA ZOOM

TO JOIN BY VIDEO: <https://zoom.us/join>

OR

TO JOIN BY PHONE ONLY: +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

NOTE: SPANISH TRANSLATION NOT AVAILABLE BY PHONE. PLEASE USE COMPUTER AUDIO

Meeting ID: 969 6241 6025

Passcode: 123678

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review
2. Approve *February 2, 2022 Minutes*
3. Public Comment
Any person may address the Commission for a period not to exceed three minutes on an issue within the jurisdiction of the Commission.
4. New Business/Action Items:
 - 4.1. County Public Defenders Agency Overview – Heather Rogers (*Public Defender*) and Mandy Tovar (*Training, Equity & Development Director*)
 - 4.2. Election of Officers
 - 4.3. Consider Adopting the AB-361 Statement of Findings Allowing Remote Meetings
5. Commissioner District/City Reports
 - 5.1. District 1
 - 5.2. District 2
 - 5.3. District 3
 - 5.4. District 4
 - 5.5. District 5
 - 5.6. Santa Cruz City
 - 5.7. Watsonville City
6. Staff Report
7. Adjournment

Next Meeting Scheduled for 6:00 PM on Wednesday, June 1, 2022

The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs or activities. If you require assistance to participate in the meeting, please contact (831) 454-2772 or TTY/TDD: 711 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to make arrangements.



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Meeting Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, February 2, 2022

TIME: 6:00 PM

LOCATION: Meeting held remotely

PRESENT: Yadira Flores-Martinez (1st District), Fe Silva-Robles (3rd District), Christina Granados (4th District), Leo Gomez (5th District), Rebecca Garcia (City of Watsonville), Sylvia Mendez (City of Watsonville)

EXCUSED: Rebecca Hernandez (City of Santa Cruz)

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Kaite McGrew (Commissions Manager), Jenny Van Natta (Spanish Language Interpreter)

GUESTS: 1 member of the public was present

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

Meeting convened at 6:07 PM.

Commission welcomed Commissioner Yadira Flores-Martinez representing District 1.

2. Approve December 1, 2021 Minutes

Motion to approve minutes

Motion/Second: Gomez/Mendez

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment

4. New Business/Action Items

4.1. Consider Adopting the AB-361 Statement of Findings Allowing Remote Meetings

Motion to approve statement of findings authorizing the Commission to hold their next meeting remotely under the provisions of Assembly Bill 361

Motion/Second: Garcia/Mendez

Motion passed unanimously.

4.2. Consider 2022 Strategic Action Plan

Commission reviewed the 2022 Strategic Action Plan, amended to include monitoring community partner implementation of social equity efforts, including Watsonville City's social equity policing efforts and monitoring efforts to address homelessness and affordable housing in the South County Latinx population.

Motion to Approve the 2022 Strategic Action Plan as amended

Motion/Second: Mendez/Garcia

Motion passed unanimously.

5. Commissioner Reports

5.1. District 1 Report (Flores-Martinez):

Flores-Martinez provided background information including her family, education, and work in the community.

5.2. District 2 Report (Seat Vacant): No Report

5.3. District 3 Report (Silva-Robles):

Silva-Robles expressed her gratitude for the addition of translation services to Commission meetings and shared information about events in her district.

5.4. District 4 Report (Granados):

Granados reported that the Commission's Instagram following has increased. Watsonville will host their annual film festival in March. Granados formally acknowledged Black History Month.

5.5. District 5 Report (Gomez): No Report

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

5.7. Watsonville City Report (Garcia):

Garcia reported that Watsonville is considering an ordinance to electrify the city and retrofit residential housing pending availability of funding to ensure that moderate and low-income families can afford to retrofit as well and do not experience increased natural gas prices as other households begin using less natural gas. Watsonville will now be part of the 18th Congressional District. Garcia requested that County Director of Housing for Health Dr. Robert Ratner present to the Commission on the County's efforts to address homelessness.

5.8. Watsonville City Report (Mendez):

Mendez reported that Watsonville Hospital is going through bankruptcy and may be converted to a District Hospital. The matter is being considered by the State legislature, and a judge will determine who can purchase the hospital, whether an NPO or a private party. The city will consider contributing to the \$70M needed to fund a district hospital.

6. Staff Report:

Staff met with County Counsel to discuss options to allow the Commission to conduct fundraising efforts and apply for and accept grant funding. County Counsel advised that the Commission could add language to their bylaws authorizing these activities and the Board could ratify that authorization if they approve the amended bylaws. Staff will report back on whether Personnel is willing to designate funds for the Commission in their budget and if so, how much. The EEO/CC Plan data has been updated and we anticipate publication by close of Q1 2022.

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:19 PM.

Submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Manager*



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SANTA CRUZ COUNTY LATINO AFFAIRS COMMISSION'S FINDINGS PURSUANT TO ASSEMBLY BILL 361 AUTHORIZING TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS AS A RESULT OF THE CONTINUING COVID-19 PANDEMIC STATE OF EMERGENCY AND HEALTH OFFICER RECOMMENDATION FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING

WHEREAS, The Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission is a legislative body under the Brown Act as defined under Cal. Gov. Code section 54952(b) and Santa Cruz County Code Section 2.38.110; and

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 361 ("AB 361"), urgency legislation effective immediately, that amended Government Code section 54953 to permit legislative bodies subject to the Brown Act to continue to meet under modified teleconferencing rules provided that they comply with specific requirements set forth in the statute; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to AB 361 and Cal. Gov. Code section 54953(e)(1)(A), a legislative body may meet under the modified teleconferencing rules during a proclaimed state of emergency, and where local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and which remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, on September 30, 2021, Santa Cruz County Public Health Officer Dr. Gail Newel strongly recommended that legislative bodies in Santa Cruz County continue to engage in physical/social distancing by meeting via teleconference as allowed by AB 361 and confirmed that she will regularly review and reconsider this recommendation and notify the public when it is no longer recommended; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to AB 361 and Cal. Gov. Code section 54953(e)(3), within 30 days of the date the legislative body first holding a teleconferenced meeting under the modified rules, and every 30 days thereafter, a legislative body can continue to hold such teleconference meetings provided it has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and determined either that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person or that local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing; and

WHEREAS, on April 6, 2022, The Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission held a videoconference meeting under AB 361; and

WHEREAS, this Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission has reconsidered the circumstances of the current state of emergency and finds that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to directly impact the ability of members of the public to participate safely in person and further finds that the Santa Cruz County Public Health Officer continues to recommend measures to promote social distancing; and

WHEREAS, in the interest of public health and safety, and due to the emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, the Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission deems it necessary to utilize the modified teleconferencing rules set forth in AB 361;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission makes the following findings by a majority vote:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct, and adopted as findings of the Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission.

Section 2. Effective immediately, and for the next 30 days, the Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission will meet via teleconference as authorized under AB 361 and Government Code section 54953(e)(3).

Section 3. No later than thirty (30) days from making today's findings, or at the next scheduled meeting, the Commission will reconsider the circumstances of the COVID-19 state of emergency and, if necessary, adopt subsequent findings to continue holding teleconference meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3).

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission in Santa Cruz, State of California, this 6th day of April, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Leo Gomez

Vice-Chair, Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission

ATTEST:

Department Staff

Approved as to Form:

Office of the County Counsel



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Scheduled Meetings

Unless otherwise specified, regularly scheduled Latino Affairs Commission meetings are generally held as follows:

DAY: First (1st) Wednesday
MONTH: Every other month (February, April, June, August, October and December)
TIME: 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
LOCATION: **United Way of Santa Cruz County (unless held remotely)****
4450 Capitola Road, Ste 106, Capitola, CA 95010

Changes to the schedule, including special meetings, changes of location, or meeting cancellations, will be listed on the website at www.scclatinoaffairs.org as soon as information becomes available.

2022 Meeting Dates		
DATE	TIME	LOCATION
February 2, 2022	6:00 – 7:30 PM	Remote
April 6, 2022	6:00 – 7:30 PM	Remote
June 1, 2022	6:00 – 7:30 PM	To Be Determined
August 3, 2022	6:00 – 7:30 PM	To Be Determined
October 5, 2022	6:00 – 7:30 PM	To Be Determined
December 7, 2022	6:00 – 7:30 PM	To Be Determined