



CITY OF NOVATO
CALIFORNIA

Multicultural Advisory Commission

Agenda

Wednesday, March 27, 2024 - 6:00 PM

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

**Chair
Cliff Jacobs**

**Vice Chair
Chandra Alexandre**

**Members
Pamela Luk, Sophia Osotio, Carlos Solis**

**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 28, 2024

E. UNFINISHED AND OTHER BUSINESS

E.1. Receive an update from the Ad Hoc Committee on the Diversity Day Event

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. Receive a presentation about the Museum of the American Indian, from JuanCarlos Arauz, Ph.D., MAI Board Member

F.2. Consider establishing an Ad Hoc Committee for the City's Pride Flag Raising Event

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.

G.1. A presentation by Diana Gonzalez, the new Guatemalan owner of the re-designed Star Diner. Highlighting the diner's new American and Latin American-themed motif and menu

G.2. A discussion about the new, earlier date set in September for our support and possible participation in United Against Hate week

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 Wednesday before the Multicultural Advisory Commission meeting of March 27, 2024, 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, Community Services Division Manager



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CITY OF NOVATO
CALIFORNIA

Multicultural Advisory Commission

Draft Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 28, 2024

Novato City Hall, 901 Sherman Avenue

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

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

Commissioners present: Pamela Luk, Sophia Osotio, Carlos Solis, Vice Chair Alexandre, Chair Jacobs

Staff Present: Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services Katie Gauntlett, Community Services Division Manager Drew Bendickson, Recreation Division Manager Alexandra Kambur

B. APPROVAL OF FINAL AGENDA

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

AYES: Luk, Osotio, Solis, Alexandre, Jacobs

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

D. CONSENT ITEMS

D.1 Approve the meeting minutes from January 24, 2024

Commission Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Osotio and seconded by Commissioner Alexandre the Commission voted **5-0-0** to approve the meeting minutes of January 24, 2024.

AYES: Luk, Osotio, Solis, Alexandre, Jacobs

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

E. UNFINISHED AND OTHER BUSINESS

None.

F. GENERAL BUSINESS

F.1. Review and Discuss the 2024 Cultural Outreach Calendar and Provide Input

Community Services Division Manager Drew Bendickson brought forth the 2024 Cultural Outreach Calendar to ask for input from the commission.

Commissioner Luk informed the commissioners that April is Diversity Month and should be considered. Community Services Division Manager Drew Bendickson informed the commission that April is officially recognized as Diversity Month on the cultural outreach calendar. Chair Jacobs brought forth the idea of Multicultural Diversity Day, which is typically celebrated on October 12. Community Services Division Manager Drew Bendickson informed the commission he would look into that further.

F.2. Discuss Diversity Day Event and Provide Staff with Theme and Speaker Direction

Community Services Division Manager Drew Bendickson and Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Director Katie Gauntlett presented multiple options for potential speaker's themes at the Diversity Day Event, including:

1. Novato High School and San Marin High School student counselors
2. Representatives from the LGBTQIA+ community
3. Representatives from the Black Student Union from both Novato High School and San Marin High School

Potential topics of discussion for the potential speakers:

1. Cross-cultural challenges in the school environment
2. Intercultural dynamics within the school community

Commission Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Osotio and seconded by Commissioner Luk the Commission voted **5-0-0** to approve the 2024 Diversity Day Event theme of "Celebrating Youth Voices".

AYES: Luk, Osotio, Solis, Alexandre, Jacobs

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

F.2. Consider establishing an Ad Hoc Committee for the Diversity Day Event

Commission Action: Upon motion by Chair Jacobs and seconded by Commissioner Luk the Commission voted **5-0-0** to approve Commissioner Osotio and Commissioner Alexandre as the Ad Hoc Committee for the Diversity Day Event.

AYES: Luk, Osotio, Solis, Alexandre, Jacobs

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

G. COMMITTEE PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM(S)

None.

H. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

H.1. Commissioner Reports

None.

H.2. Staff Liaison Reports

Community Services Division Manager Drew Bendickson presented recent social media updates to the commissioners. He highlighted February's social media cultural celebrations including Black History Month, the Lunar New Year, and Japanese Day of Remembrance. He also shared that the Museum of the American Indian will have its grand reopening on Saturday, April 27th.

Community Services Division Manager Drew Bendickson also reminded the commission of the upcoming Parks Master Plan meeting with the City Council reviewing the draft plan as well as Spring recruitment for committees, commissions, and boards for 2024, with 4 vacancies currently on MAC.

D. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m. by Chair Jacobs.

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

/Drew Bendickson

Drew Bendickson, Community Services Division Manager