



CITY OF NOVATO
CALIFORNIA

Multicultural Advisory Commission

Agenda

Wednesday, June 23, 2021 - 6:00 PM

[Agenda Teleconference Only](#)

Chair

Nicole Gardner

Vice Chair

Jeremy Portje

Members

**Tia Benjamins, Angelo Camillo, Cliff Jacobs, Angela Olmanson,
Sophia Osotio, Dennis Sato, Sierra Suraci**

Staff Liaison

Jessica Deakyne

Pursuant to the provisions of the California Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, issued on March 17, 2020, this meeting will be held by teleconference only.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk at (415) 899-8986. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable accommodation to help ensure accessibility to this meeting. The Multicultural Advisory Commission may discuss and/or take action on any or all of the items listed on the agenda irrespective of how the agenda items are described.

Public Participation/Comment Instructions

Members of the Public may participate and provide public comments to teleconference meetings as follows:

- **Written public comments** may be submitted by email to prcs@novato.org. Written public comments received more than 3 hours before the start of the meeting will be distributed to the Commission. Written public comment received after the three-hour cut-off, including during and after the meeting, will be collected and placed in the public record. Written public comments will not be read during the meeting.

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- **Spoken public comments** will be accepted through the Zoom meeting platform and via telephone. To address the Council orally, please read and follow the following instructions carefully:

Join the meeting at: <https://bit.ly/3q9txZW>

or

Join at [Zoom.com](https://zoom.us)

Meeting ID: 977 6675 3795

Password: 1960

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- a. You will be asked to enter an email address and name. We request that you identify yourself by name as this will be visible online and will be used to notify you when it is your turn to speak.
- b. When the Chair calls for public comment on the item on which you wish to speak, please use the “Raise Hand” feature by clicking on the hand icon at the bottom of your screen to notify the Host that you would like to speak.
- c. The Host will unmute speakers in turn. Speakers will be notified when it is their turn to speak.
- d. When called upon, please limit your remarks to the time limit allotted by the Chair or as specified on the agenda. Speakers will be muted when their time is up.

1. Join the meeting via telephone by calling **(669) 900-9128**

Meeting ID: 977 6675 3795

Password: 1960

- a. When the Chair calls for public comment on the item on which you wish to speak, **press *9** to activate the “Raise Hand” feature to notify the Host that you would like to speak.
- b. The Host will unmute speakers in turn. Speakers will be notified when it is their turn to speak.
- c. When called upon, please limit your remarks to the time limit allotted by the Chair or as specified on the agenda. Speakers will be muted when their time is up.

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

B. APPROVAL OF FINAL AGENDA

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

There is a three-minute time limit to speak although the Chair may shorten the time based on the number of speakers or other factors. A speaker may not yield his or her time to another speaker.

For issues raised during Public Comment that are not on the published agenda, except as otherwise provided under the Ralph M. Brown Act, no action can legally be taken. The Commission may direct that the item be referred to the Staff Liaison for action or may schedule the item on a subsequent agenda.

D. CONSENT ITEM

All matters listed on the Consent Item are considered to be routine and will be enacted by a single vote of the Commission. There will be no separate discussion unless specific items are removed from the Consent Item for separate discussion and action. Any Commissioner may remove an item from the Consent Item and place it under General Business for discussion.

D.1. Approve the meeting minutes from May 26, 2021

E. UNFINISHED AND OTHER BUSINESS

F. GENERAL BUSINESS

These items include significant and administrative actions of special interest and will usually include a presentation and discussion by the Commission. They will be enacted upon by a separate vote.

F.1 Pride Month Recap

F.2 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Training Update

F.3 Unification Initiative/Work Plan Update & Report to Council

G. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

This section is used for Commissioners and the Staff Liaison to orally report on topics that can be considered for discussion at a future meeting.

G.1. Commissioner Reports

G.2. Staff Liaison Reports

H. ADJOURNMENT

Materials, that are submitted to members of the Commission after the distribution of the meeting's agenda packet will be available upon request.

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

I, Christina Soares, certify that on the Thursday before the Multicultural Advisory Commission meeting of June 23, 2021 the agenda was posted on the City Community Service Board at 922 Machin Avenue and on the City's website at novato.org in Novato, California.

/Christina Soares/

Christina Soares, Management Analyst I



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CITY OF NOVATO
CALIFORNIA

Multicultural Advisory Commission

Draft Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 26, 2021 - 6:00 PM

Teleconference

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order by Chair Olmanson at 6:01P.M.

Commissioners present: Benjamins, Gardner, Jacobs, Olmanson, Osotio, Portje, Sato, Suraci.

Commissioners absent: Camillo

Staff Present: Assistant City Manager Jessica Deakyne, City Clerk Laura McDowall, & Management Analyst I Christina Soares.

B. APPROVAL OF FINAL AGENDA

Commission Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Osotio and seconded by Vice Chair Jacobs, the Commission voted 8-0-1 to approve final agenda.

AYES: Benjamins, Gardner, Jacobs, Olmanson, Osotio, Portje, Sato, Suraci

NOES: None

ABSENT: Camillo

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

D. CONSENT ITEM

D.1. Approve the meeting minutes from April 28, 2021

Commission Action: Upon motion by Vice Chair Jacobs and seconded by Commissioner Sato, the Commission voted 4-0-3-4 to approve meeting minutes.

AYES: Jacobs, Olmanson, Osotio, Sato

NOES: None

ABSENT: vacant, Camillo, Lyonnet

ABSTAIN: Benjamins, Gardner, Portje, Suraci

E. UNFINISHED AND OTHER BUSINESS

None

F. GENERAL BUSINESS

These items include significant and administrative actions of special interest and will usually include a presentation and discussion by the Commission. They will be enacted upon by a separate vote.

F.1 Introductions of Commissioners

The Commissioners took turns introducing themselves to the Commission and Staff.

F.2 Election of Chair & Vice Chair

Motion by Commissioner Sato to nominate Vice Chair Jacobs as Chair. Vice Chair Jacobs accepted the nomination and seconded the motion.

Upon further discussion of the Commissioners, a substitute motion was made by Chair Olmanson.

Commission Action: Substitute Motion: Chair Olmanson motioned to nominate Gardner as the Chair, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Osotio. Gardner accepted the nomination. The Commission voted 5-3-1 to elect Gardner as Chair.

AYES: Benjamins, Gardner, Olmanson, Osotio, Portje

NOES: Jacobs, Sato, Suraci

ABSENT: Camillo

Chair Gardner called for motion to nominate a Vice Chair.

Commission Action: Upon motion by Chair Olmanson and seconded by Commissioner Benjamins, the Commission voted 7-0-1-1 to elect Commissioner Portje as Vice Chair.

AYES: Benjamins, Gardner, Olmanson, Osotio, Portje, Sato, Suraci.

NOES: None

ABSENT: Camillo

ABSTAIN: Jacobs

F.3 Commission Training Refresher, Laura McDowall

City Clerk Laura McDowall presented a training refresher to the Commission and discussed their responsibilities, communications, and meeting etiquette.

F.4 Unification Initiative/Work Plan Update, Jessica Deakyne

ACM Deakyne reviewed the Commission's Unification Initiative and Workplan with the Commissioners and the upcoming Pride Events in June.

G. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

This section is used for Commissioners and the Staff Liaison to orally report on topics that can be considered for discussion at a future meeting.

G.1. Commissioner Reports

- Commissioner Suraci asked about clarification on Diversity Training.
- Commissioner Sato thanked the Commission and ACM Deakyne for promoting and sharing NIOT-Novato's flyer on the Asian Hate Crime event.
- Commissioner Jacobs shared with the Commission that the Pride Resolution was presented to Council by Wesley Fink, San Marin High School's Gay-Straight Alliance at the May 25, 2021 Council meeting.
- Commissioner Osotio asked for community members or groups to submit videos or pictures for the July 4th virtual parade, honoring Hometown Heroes. The deadline to submit is June 1, 2021.

G.2. Staff Liaison Reports

ACM Deakyne updated the Commission about the May 25, 2021 Council meeting and provided Pride event updates including: Pride Flags flown at City Hall and Police Department beginning June 1, 2021; Pride Proclamation will be read at the start of the Council meeting on June 8, 2021; Virtual Storytime at Copperfield's Books will take place on the first three Saturday mornings in June; Speaker Event will be held June 16, 2021. Event information will be sent to the Commissioners.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Osotio motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Olmanson seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:38 P.M.

I HERBY CERTIFY that the foregoing minutes were duly adopted at the Multicultural Advisory Commission meeting of _____.

/ Christina Soares /

Christina Soares, Management Analyst I