



STATE OF INDIANA

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

ICHLA

**Indiana Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs
Commission Meeting Agenda
Thursday, February 26th, 2009
3:00pm – 4:30pm
Conference Center Room 17
Indiana Government Center South
Indianapolis, IN**

Commissioners Present:

Ryan Bergerman, Proxy for Sen. Carlin Yoder
Richard Espinosa, Senate Lay Member, Fort Wayne (Vice Chair)
Christian Gallo, Senate Lay Member, Lafayette
Guadalupe 'Herb' Hernandez, Senate Lay Member, Fort Wayne (Chair)
Teddy Flores, House Lay Member, East Chicago
Freddie Thon, House Lay Member, South Bend
Andrea Bueno, Designee, Lt. Governor's Office
Tina Little, Designee, Department of Corrections (Treasurer)
Andrea Perez, Designee, Department of Health
Molly Barrett, Proxy for Lauren Harvey, Designee, Department of Education (Secretary)
Josh Brewster, Proxy for Director Tony Kirkland, Civil Rights Commission
Kristy Musall, Designee, Department of Workforce Development
Michelle Stein-Ordonez, Designee, Family and Social Services Agency

Commissioners Not Present:

Rep. Mara Candelaria Reardon
Rep. Richard McClain
Sen. Frank Mrvan
Lisa Kusiak, House Lay Member, Munster
Pat Rios, House Lay Member, Indianapolis
Angel Riviera, Senate Lay Member, Indianapolis
Alfonso Vidal, Governor Appointee

Staff Present:

Pat Sanchez, Executive Director

Audience Present:

Tim Brown, Department of Legislative Services

I. Call to Order

Chair Hernandez called the meeting to order at 3:01pm. Quorum was not established.
Chair Hernandez made a side note until quorum was established at 3:13 pm.

II. Commission Business

A. Approval of Minutes January 09

The only correction was Michelle Stein-Ordonez' name was misspelled and it will be corrected.

Espinosa made the motion to approve the minutes.

Stein-Ordonez seconded.

Thon nay

Stein-Ordonez, Proxy for Kirkland, and Flores abstention

Motion Carried

Hernandez talked about the establishing of meetings and the time issue of canceling the meetings, how it is done and the appropriate way to cancel meetings. He suggested putting challenges in writing to be discussed at the next meeting.

Hernandez talked about the election of officers and quorum in the bylaws and code. He stated that all the rules were followed, the only question that he had was whether or not a proxy can vote. A proxy counts for quorum, but not for voting. The proxy votes were not counted during the election of officers. He then requested everyone to go through the minutes and asked if anyone had statements.

Thon wanted to make clear his position for the record. "I came all the way down here to Indianapolis that day to a meeting. I was told that the meeting had been canceled. I had lunch with Juana Watson from the governor's office who told me that the executive director had just called and the meeting was on. I assumed that that meant that the chairman had rescheduled the meeting and thought great I will be there. I wanted more than anything for the meeting to go on. And they also told me, by the way, that you two gentlemen were already on your way. So you were on your way and I was already here. So believe me, I had a very strong desire to have the meeting happen. However, so, when Juana told me that, that you had called that there was a meeting, I said great, I went over to the hotel across the street here, and sat down in the lobby waiting for three o'clock to come around to come over to the meeting. In the mean time, my wife called me that I had an e-mail that the meeting was called off. And then I also had a phone call from the chairman that the meeting, and I asked him, 'That they're telling me that the meeting was still on,' and he said, 'No, it's not, I haven't, I haven't put the meeting back on.' As far as I know, there is nobody else who had the authority if as long as the chairman is canceling the meeting, nobody else has the authority to restate the meeting. Not the vice-chairman, not the executive director, not anybody that I know of and I maybe incorrect on that, that's what my understanding is. So, and under those circumstances, and I was also told by the chairman also that there would probably not be a quorum either. Now I don't like driving at night all the way up to South Bend, so I got in my car and went home. Now the way this happened, I objected very strongly number one they forfeited my right to vote, to be at the meeting, what if I had wanted to run for one of the offices?"

That's forfeited also. To me the meeting was an illegal meeting, consequently so was the election. And I want to point out very strongly that I have no objection to the results of the election. Matter of fact the people elected, I consider good friends of mine. Both of you I consider friends, so it's not a question of individuals I just think the procedure had been very very flawed. I don't want to argue about it a lot at all, I just want it to be part of the minutes that I made that statement. And I'm also very offended that I came all the way down here. Obviously it's not your fault or anybody's fault, it's whoever canceled the meeting, but the meeting was canceled." Statement made.

There was a discussion on quorum, the January meeting, the legality of the meeting and the canceling of the meeting. There was also a discussion on the voting and Commissioners' inability to vote.

Sanchez discussed all the calls that were made by Sanchez and Watson establishing the meeting and the quorum regarding the January meeting. Notification for meetings has to go up 48 hours prior to canceling and establishing of meetings. She discussed the locations of the postings and postings of cancelations.

Hernandez closed the discussion with an apology for anyone losing the chance or the right to vote. He also talked about the procedure and quorum, and the discussion was closed.

III. Reports

A. Executive Director's Report

Sanchez discussed the Ad Hoc Meeting and the Executive Committee Meetings. Sanchez talked about the budget, the extra funds and how these funds may be allocated to other areas. Sanchez indicated that Tina Little would talk more about it in her report.

Sanchez discussed the website and the updates as far as Spanish Tax Sites, etc. Other organizations have areas that want us to add things to our websites.

Sanchez discussed Hispanics in the arts and how there is an influx of Hispanic art, theatre, and music events. She mentioned the Bonderman who will be showcasing a Latino playwright.

Sanchez mentioned the conferences coming up, local and national are being added to the website.

B. Chair's Report

Hernandez discussed the January meeting and the minutes. He wanted to make sure to have all the committee chairs and subcommittees determined.

Sub committee Chairs/Co-Chairs as Follows:

Lauren Harvey-Education

Michelle Stein-Ordonez & Andrea Perez -Health

Angel Rivera & Tina Little -Business
Tony Kirkland & Christian Gallo -Civil Rights

Hernandez mentioned the executive committee meeting and encouraged everyone to attend the meetings. He also mentioned the goals for the next executive committee meeting including creating a strategic plan for 2009.

Hernandez talked about the code, bylaws, and public access laws and how they run the commission.

Hernandez closed his report.

C. Budget Report

Little mentioned the budget report in the binders. A meeting will be scheduled with DWD to discuss the rollover, the sections that will be short and moving funds into this year to cover any overages.

Sanchez mentioned that when the legislature approves the budget; we will then allocate funds and bring the budget to the board for approval for the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

Hernandez discussed the issue/procedure of out of state travel, the rules of out of state travel, and how to get the out of state travel approved by IDOA.

Little made a motion to allocate funds to per diem and travel section till the end of the year.

Perez seconded the motion.

Hernandez asked for any further discussion. Sanchez discussed the budget and that the funds will be short as far as commissioners traveling to meetings.

Proxy for Kirkland and Carlin abstention

The motion carried.

Proxy for Kirkland wanted to object to allocating travel or per diem to commissioners who are not present at those meetings or for past meetings. The person has to be present at the meeting in order to receive travel and per diem for the meeting.

Hernandez mentioned that it is already a policy.

D. Standing Committees

1. Approval of Education Report

Hernandez mentioned that everyone has the education report. He asks if anyone has any questions and if people need more time the conversation can be tabled until the next meeting.

Thon suggests that the report be approved.

Hernandez asks for questions or comments

Thon moves to approve the report

Stein-Ordonez seconds

The motion passes

2. Health

Stein-Ordonez discusses the report and the concern that the report was handled by many hands, she thinks that the report should be re-written with one author.

Sanchez adds that the report needs to be done by someone who has time and the knowledge to do this report. Sanchez went out for bids of \$9,000 and \$20,000 for 2 to 3 months to correct the report. She discussed the difficulty in accessing information on minorities from the state regarding health.

Hernandez asks for any other comments.

Stein-Ordonez states her goals to reach out to people to find local data and where to go to find that information.

Hernandez and Stein-Ordonez discussed the timeline and the cost.

If the Health Committee started from scratch, it would be cheaper and they would have until November to finish the report.

Hernandez requests a report next month on the progress of the health report.

3. Ad Hoc Committee

Hernandez talked about the ad hoc committee meeting involving event planning and what things the commission should be participating in for the rest of the year.

Perez discussed the meeting and the alternatives to having a conference. There are options of collaborating with the office of Minority Health and with the Black Expo.

Bueno talked about Project Stepping Stone, the locations, the amount of people reached, and the goal of the event. She suggested providing money for travel to this event. She also mentioned community Plaza's locations, their goals, and events. She also mentioned their funding being cut. She talked about where the funding was coming from.

Thon asked about events around the state.

Stein-Ordonez mentioned Hispanic's in Hoosier Healthwise, along with other organizations, and having collaboration with them in regards to nutrition.

Sanchez mentioned establishing partnerships with other state agencies in order to host public/town hall forums in other areas of the state.

Hernandez mentions that he wants us to make a decision next month on events that we want to participate. Hernandez discussed the process of getting funding for these events and creating a calendar of these events. He requested more information on Project Stepping Stone in regards to how much funding they would need.

Sanchez mentioned that Steve Ramos from Project Stepping Stone contacted her with some information, but it was not in regards to travel.

Gallo talked about events, the need to make events more populated, and the problems he has experienced with attendance of events.

IV. Old Business

A. Commissioners volunteering to be on standing committees

Hernandez mentioned that everyone knows who the chairs are and if you want to be involved you can contact the chairs.

B. 2009 Calendar of Conferences, Events

Hernandez mentioned that ICHLA will not be involved in any conferences in 2009. He mentioned the conferences that are coming up and their dates. He mentioned the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (USHCC) conference that he applied for and was approved to go to. The rules are that only one commissioner can attend the conferences and people have to stay under budget. He mentioned the need for commissioners to attend the events and a minimum of a 300-word report to present to the commission to benefit our group.

Hernandez highlighted some of the statewide events that are coming up in the near future.

Sanchez indicated that there were four Latinas nominated and three Latinas receiving Torchbearer awards from the Indiana Commission for Women. Sanchez requests for ICHLA to buy a table to support the event on March 3, 2009.

Hernandez asks for a motion to buy a table for the Torchbearers
Espinosa moved to buy a table
Musall seconded
Hernandez asks for any other discussion
Motion carried.

Hernandez mentioned his approval for \$1400 for him going to the USHCC conference in DC and requests a movement.
Thon moved to approve Hernandez' attendance to the conference
Bueno seconded
Motion carried

Hernandez mentioned the Sanchez will attend a conference in Chicago and there will be no cost to the state.

Sanchez talked about the conference, who will attend, and who is paying for the event.

Thon made a motion for Sanchez to attend the USHLI conference in Chicago.
Michelle seconded the motion
The motion carried

V. New Business

A. Implementation of specific actions for 2009 that compliment Strategic Plan

Hernandez pointed out that the Executive Committee wants to put together a strategic plan. They will put it together and see if the commission agrees.

B. Hispanic Heritage Month Sept – Oct 2009

Hernandez wants the commission to be involved and will leave it to the event planning committee also know as the Ad-hoc committee.

C. 2009 Retreat held in November 2009

More information will be supplied shortly.

Espinosa moved to adjourn the meeting.
Thon seconded the motion.
Meeting adjourned at 4:28pm