



STATE OF INDIANA

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

ICHLA

**Indiana Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs
Commission Meeting Notes
Thursday, September 24th, 2009
3:00pm – 4:30pm
Conference Center Room 12
Indiana Government Center South
Indianapolis, IN**

Commissioners Present:

Angel Rivera, Senate Lay member, Indianapolis (Vice Chair)
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
Josie Williams, Designee, Indiana Civil Rights Commission
Michelle Stein-Ordenez, Designee, Family and Social Services Administration

Commissioners Not Present:

Rep. Mara Candelaria Reardon
Rep. Rich McClain
Senator Carlin Yoder
Senator Frank Mrvan
Pat Rios, House Lay Member, Indianapolis
Lisa Kusiak, House Lay Member, Muenster
Teddy Flores, House Member, East Chicago
Freddie Thon, House Lay Member, South Bend
Andrea Perez, Designee, Department of Health

Staff Present:

Pat Sanchez, Executive Director
Michelle Simmons, Administrative Assistant

I. Call to Order

Chair Hernandez called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. Roll call was taken and quorum was not made.

II. Commission Business

A. Approval for the minutes of August 2009 was tabled until quorum was made.

B. Approval for the ICHLA Sponsorship guidelines retroactive to July 30, 2009 was tabled until quorum was made.

III. Reports

A. Chair Report

Chair Hernandez said his notes indicated that when he presented the guidelines in June there was a quorum, but the committee was going to vote on the guidelines in July. There was a miscount in July and quorum was not made as originally indicated. In August the chair wanted to make sure it was appropriate to vote on the guidelines again before presenting it to the committee again. The guidelines will be presented at the October meeting.

The commission can give money to organizations and the commission can participate in events as long as the events' and organizations' mission complies with the ICHLA's mission. This goes back to the original meeting on January 22, 2004 when the meetings were created under new structure. A report will be expected after the money is used. If the report is not satisfactory the commission reserves the right not to give money to the organization or event in the future.

Lisa with La Estravees 2009 came before the commission to request money. She submitted the form and her budget on time, but the event has been postponed until Spring 2010. If the guidelines are approved it would be retroactive to July 2009 to be fair to her.

B. Executive Director's Report

The opening ceremony to Hispanic Heritage Month was launched to the largest crowd that the commission has had to date and was well received. We had a very large booth. The t-shirts were very popular; many wanted to buy a t-shirt. Sanchez sent the t-shirt design to several states who were impressed with the design. The press releases were sent out regarding the Hispanic Heritage Ceremony, census and health brief. Another press release will be sent out regarding the census. Several reporters have already called regarding the outreach for the census. Sanchez has to differ to DWD to make sure what is said is correct.

Sanchez has done several outreaches in the northern region, which is the largest population area. She discovered issues of discrimination that had been dormant for awhile and was coming out. She will be meeting with Tony Kirkland and Christian Gallo to discuss some of the issues that is being discovered within the communities.

Census: Sanchez was in Chicago on Monday meeting with the head of census from Washington D.C. and regional director from census.

H1N1 is stabilizing right now. However, cases are still coming forward, mostly in children. The symptoms, diarrhea and vomiting, is new to Indiana and is not being reported in other states. Materials are available for shipping to communities. The materials will also be made available in Spanish and English on the website.

If you need a speaker for census and/or H1N1 Sanchez will coordinate with the officers and their schedule.

The Historical Project was not scratched; time was an issue. Sanchez did give a synopsis as to why we celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month at the opening ceremony. The video will be produced in-house. The final project will be distributed to anyone who wants a copy as well as to the historical societies who have contributed to the project. It will also be posted on the web site.

The Departmental of Administration met regarding translation and interpretation. The state was trying to hire a vendor for translation and interpretation. The Departmental of Administration decided not to have a QPA on translations and interpretations because they didn't want departments using a vendor that wasn't producing quality work.

Because Department of Workforce Development has federal funds allocated to them they are having problems with the change. It may be another 30-60 days before checks are sent. Please be patient.

IV. Old Business

A. Report on Hispanic Heritage opening ceremonies

Chair Hernandez reported that the opening ceremony started at 12:03 p.m. Father Goodson gave the invocation in Spanish and in English and Christian Gallo led the Pledge of Allegiance. Secretary of State Todd Rokita, Congressman Andre Carson, and Representative MaryAnn Sullivan was there. Other VIP guests were Consulate Juan Sulanta and the secretary from Senator Lugar's office. The commissioners that were there, Christian Gallo, Richard Espinosa, Andrea Bueno, Tina Little and Michelle Stein-Ordonez, was introduced.

Tina Little reported that it was good for her first event. She was able to meet a lot of people, talk to the public and handout information about the census.

Andrea Bueno thought it was better that they were out in the community instead of coming into the State House. Booths were still being set up when the ceremony started so maybe it would have been best to start it a little later, but it was good overall. She suggested that maybe the television should have been up front to draw more people in, but the t-shirts went well. Overall it was good and it'll improve each year.

Michelle Stein-Ordonez enjoyed herself and liked the tent. She did notice that there seemed to be more traffic on the sidewalk even though the bigger vendors were in the mall area. Gallo mentioned that the sidewalks were very small and the tent was too big for the area. Stein-Ordonez commented that there were great materials for the outreach. Many people stopped and read the timeline and often commented on it.

Chair Hernandez asked if anyone has suggestions for next year to e-mail Sanchez. Next year everyone should wear their name tags so people know they are with the commission. The commission's sponsorship for the event was \$10,000. Chair Hernandez commented that he would have liked to see more of our logo in different places. The food that Gonzalez brought was well received.

We got proclamations from Governor Daniel, Indianapolis Mayor Ballard and one from the Council of Mexico, Juan Solana. We also got a letter from Senator Luger for his attendance and extending his greeting. Expinosa asked about putting the proclamations on the website.

B. Retreat

Sanchez sent out the requests for dates to consider for the retreat. November 14 had the most votes. Due to no budget the cost of a location, meals and a facilitator must be considered. There are several options that would not require funding for the location and meals.

Chair Hernandez would like the agenda to include the history of the commission. The commission of 2004 had challenges like quorum, by-laws, job description for the executive director and dealing with the code and the restrictions of the code. Chair Hernandez would like to go over what is the mission, what are the objections and how to go beyond that. What should we be doing to get the exposure? How do we let the Latino community know what our mission is and to support it? Review parliament procedure. What are the commissioners' roles and responsibilities? What are the executive director's job description, the criteria and limitations of the job? Understanding the budget – what can go in and what can't. Do we understand how fiscally responsible we need to be?

The commission discussed their options at length for the retreat. The consensus was that the retreat would be held on November 14 at the Marott and everyone will chip in for the meals. Sanchez will send e-mail to remind everyone to bring

money to chip in for the meals. The final decision will be made next month when there is a quorum.

- C. Amendment of Marketing Plan to include Census 2010
If more Latino/ Hispanics complete census the state will get more money for each census completed. Indiana lost more than 30% of federal funding because not everyone was counted. The Federal government wants everyone counted, but is not budgeting money to help. There are some small grants to help with the expense and the commission has already applied for one. People want town hall meetings that Sanchez plans to attend. Bueno will e-mail the list of Hispanic centers to everyone so they can help Sanchez. Sanchez will put together a packet that will include the last map done in Census 2000 that shows the number of Hispanics in each county, hard pocket areas that are hard to count and the map of the U.S. census.
- D. Town Hall Forums
Set up meeting times and locations, have the materials ready and be the master of ceremonies. You can use whatever issue you want like census, H1N1, increase dropout of Latino high school students etc.

V. New Business

- A. November & December meeting
The by-laws state that there must be monthly meetings yet it also says that it's called by the chair. If we do not have a monthly meeting then the by-laws need to be changed by submitting a parliament procedure to make an amendment to the by-laws. If we have a monthly meeting then the retreat can also be a commission meeting, the chair would close the meeting at the end of the public meeting. Having two meetings in one month would put us over budget.
- B. Mileage has changed from \$.45 to \$.40 per mile as of October 1st and the travel voucher has changed. Sanchez will mail the new travel voucher and needs the original mailed back.

The chair adjourned the meeting at 4:32 p.m.