



CITY OF NOVATO
CALIFORNIA

Multicultural Advisory Commission

Agenda

Wednesday, October 26, 2022 - 6:00 PM

**Novato City Hall
Council Chambers, 901 Sherman Ave**

**Chair
Sophia Osotio**

**Vice Chair
Sierra Suraci**

**Members
Angelo Camillo, Nicole Gardner, Cliff Jacobs, Angela Olmanson,
Dennis Sato, Charles Schwarze**

**Staff Liaisons
Drew Bendickson**

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 meetings as follows:

- **Written public comments** may be submitted by email to mac@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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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 ITEMS

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 September 28, 2022

E. UNFINISHED AND OTHER BUSINESS

E.1. Receive update from Ad Hoc Committee on Community Engagement

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. Multicultural Commission Annual Report & Discuss Actions to Council

F.2. Consider recommending the Novato City Council recognize November 13-19, 2022 as United Against Hate Week

G. COMMITTEE PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM(S)

This section is used for Commissioners to orally report on topics that can be considered for discussion at a future meeting. Items must have been sent to staff 10 calendar days prior to the meeting to be included in the agenda.

None.

H. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

This section is for Commissioners and Staff Liaisons to provide oral updates as related to the commission

H.1. Commissioner Reports

H.2. Staff Liaison Reports

I. ADJOURNMENT

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

I, Drew Bendickson, certify that on the Thursday before the Multicultural Advisory Commission meeting of October 26, 2022 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.

/Drew Bendickson/

Drew Bendickson, Senior Management Analyst



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CITY OF NOVATO
CALIFORNIA

Multicultural Advisory Commission
Draft Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Council Chambers, 901 Sherman Avenue

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order by Chair Osotio at 6:00pm.

Commissioners present: Camillo, Gardner, Olmanson, Osotio, Schwarze, Suraci

Staff Present: Senior Management Analyst Drew Bendickson, Assistant City Manager

Jessica Deakyne, Senior Office Assistant Monica Castillo, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services Katie Gauntlett

B. APPROVAL OF FINAL AGENDA

Commission Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Schwarze and seconded by Vice Chair Suraci the Commission voted **6-0-2** to approve the final agenda.

AYES: Camillo, Gardner, Olmanson, Osotio, Schwarze, Suraci

NOES: None

ABSENT: Jacobs, Sato

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

D. CONSENT ITEMS

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

D.1 Approve the meeting minutes of August 24, 2022.

Commission Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Olmanson and seconded by Commissioner Gardner the Commission voted **6-0-2** to approve the meeting minutes of August 24, 2022.

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

E. UNFINISHED AND OTHER BUSINESS

E.1. Receive update from the Community Partnership Ad Hoc Committee on cultural calendar

Commissioner Olmanson presented the 3 main items the Ad Hoc Committee discussed and wants to focus on for 2023: 1) Celebrating Dia De Los Muertos; 2) Celebrating Indigenous People's Day; 3) Creating land acknowledgments.

Commission Action: Upon motion by Chair Osotio and seconded by Commissioner Olmanson the Commission voted **6-0-2** to agendize a presentation about land acknowledgements for a future meeting.

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

Commission Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Olmanson and seconded by Vice Chair Suraci the Commission voted **6-0-2** to have City staff find partners for and hold an event to celebrate Dia De Los Muertos beginning in 2023 and onward.

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

Commission Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Olmanson and seconded by Commissioner Schwarze the Commission voted **6-0-2** to broaden the Ad Hoc Committee's focus to include community engagement.

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

F. GENERAL BUSINESS

F.1. Presentation from Michele Sheehan to discuss and consider recommending the Novato City Council recognize October 2022 as Bullying Prevention Month

Michele Sheehan presented the item and recommended adding the following partners to the proclamation: Marin County District Attorney's Office, Marin County Board of Supervisors, North Marin Community Services, Marin County Office of Education including NUSD, Marin Sheriff, Police departments including Novato Police Department.

Commission Action: Upon motion by Chair Osotio and seconded by Commissioner Gardner the Commission voted **6-0-2** to present the proclamation to Novato City Council with the additional edits presented by Michele Sheehan.

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

F.2. Receive an update from Assistant City Manager, Jessica Deakyne on Not In Our Town Marin County Coalition; and discuss and consider recommending Novato City Council recognize United Against Hate Week in November.

Assistant City Manager Jessica Deakyne presented the item and discussed a brief presentation she gave regarding Not In Our Town and celebrating United Against Hate Week in November.

Public Comment:

1. Marin County District Attorney Lori Frugoli

Commission Action: Commissioner Suraci motioned to create a Liaison Committee with Not In Our Town Marin. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Commission Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Olmanson and seconded by Chair Osotio the Commissioner voted **6-0-2** to have the City and MAC partner with the County Office for the November 16 showing of "Repairing the World".

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

G. COMMITTEE PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM(S)

G.1. From Chair Osotio - Consider recommending the Community Partnership Ad Hoc Committee find a partner to work with stopping the spread of antisemitic messaging

Chair Osotio presented the item and encouraged a standardized response to hate incidents and hateful messaging.

Commission Action: Chair Osotio moved to agendize a discussion on responding to hateful messaging in the community. Commissioner Schwarze seconded the motion and suggested a friendly amendment to include a discussion on how to promote awareness in this Committee about these hateful incidents, to which the maker of the motion agreed. The Commission voted **6-0-2** to agendize a discussion on responding to and promoting awareness of hateful messaging in the community, including a discussion on how to promote awareness in the Committee about these hateful incidents.

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

G.2. From Chair Osotio - Consider receiving a presentation from Marin Board of Supervisors on recognizing racism as a public health crisis

Chair Osotio presented the item and requested to receive a presentation from Marin Board of Supervisors on recognizing racism as a public health crisis.

Senior Management Analyst Drew Bendickson shared that the presentation is available online and the link will be distributed.

H. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

H.1. Commissioner Reports

Commissioners reported on related incidents and meetings they've attended.

H.2. Staff Liaison Reports

Senior Management Analyst Drew Bendickson reported on City business.

I. ADJOURNMENTS

The meeting adjourned at 7:09pm.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing minutes were duly adopted at the Multicultural Advisory Commission meeting of _____, 2022.

/ Monica Castillo /
Senior Office Assistant



CITY OF NOVATO
CALIFORNIA

Proclamation

Recognizing

UNITED AGAINST HATE WEEK NOVEMBER 13 - 19, 2022

WHEREAS, the United States is a nation of immigrants and Indigenous peoples, whose strength comes from its diversity; and

WHEREAS, the Constitution enshrines equality on all individuals, regardless of race, gender, orientation, religion or political views; and

WHEREAS, recent rhetoric has generated a toxic environment that encourages the propagation of racist, xenophobic, sexist, homophobic, discrimination based on religious beliefs and other bigoted views by emboldened hate groups and individuals; and

WHEREAS, deep divisions within our country allow for the festering of extreme ideology, further strengthening a cycle of mistrust and suspicion fueled by fear, anxiety, and insecurity; and

WHEREAS, the number of hate crimes across the United States has increased dramatically over the past couple of years; and

WHEREAS, the City of Novato City Council is dedicated to preventing and opposing hate and intolerance in our community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Novato City Council, since 2018, have participated in United Against Hate Week and Not In Our Town, and its movement to stop hate, address bullying, and build safe, inclusive, communities for all; and

WHEREAS, the Multicultural Advisory Commission is advisory to the City Manager and City Council, providing support around issues surrounding multiculturalism, diversity and hate crimes, acting as a catalyst to encourage respect, understanding and inclusion of all of Novato's diversity; and

WHEREAS, the Multicultural Advisory Commissioners joins all of our community partners in recognizing this week and bringing to light that education, compassion, and cooperation are key to unlocking understanding and embracing differences between people; and

WHEREAS, the City of Novato commends all United Against Hate Week actions undertaken by participating Novato community members, including collaborative work with North Marin Community Services, Novato Unified School District, Novato Police Department, Not In Our Town National, Marin County District Attorney's Office and Novato's Multicultural Advisory Commission to create awareness, educate, and share resources regarding how to positively respond to hate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Novato seeks to join the Bay Area, California, and other communities across the country in United Against Hate Week as an important step in bridging division and strengthening our communities to combat hate.

Eric Lucan, Mayor