



CITY OF NOVATO
CALIFORNIA

Multicultural Advisory Commission

MINUTES

Wednesday, March 23, 2022 - 6:00 PM

Teleconference

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

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

Commissioners present: Camillo, Gardner, Jacobs, Olmanson, Sato, Suraci

Commissioners absent: Osotio, Portje (*arrived 6:02 P.M.*)

Staff Present: Assistant City Manager Jessica Deakyne, Interim Chief of Police Hank Schreeder, Parks & Recreation Deputy Director Katie Gauntlett, Senior Management Analyst Drew Bendickson, Management Analyst I Christina Soares.

B. APPROVAL OF FINAL AGENDA

Commission Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Camillo and seconded by Commissioner Sato the Commission voted **7-0-1** to approve final agenda.

AYES: Camillo, Gardner, Jacobs, Olmanson, Portje, Sato, Suraci

NOES: None

ABSENT: Osotio

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

NONE

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 February 23, 2022.

Commission Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Sato and seconded by Commissioner Camillo the Commission voted **3-0-1-4** to approve meeting minutes.

AYES: Camillo, Olmanson, Sato

NOES: None
ABSENT: Osotio
ABSTAIN: Gardner, Jacobs, 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. Discussion Regarding Commission’s Support for Hate Crimes and Incidents

Police Chief Schreeder presented information to the Commissioners on what constitutes a Hate Crime. The Commissioners discussed what Hate Crimes consist of and how the City responds to them. ACM Deakyne noted that Not In Our Town-Novato will become a county-led group and suggested we consider appointing a MAC Commissioner as a representative. The Commissioners discussed how the commission addresses hate issues as they arise and including the community in those discussions, as well as what is being done for vulnerable community members. It was suggested to have guidelines for how the commission responds but also ensuring a response from the City to reassure the community is safe.

Nina Zee spoke during public comment and wants police to address community issues on hate.

Commission Action: Upon motion by Vice Chair Portje and seconded by Commissioner Jacobs the Commission voted **7-0-1** to have City staff research “See, Click, Fix” online reporting tool options for community members to submit non-emergency problems for Public Works staff to address.

AYES: Camillo, Gardner, Jacobs, Olmanson, Portje, Sato, Suraci
NOES: None
ABSENT: Osotio

F.2. Final Planning for Diversity Day Celebration

ACM Deakyne announced a change taking place for Diversity Day celebrations. Commissioner Olmanson provided an update to the commission about the planned Diversity Day at Miwok, celebrating Indigenous People’s Day and the mural unveiling separate from Diversity Day. The intent of the separate events is to focus celebrations on Indigenous People. The Commissioners discussed the logistics of separating events and how we can still celebrate Diversity Day and still include Indigenous People in our event. The Commission discussed changing Diversity Day to the April 27th MAC meeting and holding a discussion panel.

Commission Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Jacobs and seconded by Commissioner Olmanson the Commission voted **7-0-1** to have Diversity Day re-scheduled to April 27, 2022 and include a speaker panel, introduce MAC to the public

and have an Indigenous People's Day celebration later in the year. Commissioners can submit to be on panel.

AYES: Camillo, Gardner, Jacobs, Olmanson, Portje, Sato, Suraci

NOES: None

ABSENT: Osotio

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 Sato informed the Commission that Novato Community Hospital will be celebrating their 20-year anniversary with a fund raiser at HopMonk Tavern in Novato, on June 2, 2022 from 6:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M. and they are looking for sponsors as well as attendees.
- Commissioner Olmanson and Vice Chair Portje are compiling a list of potential presenters to speak on specific topics. This item will be agendaized to May's MAC meeting.
- Commissioner Suraci had nothing to report.
- Commissioner Camillo had nothing to report.
- Commissioner Jacobs participated in North Marin Community Services event and wants to learn how to distribute information about the program to the public.
- Chair Gardner had nothing to report but noted she wants to work with Vice Chair Portje and Commissioner Olmanson on finding speakers.

G.2. Staff Liaison Reports

- ACM Deakyne discussed the Cultural Holiday Celebrations Calendar.
- Next month's meeting will be in-person, held in Council Chambers.
- Not In Our Town will be a county-led program going forward.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Olmanson motioned to adjourn. Chair Gardner seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:17 P.M.

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

I HERBY CERTIFY that the foregoing minutes were duly adopted at the Multicultural Advisory Commission meeting of May 25, 2022.

**/ Christina Soares /
Christina Soares, Management Analyst I**