



## Semillas Sociedad Civil

### MINUTES

SSC\_COT 03.26.2025 Regular Meeting Council of Trustees

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#### **Date and Time**

Wednesday, March 26, 2025, at 5:30 pm

#### **Location**

4970 Huntington Drive South, Los Angeles, CA 90032

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86734513278?pwd=RtbxdG6Q8Ss8ubY3rpXF515wZdJexk.1>

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#### **Council of Trustees Present:**

Dr. Ernesto Colin, Ramon Avila, Yvette Casas, Arturo Rojas, Dr. Reynaldo Macias, Ary Amaya

Online: Dr. Irene Vasquez

#### **Council of Trustees Absent:**

Edmundo Perez

#### **Personnel Present:**

Marcos Aguilar, Natalie Martinez

Online: Marcos Aguilar, Debi Deal, Jaemy Garcia-Matthews

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#### **I. Opening items:**

A. Record attendance

B. Welcome & Call the meeting to order

Dr. Irene Vasquez called a meeting of the Council of Trustees of Semillas Sociedad Civil to order on Wednesday, April 9, 2025 at 5:41PM



### C. Approval minutes of SSC\_COT Regular\_Meeting\_03.26.2025

[Dr. Reynaldo Macias arrived at 5:42pm]

Dr. Erensto Colin motioned to approve the SSC COT Regular Meeting 03.26.2025.  
Yvette Casas seconded.

The board VOTED to approve of minutes from 03.26.2025

#### Roll Call Vote:

Yvette Casas	Yes
Dr. Irene Vasquez	Yes
Dr. Ernesto Colin	yes
Arturo Rojas	Yes
Ramon Avila	Yes
Dr. Reynaldo Macias	Abstain

## II. Standard Policies

### A. Staffing

Marcos Aguilar, Executive Director, presented the need to distribute notices to staff of coming cutbacks and budget short falls due to a lack of sufficient state, local, and district funding. Dr. Irene Vasquez inquired about grants that could be applied to close the gaps in funding? Marcos Aguilar responds with yes: there are good foundations that are open to the school after the last 5 years of excellent programs. Dr. Ernesto Colin suggested working with a new potential fundraiser and development personnel.

No additional action taken

## III. Student Policies

### A. Student testing

Marcos Aguilar updated the board regarding student testing.

No additional action taken

## IV. Finances

### A. Budget Follow-up

No additional action taken.



## B. Auditor review

Marcos Aguilar recommended that we re-contract with Jeffrey Hill & Associates.

Dr. Erensto Colin motioned to recontract with Jeffery Hill & Associates at the request of staff recommendations.

Arturo Rojas seconded

The board VOTED to approve of the motion

### Roll Call Vote:

Yvette Casas	Yes
Dr. Irene Vasquez	Yes
Dr. Ernesto Colin	yes
Arturo Rojas	Yes
Ramon Avila	Yes

## C. State Reporting

No additional action taken.

## D. Form 700

Natalie Martinez, Executive Assistant, reminded the Council of Trustees to submit their 700 forms by April 1st.

No additional action taken.

## V. Community Engagement

- A. Marcos Aguilar updated the board regarding the Climate Resilient LA petition and the campaign. Focus is centered on Landback, Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK), and Indigenous and Native Peoples at the head of TEK. Students are also learning about the science of and the organizing.

No additional action taken.

## B. CABA Conference: CALI

Marcos Aguilar updated the Council of Trustees about the CABA Conference and the

importance of Indigenous  
of Indigenous education.  
launch of the Indigenous



languages as part of the education  
This first conference was the  
language institute.

C. Día de Niñez

Marcos Aguilar updated the Council of Trustees about the Día de Niñez and invited the board to attend.

D. Senior trips

Natalie Martinez shared the agenda for the student field trips over a week to various locations.

No additional action taken.

E. Knowledge in Nahuatl Network: Guerrero Día Internacional de Lenguas Maternas

Board Member Arturo Rojas shared an update with the board regarding the event Day of International Maternal Languages in Guerrero, Mexico, with Zion Aceves, alumni and staff member at Anawakalmekak.

Marcos Aguilar recommended that Arturo Rojas and Zion Aceves be recognized by the school.

No additional action taken.

**VI. Public Comment**

No public comment

**VII. Closed Session**

**VIII. Adjourn meeting**

Marcos Aguilar motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 pm.

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For more information regarding public access to the meeting or to request accommodations for special needs, please contact Trinidad Ruiz at (310) 916-7636.



Reviewing minutes - 5:42

Moved - Colin

2nd casas

Vote

Vasquez - yes

Avila - yes

Colin - yes

Macias - abstain

Casas - yes

Debbie presents on the COLA - and what we are awaiting on, the COLA - 2.93 is projected to 2.43

Debbie will be volunteering to develop the next year budget, and will begin next week

Board decisions - will be made to recommendations to freeze the staffing, LCAP with the budget,

Goals and actions will be added with staff during the LCAP

LCAP must be approved before the budget,

W separate ways or 2 separate times

Hearing for first review and the starting point with the budget,

And there is a second part of the approval with the LCAP

Federal funding - department of education and the funds will be disbursed

Congress, multiple budget scenarios will be presented in different cases

Questions for phasing in the budget, expenses need to be put in, Testing with the LCAP has goals and there are various actions, they can be different items to ensure that the goal is met, there are also metrics, so that there is adjustments, math scores for increasing the results, and testing the program,

if there is a pivot then we would discuss with the board to determine the goals and actions,

Based around the students that need the extra support.

Free or reduced lunches,

- Macias, it seems like we have done this before but we need to make sure we broke it down before
- Debbie - working with staff to work with the afterschool program and add things to the LCAP plan, side by side but are also interrelated, staffing is threaded to the LCAP for the state priorities,
- Linked together with the LCAP, the report will give the information needed,
- Is this new? - Macias asked, it is not new but a lot of the LEA's do not have it mapped by code and this time we will be coding it, we can run reports in the year any time, but now we have to create the structure to actions and things will be more accurate and more efficiently



- Ferguson can  
we can provide

apply changes due to the reporting

Aguilar asked on the  
ASKED BOARD members to join the talks with the students,  
No need to commit now but we have a few questions,  
Vasquez would like to participate in the panel,

sintli summit, Corn in nawatl

Climate resilient LA - walk 10 - 12pm  
Long petition to only 3 key points,  
Bill back, indigenous traditional knowledge be  
landback be recognized  
Indigenous stewardship

Report back on the native language resurgence and CALI combined  
First language institute conference on CALI,  
various tribal members, Yurok , Chumash, kumyayy, zapotecas, nawas

Mr.Aguilar described the 10 year revitalization plan for language,

Partner with statewide advocates in education and add more to our robust program,  
Form part of a state wide campaign to advance the resources needed for our students in  
community, and looking to consider  
Emersion school program, this is not an easy decision for the parents to make,  
both in terms of the strength and direction, this provides a really good road map,  
for the strategic planning  
securing funding as a pilot project now is because we are talking about the legislative cycle, we  
don't have enough time to add time to the legal bills and state budget, this will lay the seeds out  
for a strategy of next year,  
Casas says yes to the plan and so does Rojas,  
Macias, - PowerPoints and documentation should be shared with him and show him what was  
done on that day, public use of the languages, its important to focus on the acquisition of the  
languages both in writing and reading and in print, Latin American studies, had Nahuatl about  
here and there is not enough speech community in the LA area the way there is in other  
indigenous language groups, newspaper or news room, and add this to the social and  
community,

- Aguilar states that there should be a newspaper even on Mexico, and we need to  
connect more with the nawatl community
- Next week there is a gathering in Las Vegas, with Nick and meeting with them to see  
what the next steps are
- NIEA - director contacted him and asked him is Melinda's money, he will be getting us in  
touch with this, a couple of things in the works and is very meaningful

Landback will be acknowledged



Leases to Ya'Anna  
trips to the land and  
access to the land

village - no Costs to AIUPNA, field  
there would be important to have

Tzicatl still has the debt and the land owner, for Ya'Anna village

Vote- retroactive approval of the existing lease,

Macias is asking what is the purpose for the lease, to visit -

Why is it a lease? -

Who is asking for this document, - use agreement

Revisit this with legal council, we have the access and the shared stewardship, this is a legal document

Formalizing what we have in place - (this is a contract that we have access to it , stewardship of it and give it a 10 year to be revived)

- Contract for use of the land - speak to legal council
- Let our legal council tell us what the language will be legally,

As we are Budget planning for the future, then we need to also evaluate not only staffing but the properties as well to see what the

Macias - have we developed our own Nawatl indicators for our students

Share the agenda and the PowerPoint of CALI - to all of the board members

Rojas - Relationship building with the educators,

They have access to the premises to schooling and the community,

Era for the jaguar, and he described the knowledge that he acquired and how to support the language curriculum and the relationship between us and Guerrero

Recommendation of voting for Secretary

Thank you for serving this role

- Motion to vote on secretary Vasquez
- Colin second
- Yes, Macias, Colin, Rojas, Vasquez, Casas

Resolution to promote and Chicano and Chicano studies,

Tax deduction - reduced, the reason is why we wanted the lease, more transparently with everyone,

Language was correct to add this way , and have a \$1.00 lease?

APPROVED

Principal balance 1.1 is  
let's re write to school  
dating? - back taxes to  
it, back dating and



the balance  
access, joint stewardship, back  
pay? And we don't want to loose  
context of the land details

Dual Emerson bill that could be added to to include indigenous language

Follow up on the work force reduction with John,  
Coming out of closed session at 7:33pm

Meeting confirmed with May 13th