



CITY OF NOVATO
CALIFORNIA

Multicultural Advisory Commission

Agenda

Wednesday, March 22, 2023 - 6:00 PM

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

**Chair
Sophia Osotio**

**Vice Chair
Sierra Suraci**

**Members
Chandra Alexandre, 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 February 22, 2023

E. UNFINISHED AND OTHER BUSINESS

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

E.2. Receive an update from Ad Hoc Committee on Multicultural Event Speakers

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. Discuss Diversity Day “Combating Hate” Event and Review Draft Promotional Materials

F.2. Receive a presentation from Jason Deschler of the Coast Miwok Tribal Council of Marin

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 March 22, 2023 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

February 22, 2023

Council Chambers, 901 Sherman Avenue

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order by Chair Osotio at 6pm

Commissioners present: Alexandre, Osotio, Sato, Schwarze, Suraci

Staff Present: Senior Management Analyst Drew Bendickson, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services Katie Gauntlett, Assistant City Manager Jessica Deakyne, Senior Office Assistant Monica Castillo

B. APPROVAL OF FINAL AGENDA

Commission Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Alexandre and seconded by Commissioner Schwarze the Commission voted **5-0-4** to approve the final agenda.

AYES: Alexandre, Osotio, Sato, Schwarze, Suraci

NOES: None

ABSENT: Camillo, Gardner, Jacobs, Olmanson

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 January 25, 2023

Commission Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Alexandre and seconded by Commissioner Schwarze the Commission voted **5-0-4** to approve the meeting minutes of January 25, 2023 with the suggested edit from Chair Osotio to remove Commissioner Alexandre's double vote in item D.1.

AYES: Alexandre, Osotio, Sato, Schwarze, Suraci

NOES: None

ABSENT: Camillo, Gardner, Jacobs, Olmanson

E. UNFINISHED AND OTHER BUSINESS

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

Commissioner Schwarze presented the item and shared ideas from their discussion. The Ad Hoc plans to meet with City staff to further develop their engagement ideas.

E.2. Receive an update from the Ad Hoc Committee on Multicultural Event Speakers

Chair Osotio presented the item and shared the ideas from their discussion including:

- For Diversity Month event: Doing community outreach to get members of the public to be on the Diversity Month panel and inviting members of the Coast Miwok Tribal Council to be on the panel;
- For Pride month celebrations: Reaching out to parents and students at Novato schools who supported the May 24 Pride flag-raising to speak at the City's 2023 Pride flag-raising ceremony.

Commission Action: Upon motion by Chair Osotio and seconded by Commissioner Schwarze the Commission voted **5-0-4** to perform community outreach for Pride Month speakers with help from City Staff.

AYES: Alexandre, Osotio, Sato, Schwarze, Suraci

NOES: None

ABSENT: Camillo, Gardner, Jacobs, Olmanson

F. GENERAL BUSINESS

F.1. Discuss Diversity Day event and provide staff with theme and speaker direction

The Commissioners and staff discussed possible speakers for the panel including Rabbi Landa of the Chabad Jewish Center of Novato, Marin County Assistant District Attorney Otis Bruce, Co-Director of Latine Programs at North Marin Community Services Maria Jaramillo-Botero, Jason Deschler of the Coast Miwok Tribal Council, Jean Bee Chan of the Asian American Alliance of Marin, and others. The Commissioners and staff also decided on a theme and presentation style for the event.

Commission Action: Upon motion by Chair Osotio and seconded by Commissioner Schwarze the Commission voted **5-0-4** to work with City staff to perform community outreach for acquiring Diversity Day event speakers.

AYES: Alexandre, Osotio, Sato, Schwarze, Suraci

NOES: None

ABSENT: Camillo, Gardner, Jacobs, Olmanson

Commission Action: Upon motion by Vice Chair Suraci and seconded Chair Osotio the Commission voted **5-0-4** to make the Diversity Day theme "Combatting Hate".

AYES: Alexandre, Osotio, Sato, Schwarze, Suraci

NOES: None

ABSENT: Camillo, Gardner, Jacobs, Olmanson

Commission Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Schwarze and seconded by Chair Osotio the Commission voted **5-0-4** to have the Diversity Day event be “panel style”.

AYES: Alexandre, Osotio, Sato, Schwarze, Suraci

NOES: None

ABSENT: Camillo, Gardner, Jacobs, Olmanson

G. COMMITTEE PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM(S)

None.

H. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

H.1. Commissioner Reports

Commissioners shared upcoming cultural events with the Commissioners.

H.2. Staff Liaison Reports

Senior Management Analyst Drew Bendickson presented the City’s February cultural celebrations including Black History Month and Japanese Day of Remembrance and reminded Commissioners that the Spring CCB recruitment is happening now until March 24.

I. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:55pm.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing minutes were duly adopted at the Multicultural Advisory Commission meeting of _____, 2023.

/Monica Castillo/

Monica Castillo, Senior Office Assistant