



STATE OF INDIANA

INDIANA COMMISSION ON  
HISPANIC/LATINO AFFAIRS  
Mitchell E Daniels, Jr., Governor

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**Indiana Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs  
Commission Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
3:00pm – 4:30pm  
Conference Center Room 12  
Indiana Government Center South  
Indianapolis, IN**

**Commissioners Present:**

Rep. Mara Candelaria Reardon  
Pat Rios, House Lay Member, Indianapolis  
Lisa Kusiak, House Lay Member, Muenster  
Richard Espinosa, Senate Lay Member, Fort Wayne  
Christian Gallo, Senate Lay Member, Lafayette (Secretary)  
Guadalupe 'Herb' Hernandez, Senate Lay member, Fort Wayne (Chair)  
Alfredo Gonzalez, Governor Appointee  
Andrea Bueno, Designee, Lt. Governor's Office  
Tina Little, Designee, Dept of Correction (Treasurer)  
Janie Duke, Designee, Dept of Education  
Brenda Summers, Proxy, Department of Workforce Development  
Andrea Perez, Designee, Department of Health  
Josie Williams, Designee, Indiana Civil Rights Commission

**Commissioners Not Present:**

Rep. Rich McClain  
Senator Greg Walker  
Senator Frank Mrvan  
Teddy Flores, House Member, East Chicago  
Freddie Thon, House Lay Member, South Bend  
Angel Rivera, Senate Lay member, Indianapolis (Vice Chair)  
Michelle Stein-Ordonez, Designee, Family and Social Services Administration

**Visitors:**

James Garrett Jr., Executive Director  
Claudia Suana, Ivy Tech Advisor  
Beatriz Pacheco, LSU President, Ivy Tech  
Keyla Lemus, LSU/SGA Rep. Ivy Tech  
Jonathan Canterez, LSU Treasurer, Ivy Tech  
Maria French, Executive Director, Indy Vision TV  
Marco Dominquez, CEO, Indy Vision TV  
Kathy Soutchet-Maira, Latino Youth Collection  
Felipe Vargas, Latino Youth Collection

Martha Pablon, Senator Bayh's Office  
Miverlla  
Mara  
Rick Robles

**Staff Present:**

Pat Sanchez, Executive Director  
Michelle Simmons, Administrative Assistant  
Other visitors were present but did not sign in

I. Call to Order

Chair Hernandez called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m. Roll call was taken and quorum was not made until 3:24 p.m.

II. Commission Business

There was a discussion on if there should be detailed minutes or notes when quorum is not met. Sanchez said that the state has certain guidelines on how the minutes are done. Sanchez suggested that Summers could help by looking into what we're really suppose to do and how we're supposed to do it.

A discussion was held on when minutes should be received. Bueno made the motion that they should receive the minutes via e-mail the Thursday prior to the scheduled meeting before the close of business Eastern Time. Rep. Candelaria Reardon said the commission didn't need a motion to direct the Executive Director. She said that it would be in the minutes and they didn't need to vote on every directive given to the Executive Director. Due to no discussion and no one opposing Bueno withdrew her motion and agreed to have it a policy for the Executive Director.

A. Approval of minutes for June 2009

Espinosa made a motion to approve the June 2009 minutes. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

B. Approval of minutes for August 2009

Perez made a motion to approve the August 2009 minutes. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

C. Approval of Sponsorship Guidelines

Chair Hernandez said that the guidelines do not mean that any organization can request sponsorship and receive it nor will they necessarily get what they ask for. Also, there is a time limit on when to request the money so the commission has time to review the organization, see if their mission matches ICHLA's mission and if anyone has something good or bad to say about the organization. The guidelines will be reviewed by the DWD attorneys to make sure it can be done.

Chair Hernandez said that the Sponsorship should not be publicized or the commission

would be getting requests from a lot of people. Rep. Candelaria Reardon stated that we should have a public deadline because it is public money and to give everyone a chance. It should be posted on the ICHLA website as well. She also said that the commission should have the amended version of the Sponsorship Guidelines instead of having two pieces of paper that they were trying to blend together. Bueno agreed with a deadline but suggested having two dates.

Chair Hernandez asked for a census on how often to have the deadline. There were three votes for once a year, five votes for twice a year and no votes for every 60 days. A vote was taken for once a year and twice a year. Majority voted for twice a year. The commission agreed to have the deadlines on January 30<sup>th</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup>. The commission will let the applicant know of their decision two months after the deadline.

The changes are:

1. b) The maximum sponsorship request is **\$5000**.
3. Priority of support **may** be based on
5. c) All sponsorship requests must be made **by January 30<sup>th</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup>**.

Duke made a motion to accept the changes in the Sponsorship Guidelines. The motion was seconded by Bueno. The motion passed with Rep. Candelaria Reardon opposing.

D. Approval of Hispanic Heritage Month and Legislative Day

Chair Hernandez said that this was brought up in the July meeting when there was no quorum. The commission had already approved \$5000 in May for La Plaza Fiesta. He said we were going to have an event for the commission taking place outside of the State House or inside the State House Rotunda. It was brought to the executive officers to commingle the two events on Hispanic Heritage Day which was at Fiesta. So the \$5000 they were going to set aside for the event for the commission was put together with the \$5000 approved for La Plaza Fiesta. The executive officers had given the approval, committed to that, so all that is asked for is the approval from the commissioners for the event decision the executive officers made and to ratify the decision they made. There wasn't time to bring it to the commission because the event was on the September 15<sup>th</sup> and the next meeting was September 24<sup>th</sup>. There was a VIP tent for the legislatures. Because the executive officers had to give La Plaza an answer before the commission meeting on September 24<sup>th</sup> it was put on the backs of the executive officers. The executive officers said yes, but contingent upon the commission approving it because all money and sponsor has to be approved by the commission.

Bueno made a motion to approve the funding. The motion was seconded by Duke. There were ten acceptances were counted. Rep. Candelaria Reardon and Kusiak voted against Gallo abstained.

Sanchez requested a clarification to make sure it was on the record because they have to go back to an organization which we already said we would do this. We've already

done the event; we promised them the money so she asked for clarification that each commissioner is asked by roll call vote on their position on the funding issue. Chair Hernandez said that they did not promise. He said it was brought to the officers and they said yes because of the time constraint; but, it still had to be brought before the commission. A roll call vote was not taken.

Rios commented that it illustrates the incredible need for the process that should have occurred long before October. She couldn't vote on it because she's the chair of La Plaza board and they budgeted for the \$10,000 that the commission gave them. She will explain to the La Plaza board what has occurred here today what is an internal concern. But, please be mindful of this that when you make commitments to community organizations you are not giving good will when you go back and say give me half of it.

E. Approval of Support for a table at Las Estrellas Gala

Rios suggested that the commission table all proposals to this organization until they have a clear, defined policy so the commission doesn't repeat what just occurred to La Plaza. We have to go back to within the organization, define what our exact policies are and approve the proposals as they come in.

The request was tabled for a later date. A copy of the request will be sent to the commissioners.

III. Angela Roosa from Human Resource of DWD spoke to the committee about the need for the Ethics and Sexual Harassment training. The Office of the Inspector General has requested that all commission members and all board members trained by Friday, October 30, 2009. The commission could lose funding if everyone is not trained. It is required every two years. Anyone who has questions may contact Roosa.

IV. Reports

A. Chair Report

Chair Hernandez spent a lot of time preparing for the retreat. He went back to the beginning to determine the original intent of the State Legislature and the original intent of the original commissioners. He also talked to Sharon Daniels who handles the finances for ICHLA.

B. Executive Report

In the interest of time Sanchez referred to the written report supplied to the commission. It is incorporated by reference as Exhibit A.

C. Financial Report

Little reported that at the end of the quarter the commission had expended 23%, which was where the commission should be. Due to the system changing the major categories are now points. The commission was under budget and if money needs to be moved around DWD will work with the commission.

Esponzoza made a motion to approve the Financial Report. The motion was seconded by Kusiak. The motion passed.

D. Sub-Committee Reports

Chair Hernandez did not have a chance to talk to each chair person who is in charge of their committee. The sub-committees were also just appointed in June. Chair Hernandez was waiting on the charge from the State Legislature and from the Governor's Office, neither currently have a charge for the commission. As a result the commission must rely on their mission to make the reports. The mission will be brought up in the retreat. The sub-committee and their chairs consists of Health with Michelle Stein-Ordóñez, Education with Janie Duke, Business with Tina Little and Civil Rights with Christian Gallo.

E. Census

Sanchez is spending a lot of time working on census. Each census brings in about \$4000 to Indiana. The U.S. Commerce Department is over the U.S. Census. Sanchez is traveling among the ninety-two counties and 566 cities and towns. There are Latinos in every county in the state of Indiana. There are thirty-six "hot pocket" areas that are considered hard to count. We have identified in about half of the counties, cities, and townships someone who is doing the census outreach. We have also identified a Latino person to help mobilize the outreach. Sanchez has traveled to twenty counties so far as well as presented to the Indiana State Hispanic Chamber. She asked if someone would be willing to chair census. The Federal Government is not funding census, yet it needs to be advertised. Sanchez asked the commission to allocate around \$50,000 of the special funds solely for census and we raise an additional \$1million. The commission can then determine how much to allocate for media purposes. If we can count 90% we will come close to 10% of Hispanics in Indiana. Each commissioner should be doing PSA in their communities.

V. Old Business

A. 2008-2009 Annual Report

Deadline is December 31, 2009. Please review before the next meeting.

B. Commission Meeting for November and December 2009

Due to time we'll correspond via e-mail.

C. 2009 Board Retreat

Another date will have to be selected. Please check with your supervisors if you can attend a Saturday retreat.

D. By-Laws and Code

It will be part of the retreat.

VI. New Business

## A. Upcoming Events

1. Rep. Candelaria Reardon brought her legislative assistant, Latisha Barnsdale, who will be heading up the Latina Student Day at the State House that Rep. Candelaria Reardon is sponsoring. She asked that if you have students in your communities who would be interested in participating to let Latisha know or to individual school districts who might sponsor a bus. The date will be announced.
2. Gallo announced that there were some students from the Latino Student Union at Ivy Tech in Lafayette that weren't able to stay due to the meeting going longer than normal. They thanked the commission for the opportunity of being at the meeting and seeing how the government works. They had a presentation about being a Hispanic student trying to get a higher education and how the students who are here legally are helping those who aren't legal.
3. Warren Hervy from DOE on behalf of META Training Committee (Mapping Education Toward Achievement) Post Secondary Awareness Workshop for Hispanic students, which was on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. The commission provided a \$1000 sponsorship for that event. There were over 300 students from around Marion County who came to IUPUI to learn about college admission and financial aid. As a result they were encouraged to continue their education after graduating. At least eighty students have enrolled at IUPUI as a result of the workshop.
4. Marco Dominquez representing Indy Vision TV said that the media, which include newspapers, radio, television and advertising agencies, want to help with census. But, they need help. Main stream media is receiving money for census, but Hispanic media is not receiving any money to help with census. Also, the Indy Vision TV has a segment called Student of the Week. If you have a student in your communities who should be highlighted let Indy Vision TV know.
5. Rios introduced Felipe Vargas from the Latino Youth Collective. Vargas said that the group helps youth to help themselves. They also provide resources and opportunities for the youth to engage in personal and community development. This usually happens through art and after school opportunities, but lately, they want help advocating for their own education. Their first state wide action is a summit called the Dream Summit on November 8<sup>th</sup> at IUPUI. Kathy Souchet-Maira concluded with asking the commission for support for the Dream Summit.
6. Martha Pablon from Senator Evan Bayh informed Sanchez that they will get any handouts needed for census.

VII. Rios made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Espinosa. The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.