



**Indiana Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs
Commission Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 15, 2014
1:00pm – 3:00pm
Conference Center
Indiana Government Center South
Indianapolis, IN**

Commissioners Present:

Rep. Christina Hale
David Galvin, Designee, Department of Education
Andrea Perez, Designee, Department of Health
Tina Little, Designee, Department of Correction
Brenda Summers, Department of Workforce Development
Seth Morales, Governor Appointee
Richard Espinosa, Senate Lay Member, Fort Wayne
Christian Gallo, Senate Lay Member
Guadalupe 'Herb' Hernandez, Senate Lay member, Fort Wayne (TELEPHONE)
Pedro Ledo, Jr., Senate Lay Member, Fort Wayne (Chair)
Francisco Garcia, House Lay Member
Gerardo Gonzalez, House Lay Member, Bloomington (TELEPHONE)
Jesusa Rivera, House Lay Member, South Bend (TELEPHONE)

Commissioners Not Present:

Senator Frank Mrvan
Senator Michael Crider
Virginia Hernandez-Ocasio, Designee, Civil Rights Commission
Teresa Mora, Designee, Family and Social Services Administration
Charlie Garcia, House Lay Member, Indianapolis

Visitors:

Angela Adams, IU General Counsel
Sally Lacey, IACCRR
Alexus Tucker, LA for Rep. Hale

Staff Present:

Danielle Dean, Executive Director

Opening:

Pedro Ledo called the meeting to order at 1:07pm. He then asked Danielle to introduce the new commissioner, Representative Christina Hale.

Approval of Minutes:

Commissioners approved the minutes from the last meeting in December of 2014.

Approval of Financials

Commissioners approved all budgets up until December of 2014.

Chairman's Report

Danielle introduced Rep. Hale and asked if she'd like to say a few words.

Rep. Hale explains that she represents district 87 and that she's the only person of Hispanic/Latino decent left in the statehouse.

She says she believes that the government should reflect the community and right now it does not. Because of this, we need to get more young people involved in government.

She explains that she's the chair of the 2nd annual Latino Legislative Breakfast, where they will be honoring Rep. Kubacki and Rep. Reardon. The event will be February 17th at the Sheraton on Ohio St.

She says she's also taking on House Legislative Latino Page Day, which she'll be changing to the Latino Legislative Fellow Summit. During this program, students from all over the state travel to Indianapolis to spend a day at the Statehouse. The goal is to revitalize young people. There is a mock session, paging on the floor—its meant to be an inspirational experience, to inspire the youth to say 'why not you?'

She also explained that a few things will be a little bit different than they have been in the past.

The Indiana Latino Institute is providing a scholarship. Students will write an essay and the winner will receive the scholarship. Students will also write themselves a letter on that day and Rep. Hale's staff will send them the letter six months later as a reminder to stay involved.

ICHLA has sponsored a gift for the pages in the past. Some schools cannot afford to send the students to the statehouse for the summit on March 16th

She has secured a sponsorship for lunch and the keynote address—it will be the owner of Indy 11 and will be bringing soccer players with him.

Rep. Hale says that she needs to leave shortly, but Alexis Tucker, her legislative assistant will stay behind for questions.

Richard lets the commission know that we have supported them in the past. Rep Hale states that they do have funding to feed them, but they need money for transportation and a take-away item for the kids.

Andrea Perez lets Rep. Hale know that her daughter attended Latino Page Day and really enjoyed it.

Rep. Hale then excuses herself as she has a presentation to make.

Danielle noted that we are short by one person in order to hold the election vote.

Then Christian arrived so Danielle handed out the ballots, noting that those on the phone emailed in their votes.

Danielle instructs the board that they are to circle their choice and asks that those on the phone wait for just a few minutes while those in the room vote.

After the vote, Pedro suggests that we look over the budget before we listen to Angela's presentation.

Pedro suggests that we vote on the funds for Rep. Hale's two initiatives.

Danielle was asked to check to see if the commission gave Rep. Reardon funding for the same initiatives last year.

Richard makes a motion to give \$5000 to Rep. Hale for the IN Latino Student Legislative Summit and IN Latino Breakfast.

Jesusa seconds the motion.

There was a vote and the motion passes.

Danielle then reads the outcome of the election. Pedro Ledo was re-elected as board chair, Jesusa Rivera was elected as vice chair, Herb Hernandez as treasurer, and Virginia Hernandez-Ocasio as secretary.

Danielle talks about Angela's background before she arrives.

Pedro takes a moment to thank the board for electing him for a second time.

He also addresses changing the meeting times/days asking that if there needs to be further discussion.

Danielle ensures that everyone has the handouts sent by Angela.

Angela introduces herself and presents information to the board regarding DACA/DAPA.

After Angela is finished, Sally Lacy from IACCRR gives her presentation, asking ICHLA to assist with funding in the amount of \$20,000.

Pedro asks if Herb is on the line and lets him know that \$5,000 is going toward Rep. Hale's initiatives.

He also revisits the existing meeting time and asks if there are conflicts. There's no objection so it's decided that the time and dates will stay the same.

Pedro suggests that we go over the budget.

Herb says we all have July-Dec 2014 budgets. We have spent 33,079.89 for salaries, wages, and fringes. At the bottom, we see IOT other bills for \$896.32.

He states that if we add them up we've spent \$39,655.65. He says that up at the top of the page on the right we did receive a total of \$102,432, so we have a balance of \$62,776.35.

He notes that the bulk of that is salary, but that we need to use our money with a fiscal attitude between now and June 30 (when the fiscal year ends).

He also states that the salary for the month of September went up and asks Danielle to check with Pam. He notes that October and November's numbers make more sense.

He also has another question for Pam. On the line that reads supplies, admin, operating—line item 595120—per diem, is that for the commissioners or is that for Danielle?

He states that we need to have per diem and mileage and that that's how it used to be.

Pedro says to make sure to leave enough to pay salary.

Herb makes motion to approve all budgets up until December 2014.

Christian seconds the motion, it's voted on and approved.

Danielle then asks if we want to support IACCRR and, if so, for how much.

Herb notes that we need to look at other organizations that we want to support, and just because we have supported them in the past doesn't mean we have to continue to. We don't want to give the impression that just because you give them money one year, they're going to get it every year. He states that we also need to keep in mind that the organization needs to match the mission of ICHLA, and suggests that we ask to see what the impact was of the money we gave them in the past.

Danielle will send an email to the board with IACCRR's information as well as those nominated (after the deadline to nominate).

Pedro suggests that commissioners should nominate any organization that they choose and then vote on those in March.

The deadline to submit the nominations will be Feb. 13th

Danielle states to just include the organization's name, their mission or purpose, what the money would go to, and how much they're asking for.

Pedro asks if we need to make a motion to accept the election results. Herb says yes.

Christian makes a motion to approve the election results. There is a second and it passes.

Pedro thanks the commissioners for their time, effort and trust. He thinks this will be a big year for Latinos.

He also says that in the past, the commission came up with different projects and subcommittees and that he will bring this up at the next meeting to place people in these committees

Danielle updates everyone on SB345 and the seal of bi-literacy. She also tells everyone about the Mexican Symphony Orchestra coming to Carmel and thanks everyone for staying a few minutes late.

Adjournment

At 3:15 pm, the meeting was adjourned.