



## AGENDA

LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY  
NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION  
**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2021, 5:30 P.M.**

**To Listen Via Telephone:** (669) 900-6833  
Webinar ID: 814 4817 2666

**To View Via Web:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81448172666>

**To Provide Public Comment:** You may submit written public comment via email to [aferguson@wdacs.lacounty.gov](mailto:aferguson@wdacs.lacounty.gov). Please submit your public comment or documentation as soon as possible but no later than 5 p.m. the night before the scheduled meeting.

CHRISSIE CASTRO, Chairperson  
*Navajo*

RUDY ORTEGA JR., Vice Chairperson  
*Fernandeño Tataviam*

SHAWN IMITATES-DOG, Treasurer  
*Lakota*

ANDREA N. GARCIA, M.D., Commissioner  
*Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara*

ALLISON HICKS, Commissioner  
*Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation/Choctaw*

DAWN JACKSON, Commissioner  
*Saginaw Chippewa*

FRED LEAF, Commissioner  
*Potawatomi*

KIMBERLY MORALES JOHNSON, Commissioner  
*Gabrieleno Tongva*

RANDALL MURPHY, Commissioner  
*Choctaw/Lakota*

TRACY PEREZ, Commissioner  
*Navajo*

JOSEPH A. QUINTANA, Commissioner  
*Kewa Pueblo*

TED TENORIO, Commissioner  
*Tiguan Nation*

CHERI THOMAS, Commissioner  
*Quinault/Yurok*

MARK VILLASEÑOR, Commissioner  
*Fernandeño Tataviam*

ALEXANDRA VALDES  
Executive Director  
*Tlingit/Athabascan*

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### 1. INVOCATION

### 2. CALL TO ORDER

### 3. ROLL CALL & COMMISSIONER INTRODUCTIONS

### 4. ACTION ITEMS

- 4.1. Review and take possible action adopting the January 2021 Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission (LANAIC) Meeting Minutes
- 4.2. Presentation from the Indigenous Education Now coalition, and take possible action.

**AGENDA FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2021 - 5:30 P.M.**

**5. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

5.1. COVID-19 Updates

5.1.1. COVID & Race Response updates

5.1.2. COVID Vaccine updates

5.2. Fourth Supervisorial District Vacancy

5.3. Provide update on the status on the Draft 2020 Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission Community Report

5.4. County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors Board Order Updates & Board Priority Updates

5.4.1. Indigenous Peoples Day 2020 (September 29, 2020)

5.4.2. Renaming the Christopher Columbus Transcontinental Highway (October 13, 2020)

5.4.3. Countywide Cultural Policy – Developing County Land Acknowledgment

**6. SUBCOMMITTEE & AD-HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS & MOTION**

6.1. Homelessness Committee Report

**6 SUBCOMMITTEE & AD-HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS & MOTIONS**

**7 COMMISSIONER GENERAL COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

**8 ANNOUNCEMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**9 PUBLIC COMMENT**

**10 COMMISSION ADJOURNMENT**

Meetings are held in English. If interpretation in other languages or accommodations for persons with disabilities are needed, please contact the Commission at (213) 738-3241 at least 3 business days before the meeting. The meetings of the Native American Indian Commission are accessible to persons with disabilities.

**Contact: [www.lanaic.org](http://www.lanaic.org), [contact@lanaic.org](mailto:contact@lanaic.org), or (213) 738-3241**



**LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 19, 2021**

The meeting of the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission January 19, 2021 was held virtually at 5:33 p.m.

Chairwoman Chrissie Castro called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

Vice Chairperson Rudy Ortega Jr. provided an opening blessing.

Present: Chrissie Castro (Chairwoman)  
Rudy Ortega Jr. (Vice Chairperson)  
Shawn Imitates-Dog (Treasurer)  
Dr. Andrea Garcia  
Allison Hicks  
Dawn Jackson  
Randall Murphy  
Joseph Quintana  
Ted Tenorio  
Cheri Thomas  
Mark Villasenor

Absent: Pat Lopez (Secretary) (excused)  
Fred Leaf (unexcused)  
Tracy Perez

Staff Present: Alexandra Valdes, Executive Director

Action Items

**Review & Approval of November 2020 Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Dawn Jackson noted that the minutes as presented needed to be edited to reflect that the minutes being reviewed were for the October 2020 meeting not the October 2022 meeting.

*A motion was made by Commissioner Andrea Garcia seconded by Commissioner Mark Villaseñor, to approve the November 2020 LANAIC Meeting minutes with the correction for October 2022 to October 2020 for the Action Item "Review & Approval of October 2022 Meeting Minutes." The motion passed unanimously with Chairperson Chrissie Castro, Vice Chairperson Ortega Jr., Treasurer Shawn Imitates-Dog, and Commissioners Hicks, Jackson, Murphy, Quintana, Tenorio and Thomas voting in favor.*



## LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 19, 2021

### Discussion Items

#### **LANAIC Governance**

##### **Executive Committee Elections**

Chairperson Castro and Executive Director Alexandra Valdes presented to the Commission the timeline of the most recent Executive Committee elections as well as the relevant section of the Bylaws that outlines the Executive Committee Elections policy (Section X: Officers, A)

**June 8, 2019** – Bylaws Retreat – Executive Committee terms proposed to be changed to 2-year terms.

**July 23, 2019** – Commission unanimously adopted revised bylaws including changing the terms of the Executive Committee to two calendar years.

**January 21, 2020** - Executive Committee elections were held because at the time of last elections the Executive Committee terms were 1 year. Chrissie was elected Chairwoman, Rudy Ortega Jr. was elected Vice Chairman, Pat Lopez was elected Secretary and Shawn Imitates-Dog was elected Treasurer. They were elected to serve calendar years 2020 and 2021.

##### **Section X: Officers**

A. The Commission's officers will consist of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer, and such other officers as the Commission deems necessary. Nominations and election will be at the regular meeting in January, with installation taking place immediately after the election results are announced. Election shall be by secret ballot. Term of office is two years, with no more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

##### **Appointment of Community Elect Commissioner**

Chairwoman Castro shared that as permitted by the Bylaws (Section XVI: Meetings, D) she will be appointing Kimberly Morales Johnson (Tongva) to the Community Elected vacancy that has been vacant since Cynthia Begay resigned on February 4, 2020. Ms. Johnson will begin serving on February 16, 2021 and serve through January 2023, the duration of the current term. Alexandra shared that the next Community Elections will be held at the end of 2022, likely November, with the 5 winners being seated at the January 2023 regular Commission meeting.

##### **XVI: Meetings**

D. If a member of the Commission shall fail to attend any three (3) regular meetings without good cause and timely notification to the Chairperson or their designee during a 12 month period, such absences shall be reported to the appointing authority by the Executive Committee, and request the appointing authority to intervene and/or replace said member, or in the case of community elected members, the Chairperson may name a replacement. The successor may be appointed by the same authority as was their predecessor to fill the balance of the term.



## LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 19, 2021

### **COVID-19 Updates**

#### **COVID & Race Response Efforts**

Commissioner Garcia provided updates on the current COVID case numbers for the American Indian and Alaska Native community. She shared about a UCLA AIAN Vaccine Focus Group and also shared that United American Indian Involvement, Inc. is administering the Moderna vaccine. Commissioner Joseph Quintana shared that that UAI is utilizing CDC guidelines for their vaccine distribution and that the County's Community Health Workers program has been extended two months. Chairwoman Castro shared that California Native Vote Project, through the County's Equity Fund, will be working with Illuminatives on developing AIAN specific COVID materials. She shared that they will be having one focus group to test developed images before finalizing the materials. She reminded the Commission that the County's Equity Fund was a direct biproduct of community advocacy efforts at the County level. Finally, Chairwoman Castro announced to the Commission that Commissioner Dr. Andrea Garcia was appointed to serve on Greater LA.

#### **COVID Vaccine Updates**

Alexandra Valdes reminded the Commission that she is serving on the LA County COVID Vaccine Work Group and the Equity Subcommittee and will be keeping the Commission updated at monthly meetings on the vaccine distribution efforts.

### **Commission Office And Historical Documents Update**

Chairwoman Castro and Alexandra Valdes updated the Commission that almost all of the Commission's historical documents and records housed at Ron Andrade's old office at the Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services location at 3333 Wilshire Blvd. had been thrown away and shredded. Alexandra went into detail regarding how this unfortunate accident was able to take place. She shared that the lease at that building was being terminated at the end of 2020 and staff who worked out of that office disposed all of the paper contents of Mr. Andrade's office without consulting Alexandra – in an effort to help with the move. Chairwoman Castro shared that she received a letter from WDACS Department Director Otto Solorzano which apologized for the incident and committed to various actions to provide support to the Commission including covering the cost of storing various items of the Commission's including scrolls and proclamations and paying for a service to convert a box of floppy disks into a useable technology. The Commission entered into a discussion about the need to develop a document retention policy. Chairwoman Castro asked Alexandra if she could draft a policy and share it at the February or March Commission Meeting. She also requested that Alexandra review minutes from later Summer 2019/Fall 2019 where the Commission discussed archiving historical documents with UCLA and provide an update on where that project landed.

### **County Of Los Angeles Board Of Supervisors Board Order Updates & Board Priority Updates**

#### **Indigenous Peoples Day 2020 (September 29, 2020)**

Alexandra shared a brief status update on the IPD 2020 Board Order that directs the Commission to work with the County's Chief Sustainability Office (CSO) to engage with various named departments



## **LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 19, 2021**

and the Native American community to learn about County policies, procedures and operations that create barriers for Native people to access County-owned lands for cultural and traditional practices and make recommendations for removing barriers.

She shared that herself and her counterparts at the CSO were developing a project timeline for a series of community listening sessions with local tribes and the larger AIAN community to better understand the specific barriers AIAN in LAC face when trying to access County owned lands for cultural and traditional practices. She shared they were currently developing meeting invitations and hoping to host these events in late February and March.

### **Renaming the Christopher Columbus Transcontinental Highway (October 13, 2020)**

Alexandra shared a brief status update on the Renaming the Christopher Columbus Transcontinental Highway Board Order that directs the Commission to work with the Chief Executive Office and Public Works to have the Christopher Columbus designation of the I-10 freeway removed and replaced in Los Angeles County.

She shared that the CEOs was taking the lead to draft the initial report back to the Board of Supervisors.

### **Countywide Cultural Policy – Developing County Land Acknowledgment**

Alexandra shared a brief update on the County's land acknowledgment efforts. She shared with the Commission that in June 2020 the Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted the Countywide Cultural Policy. The policy includes directives to develop a land acknowledgement, accompanying policy for the use of the land acknowledgement and the development of a toolkit for County departments and agencies. She shared that the Commission was identified as the lead in this work and directed to work the Department of Arts and Cultural to move this work forward this calendar year. She shared with the Commission that she would greatly appreciate the support of any Commissioners who would like to support this work.

### Subcommittee & Ad-Hoc Committee Reports & Motions

#### **Homelessness Committee Report**

Commissioner Garcia provided a brief update regarding the work of the Homelessness Committee. She shared that the City and County had identified funding for a consultant to help coordinate a response to the disproportionate number of AIAN experiencing homelessness, and the disconnection from mainstream systems meant to service this population.

### Announcements/Future Agenda Items

Chairwoman Castro shared with the Commission that her and Alexandra are working on drafting a CY2020 Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Community Report. She shared that a discussion item will be included in the February meeting to review and provide feedback on the report.



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Commissioner Cheri Thomas and Commissioner Dawn Jackson shared that they would like the Commission to consider helping to coordinate another Urban Indian White House Summit. Commissioners Thomas and Jackson agreed to be part of an exploratory committee to look into the feasibility of coordinating this type of event this year.

Commissioner Shawn Imitates-Dog shared that he thinks the Commission should be proactive at being involved with the 2028 Olympics. He shared he reached out to a colleague who is on the Olympics Committee to initiate an informal conversation and will report back to the Commission if it evolves.

Public Comment

No public comment was provided.

Commission Adjournment

The Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission meeting of January 19, 2020 was adjourned by Chairperson Castro at 7:08 p.m.