



Meeting Minutes

Indiana Commission on Hispanic and Latino Affairs

Call to Order: A meeting of the Indiana Commission of Hispanic/Latino Affairs was held virtually on Microsoft Teams on Thursday, June 17th, 2021, via WebEx

The meeting convened at 1:04 p.m. by Brenda Graves-Croom. President Galindo asked for a roll call and quorum was established at 1:28pm.

Commissioners in attendance: Chairman Palermo Galindo, Herb Hernandez, Rebecca Kubacki, Daniella Jordán Gonzales, Brenda Graves-Croom, Representative Earl Harris, Stefanie Price, Representative Peggy Mayfield, Pam Ferguson, Christian Gallo, Senator Jack Sandlin

Commissioners absent Susana Duarte, Diana Feliciano, Francisco García, Senator Jean Breaux, Senator Taylor, Beatriz Pacheco,

Others in attendance: Mr. Giles, Hannah Joy

Approval of minutes: Commissioner Hernandez mentioned there are two other minutes that need to be approved. The first move was by Commissioner Kubacki and seconded by Representative Harris.

Alice Jordan-Miles Presentation – Bienestar Sin Fronteras (Wellbeing without borders)

She introduced herself and her background and personal experience in mental health.

She also talked about the efforts she and other people made to provide mental health resources for the Latinx and Hispanic communities. With the help from the Lutheran foundation, they have been able to provide counseling, support groups, training, and presentations to support and advocate for people experiencing with mental health issues. She mentioned that most of the resources can be offered to people in their native language.

Moreover, she talked about the importance of overcoming the stigma around mental health in our Hispanic and Latinx communities.

These services are available mostly in northeast Indiana counties.

She provided their website which is www.bsfindiana.org

They have been able to help 51 individuals by providing free services and resources to Latinx and Hispanic people who do not have insurance in northeast Indiana.

She also mentioned that a struggle has been lack of affordable housing and finding bilingual therapists. However, the funding they have been able to make a big difference in their community.

Mr. Schultz' report: None

Officers' reports: None

Treasurer's Report: Commissioner Hernandez mentioned that our fiscal year end on June 30th, 2012. The balance as of the end of May 31st, 2021 was \$17,605.19, and our budget was \$102,432.

He went line by line explaining the amounts and where they come from.

He also compared the amounts for line items.

He asked Mr. Giles if the ICRC submitted our budget for next fiscal year.

Representative Mayfield asked if ICRC has their own budget for salaries. The answer was "yes". She asked if the amount for salaries taken out of our budget was taken out for individuals, and why it is coming out from our budget, if they have a line item for these purposes when a commission lacks a director.

Commissioner Hernandez said that this money was taken out and asked Greg last month, and he confirmed that this amount had been taken out. Mr. Giles. More details and clarification will be provided in a later meeting.

Director's Report: None

Sponsorship Committee reports: None

Other Notes:

Mr. Giles mentioned that next meeting will be in person in Indianapolis. He also notified the commission that an ICHLA Director has been hired. Her name is Alexis Gonzales, and she will be starting on June 28th, 2021. Mr. Giles asked the commissioners to look for an invite to a meeting prior to our August meeting so we can officially meet.

There were no reports for unfinished business and grant applications. Mr. Giles said that the only two applications they were able to process were for Lafayette Urban Ministries and The Immigrant Center.

Commissioner Kubacki asked what the turnaround is for returning checks. Mr. Giles said that each grant request is different, and it is hard to estimate. However, the ideal situation would take between 3-4 weeks.

Mr. Giles said he will update the annual report for 2019 on the website and also, he will upload the minutes for our last few meeting.

Rep. Mayfield asked if there are more plans to provide vaccines to the Latinx and Hispanic communities. Commissioner Hernandez said that one of the challenges for ICHLA to participate in this initiative is because we meet every other month. Commissioner Kubacki mentioned that in any Latino website in La Plaza, INI, etc. there is information about where Latinx and Hispanic people can get vaccines.

Representative Mayfield made a formal request about the continuity in ICHLA Directors. She mentioned that usually, the directors start excited with preconceptions of what they want to accomplish. However, she asked if the new director could look at the data collected from the listening sessions from 2019, so there is some continuation to the work that has been done.

Mr. Giles said that he will communicate the projects and listening sessions so she can pick up where the other director left off.

Annual Report: Mr. Giles said the annual reports can be printed from the website for 2019.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 pm.

Next Meetings in 2021: August 19th, October 21st, December 16th