



AGENDA & NOTICE

LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY
NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2023, 6:30 P.M.

Meeting Location: County of Los Angeles Hall of Administration
Sybil Brand Room 372
500 W. Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

To Listen Via Telephone: (669) 444-9171
Webinar ID: 843 3844 9426

To View Via Web: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84338449426>

To Provide Public Comment: You may submit written public comment via email to aferguson@lanaic.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.

CHERI THOMAS, Chairperson
Quinault/Yurok

CHRISSIE CASTRO, Vice Chairperson
Navajo

RENE' WILLIAMS, Secretary
Colville Tribes

SHAWN IMITATES DOG, Treasurer
Lakota

DENISE ESCOTO, Commissioner
Northern Cheyenne

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

DAWN JACKSON, Commissioner
Saginaw Chippewa

MONA MORALES RECALDE, Commissioner
Gabrieleno Tongva

JOHN ONLY A CHIEF, Commissioner
Pawnee Nation

RUDY ORTEGA JR., Commissioner
Fernandeño Tataviam

TED TENORIO, Commissioner
Tiguan Nation

RICH TOYON, Commissioner
Acjachemen

MARK VILLASEÑOR, Commissioner
Fernandeño Tataviam

AUDRA WISE, Commissioner
Zia Pueblo & Laguna Pueblo

ALEXANDRA VALDES
Executive Director
Tlingit/Athabaskan

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1. CALL TO ORDER
 2. INVOCATION & LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT
 3. ROLL CALL
 4. COMMISSIONER INTRODUCTIONS
 5. PUBLIC COMMENT
 6. ACTION ITEMS
 - 6.1. Review and take possible action adopting the June 20, 2023 Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission (LANAIC) Unapproved Meeting Minutes
 - 6.2. Review and take possible action directing the LANAIC Executive Director to explore options for sponsorship of the 2023 Indigenous Peoples Day Event by an elected official(s)

7. PRESENTATION

- 7.1 *County of Los Angeles Land Acknowledgement Toolkit and Training Resources*
(Desiree Martinez, President - Cogstone Resource Management & Ashley Dobson, Vice President – Avid Core)
- 7.2 *Cherokee Nation's Request to Seat their Delegate in the United States House of Representatives* (Cynthia M Ruiz, Council Member – Tsa-La-Gi & Laurie Doctor, Council Member – Tsa-La-Gi)

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 8.1 Review and provide edits on a draft letter from the LANAIC to the Board of Supervisors Recommending they support the seating of the Cherokee Nation's delegate to the United States House of Representatives

9. CHAIR'S REPORT

- 9.1 LA Metro 2023 Native American Heritage Month TAP Card Updates

10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- 10.1 Upcoming LANAIC Executive Committee Elections
- 10.2 FY22-23 LANAIC Annual Report Updates
- 10.3 Feather Alert Town Hall Updates
- 10.4 *Erasure* Video Updates

11. COMMITTEE & AD-HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 11.1 Self Governance Board
- 11.2 Executive Committee
- 11.3 Homelessness Committee
- 11.4 2023 Indigenous Peoples' Day & Native American Heritage Month Ad-hoc Committee
- 11.5 Governance Ad-hoc Committee
- 11.6 2023 Indian Child Welfare Act Ad-hoc Committee
- 11.7 2023 Arts & Culture Ad-hoc Committee

12. COMMISSIONER GENERAL COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

14. 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 Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission are accessible to persons with disabilities.

Contact: www.lanaic.lacounty.gov, contact@lanaic.lacounty.gov, or (213) 738-3241



**LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION
UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JUNE 20, 2023**

The June 20, 2023, meeting Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission (LANAIC) was at the County of Los Angeles Hall of Administration, Sybil Brand Room 372, 500 W. Temple Street, Los Angeles, California 90012.

Call to Order

Chairperson Thomas called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M and read the Los Angeles County Land Acknowledgment.

Invocation

Commissioner John Only A Chief provided an invocation

Roll Call

Present: Chairperson Cheri Thomas
Vice Chairperson Chrissie Castro (*Attended Virtually; Emergency*)
Treasurer Shawn Imitates Dog
Andrea Garcia
Dawn Jackson
Mona Morales Recalde
John Only A Chief
Rich Toyon (*Attended Virtually; Just Cause*)
Mark Villasenor
Audra Wise

Absent: Denise Escoto (*Excused*)
Secretary Rene' Williams (*Excused*)
Rudy Ortega Jr. (*Excused*)
Ted Tenorio (*Unexcused*)

Quorum was met.

Staff Present: Alexandra Valdes, Executive Director
Stephanie Guadron, Administrative Manager

Commissioner & Staff Introductions

Commissioners provided brief introductions including their names, appointing office and tribal affiliation.

Public Comment

Public Guest, Cynthia Ruiz, stated that she wanted to attend the meeting and reengage with the LANAIC. She stated that her mother was on the Commission for 20 years and assisted with the community events



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calendar, and she would like to help in any way. She also stated that the meeting location was not easy to access.

Action Items

Review & approval of the Unapproved May 16, 2023, Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission (LANAIC) Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Andrea Garcia and seconded by Commissioner Mark Villasenor to approve the unapproved May 16, 2023 LANAIC Meeting minutes as presented. The motion passed.

YES	Thomas, Castro, Garcia, Jackson, Morales Recalde, Only A Chief, Villasenor, Wise
NO	
ABSTAIN	Imitates Dog, Toyon
ABSENT	Escoto, Williams, Ortega, Tenorio

Review & take possible action adopting a letter to Kristin Sakoda, Director of the County of Los Angeles Department of Arts and Culture, requesting the addition of the County of Los Angeles Land Acknowledgement to former LANAIC Creative Strategist Jacob Pratt’s video Erasure

Commissioner Morales Recalde stated that she drafted the letter because multiple community members told her that they would like the video to be taken down, and she feels that the land acknowledgement needs to be added to the film. A minor revision was noted by Alexandra to add a carbon-copy line to include Jacob Pratt in the delivery of the letter. Commissioner Castro posed the question, ‘What are the implications on other videos that come out of the Department of Arts and Culture?’ Commissioner Toyon stated that the Commission should be ready to accept that the artist may not accept to add the land acknowledgement to their film and that the artistic perspective may not be challenged.

A motion was made by Commissioner Shawn Imitates Dog and seconded by Commissioner Mona Morales Recalde to adopt a letter to Kristin Sakoda, Director of the County of Los Angeles Department of Arts and Culture, requesting the addition of the County of Los Angeles Land Acknowledgement to former LANAIC Creative Strategist Jacob Pratt’s video Erasure. The motion passed.

YES	Imitates Dog, Thomas, Castro, Garcia, Jackson, Morales Recalde, Only A Chief, Villasenor, Wise
NO	
ABSTAIN	Toyon
ABSENT	Escoto, Williams, Ortega, Tenorio



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Review & take possible action accepting the invitation from Assemblymember James Ramos to partner to host a town hall to raise awareness of the Feather Alert on September 26, 2023

Alexandra shared that Assemblymember James Ramos’ Office extended invitation to the LANAIC to collaborate to host a town that the proposed date for the event is September 26th, 2023. Alexandra also stated that she contacted the Board of Directors’ offices; Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Hahn both expressed interest in supporting the event.

A motion was made by Commissioner Andrea Garcia and seconded by Commissioner Mark Villasenor to accept the invitation from Assemblymember James Ramos to partner to host a town fall to raise awareness of the Feather Alert on September 26, 2023. The motion passed.

YES	Thomas, Castro, Garcia, Jackson, Morales Recalde, Only A Chief, Villasenor, Wise, Imitates Dog, Toyon
NO	
ABSTAIN	
ABSENT	Escoto, Williams, Ortega, Tenorio

Presentation

LA Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department’s Discrimination Enforcement Overview (Kim Kasreliovich, Assistant General Manager)

Kim stated that the LA Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department was established in 2020 and is made up of four branches: Discrimination Enforcement, Commission Support, Equity and Empowerment, and Community Engagement and Outreach. The Discrimination Enforcement branch has four areas of jurisdiction for protected classes: Commerce, Education, Employment, and Housing. It was shared that the department can aid any individual living, working, or visiting Los Angeles City. Translation services are available, and the department has a podcast. Any help in disseminating information about the department with community members is appreciated.

Discussion Items

Preparing for the July 18, 2023 LANAIC meeting with Mayor Karen Bass

Alexandra shared that the Mayoral appointees will meet and share back the top 3-5 priorities with the whole Commission and staff will oversee meeting logistics for the July 18 meeting. Stephanie stated that she will follow up with a one-page fact sheet for the LANAIC. Alexandra also stated that staff could look into using petty cash for refreshments, tea or sparkling water. Commissioner Dawn Jackson asked if the Commission would like to present the Mayor with a gift. Commissioner Dawn Jackson, Commissioner Mona Morales Recalde, and Alexandra agreed to look into gift options.



LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JUNE 20, 2023

Committee & Ad-hoc Committee Reports

Self-Governance Board

Alexandra shared that the Community Action Plan and Community Needs Assessment will potentially be adopted at the following Self-Governance Board's (SGB) meeting tomorrow, June 21 at 6:00 PM. The team from Center for Nonprofit Management will present the final presentation about the Strategic Plan to the SGB and the final plan will potentially be adopted at the SGB meeting in August. Alexandra also shared that CFCI amendments for Year 3 are with County Counsel for final review before being sent to subrecipient agencies. She stated that the CSAIBG solicitation will be released soon and more details will be forthcoming when appropriate to release in a public setting.

Executive Committee

No report was provided.

Homelessness Committee

Commissioner Andrea Garcia stated that three members of the committee have been confirmed. She also stated that the group will work on scheduling a meeting.

2023 Indigenous Peoples' Day & Native American Heritage Month Ad-hoc Committee

No report was provided.

Governance Ad-hoc Committee

No report was provided.

2020 Census Analysis Ad-hoc Committee

No report was provided. Vice Chairperson Chrissie Castro asked that the committee be removed from the agenda until October.

2023 Indian Child Welfare Act Ad-hoc Committee

Alexandra stated that the Supreme Court upheld ICWA and the news was shared on the LANAIC social media. Alexandra stated that Commissioners are welcome to send reposting suggestions via direct message to the LANAIC account with a brief explanation about the request. Commissioner Mark Villasenor asked when the sunset of the Ad-hoc committee would be and Alexandra stated that the committee has now sunset since the Supreme Court issued their ruling.

2023 Arts & Culture Ad-hoc Committee

Commissioner Dawn Jackson stated that she and other committee members have been able to forward casting notices and creative arts grants information to their networks. Commissioner Rich Toyon stated that he was able to pass along the casting call to a Native Boy Scout group and that it is very helpful to pass along the opportunities. Alexandra shared that the nonprofit Your Neighborhood Museum released their most recent grant and commissioners are encouraged to spread the word. Commissioner Mona Morales Recalde asked about the progress that has been made to the events calendar. Alexandra stated that she will assist Commissioner Dawn Jackson with the events calendar. Commissioner Audra Wise asked if there is a social media location where the Commission could post information for community. Alexandra shared that the Commission has an Instagram account that is used for social media.



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Commissioner General Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Commissioner John Only A Chief stated that he has some concerns about United American Indian Involvement, Inc. and has notified Alexandra and Stephanie about the matter. Alexandra thanked the commissioners who reach out to staff about what community members are experiencing in regards to accessing Community Services Block Grant Native American Set-Aside fund (CSAIBG) and Care First Community Investment (CFCI) services. She also stated that staff is aware that there have been some concerns about one of the subrecipient agencies, and that staff is following up with next steps that are appropriate.

Commissioner Andrea Garcia shared that she has the opportunity to travel to Vienna, Austria to understand their social housing models. She shared that this opportunity was outside of her roll as an LANAIC commissioner. She extended an invitation to other commissioners who may want to join future cohort discussions about the experience.

Commissioner Rich Toyon shared that he was a part of a group exhibit at Descanso Gardens that is about our animal neighbors. The exhibit will be up through the Summer until October.

Announcements/Future Agenda Items

None were provided.

Commission Adjournment

The Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission meeting of May 16, 2023 was adjourned by Chairperson Thomas at 7:52 PM.

July 18, 2023 LANAIC Meeting

Item 7.2 Cherokee Nation's Request to Seat their Delegate in the United States House of Representatives (Cynthia M Ruiz, Council Member – Tsa-La-Gi & Laurie Doctor, Council Member – Tsa-La-Gi)

Cherokee Nation Delegate Kim Teehee Seated in U.S. House of Representatives

In 1835, the Cherokee Nation and United States signed the Treaty of New Echota. The treaty forcibly removed from the Cherokee their homelands, which led to over one-quarter of the Cherokee Nation perishing on the "Trail of Tears." That same document, however, also guaranteed the tribe a delegate to Congress. For almost 200 years, the U.S. House of Representatives has failed to act.

For nearly two centuries, Congress has failed to honor this promise. Yet the obligation to seat a Cherokee Nation delegate remains as binding today as it was in 1835.

In 2019 Chief Hoskin Jr. nominated Kim Teehee as the Cherokee Nation delegate and committed to the effort of finally demanding Congress live up to its agreement. Thousands have acted by calling on the House to vote to the seat the Cherokee Nation delegate. We have made historic progress, including in November 2022, when the U.S. House Rules committee held a congressional hearing to discuss the issue.

Delegate Kimberly Teehee currently serves as Director of Government Relations for Cherokee Nation and is widely respected in tribal communities across the country and among Washington, D.C. policymakers. She previously served President Barack Obama as the first-ever Senior Policy Advisor for Native American Affairs in the White House Domestic Policy Council for three years. Kim worked with federal agencies to develop and implement policies focused on environmental justice, tribal consultation, tribal self-determination, economic growth, public safety, health care, and education and to resolve longstanding disputes. Kim's work helped lead to a Presidential Memorandum on tribal consultation and an Executive Order on Improving American Indian and Alaska Native Educational Opportunities and Strengthening Tribal Colleges and Universities. Kim guided the Administration's support for the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and addressed the U.N. Permanent Forum on issues affecting the world's indigenous peoples. She is especially proud of her work toward the Administration's support of proposed legislation to hold all perpetrators of domestic violence accountable for their crimes against Native American women, closing a jurisdictional gap in Indian country. Kim played a key role in three White House Tribal Nations Conferences and led a government-wide team to ensure that progress was being made on tribal policy and legislative priorities.

Kim also served as Senior Advisor to the U.S. House of Representatives Native American Caucus Co-Chair, Rep. Dale Kildee (D-MI). Serving the bi-partisan Caucus for nearly 12 years, she established an impressive record of accomplishments on a wide array of Native American issues.

The Treaty of New Echota has no expiration date. It's time for the U.S. government to fulfill its promise and uphold its legal obligation.



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Chairperson
CHERI THOMAS
Quinault/Yurok

Vice Chairperson
CHRISSIE CASTRO
Navajo

Secretary
RENE WILLIAMS
Colville Tribes

Treasurer
SHAWN IMITATES-DOG
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Tiguan Nation

RICH TOYON
Acjachemen

MARK VILLASEÑOR
Fernandeño Tataviam

AUDRA WISE
Zia Pueblo & Laguna Pueblo

August 15, 2023

County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors
500 W Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am sending this letter on behalf of the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission (LANAIC). The purpose of this letter is to recommend that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors support the seating of the Cherokee Nation's delegate to the United States House of Representatives per the 1835 Treaty of New Echota.

In 1835, the Cherokee Nation and United States signed the Treaty of New Echota. The treaty forcibly removed from the Cherokee their homelands, which led to over one-quarter of the Cherokee Nation perishing on the "Trail of Tears." That same document, however, also guaranteed the tribe a delegate to Congress. For almost 200 years, the U.S. House of Representatives has failed to act or honor this promise. In 2019, Chief Hoskin Jr. nominated Kim Teehee as the Cherokee Nation delegate and committed to the effort of finally demanding Congress live up to its agreement. Thousands have acted by calling on the House to vote to the seat the Cherokee Nation delegate. Historic progress has been made, including in November 2022, when the U.S. House Rules committee held a congressional hearing to discuss the issue.

The Treaty of New Echota has no expiration date. It's time for the U.S. government to fulfill its promise and uphold its legal obligation to guarantee the Cherokee Nation a delegate to Congress. We respectfully ask that the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors authorize advocacy for this critical representation and add this advocacy position to the County of Los Angeles Federal Legislative Agenda

Sincerely,

ALEXANDRA VALDES
Executive Director

Cheri L Thomas
LANAIC Chairperson