



**Indiana Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs
Commission Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 9, 2014
1:00pm – 3:00pm
Conference Center
Indiana Government Center South
Indianapolis, IN**

Commissioners Present:

Pedro Ledo, Jr., Senate Lay Member, Fort Wayne (Chair)
Virginia Hernandez, Designee, Civil Rights Commission
Francisco Garcia, House Lay Member
Rep. Rebecca Kubacki
Tina Little, Designee, Dept of Correction
Gerardo Gonzalez, House Lay Member, Bloomington
Jesusa Rivera, House Lay Member, South Bend (TELEPHONE)
Guadalupe 'Herb' Hernandez, Senate Lay member, Fort Wayne (TELEPHONE)
Senator Greg Walker (TELEPHONE)
Rep. Mara Candelaria Reardon (TELEPHONE)

Commissioners Not Present:

Charlie Garcia, House Lay Member, Indianapolis
Christian Gallo, Senate Lay Member, Lafayette
Richard Espinosa, Senate Lay Member, Fort Wayne
Seth Morales, Governor Appointee, Indianapolis
Teresa Velez, Designee, Family and Social Services Administration
Andrea Perez, Designee, Department of Health
David Galvin, Designee, Department of Education
Senator Frank Mrvan

Visitors:

Brad Meadows, ICRC

Paula Barnett ICRC

Staff Present:

Danielle Dean, Executive Director

Opening

Chairman Pedro Ledo, Jr. called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m., noting the lack of quorum.

Approval of Minutes

Ledo noted that minutes from the November 2013 cannot be approved as they seem to have been lost in the transition.

Approval of Financials

Commissioners present were given a copy of the budget as of June 30, 2014. Danielle said she would send an electronic copy to all board members.

Chairman's Report

Pedro thanked ICRC for their hard work to fill ICHLA's Executive Director position. Brad introduced Danielle Dean as the new Executive Director. Danielle then told the board about herself and vision for ICHLA.

Pedro assured the board that copies of travel documents would be made available at the next meeting, including reimbursements for those (six people) who traveled to be at the meeting in March.

Pedro, Herb and board agreed that leadership positions would remain the same until 2015, at which time voting will take place, but nominations can be made now.

Pedro agreed to provide the names of members on each committee to Danielle.

Herb informed the board on the situation with Richard Espinoza and there was discussion on why tensions are high in relation to immigration.

Jesusa points out the lack of quorum and asks that members hold each other accountable; also suggests that members should be calling each other to ensure higher attendance at meetings.

New meeting dates and times are suggested by members.

It is also suggested that the elected representatives on the board should encourage investigation into Richard's attack.

Multiple members acknowledge that it's frustrating to make the trip to show up only to not be able to accomplish anything because of the lack of quorum.

Danielle is to look into bylaws regarding replacing members for poor attendance.

Gerardo noted that children of illegals are afraid to apply for college; board agrees that students, as early as high school or sooner, need to be better informed as to their options and opportunities.

There was then discussion about the role and function of the commission as well as limitations. Danielle is to provide the board with ICHLA's code, bylaws and all related materials so everyone can better understand their role.

The commission would like to vote on whether or not to bring back the annual conference.

Members would like to focus on laws and say that the community needs to be better educated on laws impact them.

New Business

Pedro informed the board that the meeting date has changed to the second Wednesday of each month.

Adjournment

At 2:25 pm, the meeting was adjourned.