



**Indiana Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs  
Commission Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, December 18, 2014  
1:00pm – 3:00pm  
Conference Center  
Indiana Government Center South  
Indianapolis, IN**

**Commissioners Present:**

Senator Michael Crider (TELEPHONE)  
David Galvin, Designee, Department of Education  
Virginia Hernandez, Designee, Civil Rights Commission  
Tina Little, Designee, Department of Correction  
Teresa Mora, Designee, Family and Social Services Administration  
Seth Morales, Governor Appointee  
Richard Espinosa, Senate Lay Member, Fort Wayne  
Christian Gallo, Senate Lay Member  
Guadalupe 'Herb' Hernandez, Senate Lay member, Fort Wayne  
Pedro Ledo, Jr., Senate Lay Member, Fort Wayne (Chair)  
Charlie Garcia, House Lay Member, Indianapolis  
Francisco Garcia, House Lay Member  
Gerardo Gonzalez, House Lay Member, Bloomington (TELEPHONE)

**Commissioners Not Present:**

Senator Frank Mrvan  
Rep. Christina Hale  
Andrea Perez, Designee, Department of Health  
Brenda Summers, Department of Workforce Development  
Jesusa Rivera, House Lay Member, South Bend

**Visitors:**

Sahana Mishra  
Danielle Davis  
Staci Walters

**Staff Present:**

Danielle Dean, Executive Director

**Opening:**

Danielle Dean called the meeting to order at 1:08pm and introduced the presenters from the Indiana Latino Institute (ILI).

ILI then presented their materials regarding their mission and the status of Latinos in higher education.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Commissioners were given time to review the October 2014 minutes. There was a motion to approve the minutes, and the minutes were voted on and approved.

**Approval of Financials**

All budgets from July through November were voted on and approved.

**Chairman's Report**

Danielle Davis and Staci Walters from the Indiana Latino Institute gave a presentation.

After the presentation was over, Pedro asked a question regarding the number of votes needed in order for any items to pass.

He then asked for a motion to approve last month's meeting minutes. There was a motion given but no vote was taken.

Danielle then gave her report. She introduced Sahana Mishra, a classmate from the Lugar Series and explained why Sahana wanted to sit in on the meeting.

She also reminded all commissioners to sign in and update their contact information.

Danielle then went over the 2014 meeting dates and announced that she is awaiting confirmation to use the same room, but that those dates are set.

She also discussed attendance and said that there are some commissioners who have only come to one or two meetings in a few years and that each commissioner should make sure they have the time to participate in the commission's activities.

It was noted that any requests to replace commissioners should come from the Chair.

Danielle also mentioned that Links to audio from all presentations will be on the website and that that Rep. Hale has been appointed to replace Rep. Reardon.

She then announced a new partnership with National Latino Children's Institute—raising awareness for wearing seatbelts. ICHLA sent out a release regarding the new partnership and will help in any way possible.

Lastly, Danielle informed the board that she volunteered for the steering committee for the Urban League and gave an update on her radio interview with Radio Latina.

Pedro asked for a motion to approve October's meeting minutes and stated that the election will be January since the rules state that it cannot be done during this meeting.

Pedro would like to go back to the five different projects discussed over one year ago and reassign commissioners to those committees.

Danielle informed everyone that they have the current slate in their binders and that an electronic copy was also sent out.

Herb noted that the Indiana code and bylaws haven't provided direction as far as how to run the elections. He mentioned that the proposed election policy is just that—a policy; it's not amending the bylaws, it's just a policy. Herb read the policy and says he welcomes feedback. States that the election policy would be there so that the commission has something to follow.

It's noted that December 15<sup>th</sup> was last day to nominate someone for a position.

Herb makes a motion to accept the election policy as written. It is voted on and passes.

Christian reminds everyone that there was a motion to approve the minutes, but it was not voted on. He also mentioned that people are confused on DACA rules and suggests that the Commission invite an immigration lawyer to the next meeting to educate the commission.

Pedro suggests inviting a lawyer to speak to the commission so that there is an update now and inviting them back in a few months just in case things change/go into effect.

Christian apologizes that he has to leave, but Danielle interjects and states that we still have one final vote to cast regarding bimonthly meetings.

Pedro asks for a motion and calls a vote for bimonthly meetings. It passes.

Gerardo asks everyone their thoughts on the President's announcement regarding US relations with Cuba.

Various opinions regarding US/Cuba relations are shared. Gerardo recalls his visit to Cuba a few years ago.

Pedro thanks Danielle for lunch and for doing a good job in her new role.

Herb mentions that the budget should be voted on and that the commission is in good shape financially. He also suggests that we should look into different organizations that could use some funding so that our unused funds don't go back to the state.

He recalled that during the last fiscal year the commission set aside some money to help an organization in various areas—it helped individuals at poverty threshold, it provided small loans for entrepreneurs, etc.

He then suggested that each person think about programs the commission wants to support from January to June and repeated that unused money that we don't set aside goes back to the state. It must be allotted to a specific organization for a specific purpose. It also needs to be voted on.

There was a motion to approve budget from July-current date. It passed.

The commissioners wished each other happy holidays and congratulated Seth on his new child.

Then there was motion to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned at 2:42pm.

### **Adjournment**

At 2:42 pm, the meeting was adjourned.