



Minutes of the December 8, 2006 business meeting at Riffe Building, Room West B and C 31st. Floor, 77 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio.

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners

V. Anthony Simms-Howell
Mary Santiago
Ramona Reyes
Michael G. Florez
Chris Rodriguez
Richard Romero

Staff

Ezra C. Escudero

Guest attendance list

Attached

Absent

Simon Rodriguez - Excused
Phillip R. Barbosa - Excused
Humberto Gonzalez - Excused

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Romero called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

CALL OF THE ROLL

There were six commissioners present constituting a quorum.

Leonard Hubert from the Office of the Governor sworn in newly appointed Commissioner Chris Rodriguez.

Vice Chair Romero, as Acting Chair today, acknowledged Mr. Leonard Hubert for his support to the Commission through all this time and asked a standing ovation for him. Round of applause.

MOTION #1 - 12-2006 - To approve the October meeting minutes. Presented by Commissioner Reyes. Seconded by Commissioner Santiago. Motion carried.

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VICE CHAIR'S COMMENTARY - Commissioner Romero thanked everybody for attending and expressed that the commission did a great job this year for the betterment of the Latino community.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Director Escudero presented his reports for October and November 2006. Copies of the reports are attached to these minutes as Exhibits A and B.

MOTION #2 - 12-2006 - To accept the Director's reports. Presented by Commissioner Santiago. Seconded by Commissioner Reyes. Motion carried.

Vice Chair Romero informed that the new committee chairs are:

Communications - Commissioner Ramona Reyes

DHO - Commissioner Mary Santiago

Education - Commissioner Chris Rodriguez

Finance - Commissioner Anthony Simms-Howell

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive

Commissioner Romero informed that the committee met this morning and talked about the History of OCHLA, purpose and building programs to help the Latino community. They also talked about the budget the commission had 29 years ago, around \$300,000.00 compare to the budget now that the commission is celebrating his 30 years, of around \$180,000.00. Also that at the meetings they are putting-up a plan to get the commission properly funded and look out for the two positions that are open at the board.

Finance

Commissioner Simms-Howell gave the financial report. The financial report is attached to these minutes as **Exhibit C**.

Education

Commissioner Rodriguez informed that he has no report, but that he has contacted Ms. Donna Alvarado for ideas.

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DHO

Commissioner Santiago informed that the date of the DHO is Friday, April 20, 2007.

Communications

Commissioner Reyes asked for assistance from Commissioner Santiago.

OLD BUSINESS

2007 Meetings Calendar - Director Escudero presented the proposed 2007 meetings calendar. Copy of this calendar is attached to these minutes as Exhibit D.

MOTION #3 - 12-2006 - To approve the 2007 calendar through June 15, 2007. Presented by Commissioner Simms-Howell. Seconded by Commissioner Romero. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

New Ad-Hoc Committee - Bylaws Committee

Director Escudero informed that the commission has received a request from the Attorney General's office to review the bylaws since they have not been review since 1984. Director Escudero informed that Chair Gonzalez has appointed Commissioner Florez to chair this committee.

Annual Report

Director Escudero informed that he is working on the 2006 Annual Report to be submitted to the board for approval. Then he will continue working on the reports for 2005 and 2004.

INVITED GUESTS - None

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

MOTION #4 - 12-2006 - To accept public commentary. Presented by Commissioner Santiago. Seconded by Commissioner Chris Rodriguez. Motion carried.

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Public introduced themselves.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Reyes looks forward to the good 2007.

Leonard Hubert from the Office of Governor Taft announced that this is his last meeting. He expressed his appreciation for all that the Commission does.

Director Escudero announced that the new Budget is going to be presented to the new administration in ninety days.

Commissioner Romero expressed his appreciation and asked for a round of applause for Kathy Adams from the Attorney General's office. Round of applause.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #5 - 12-2006 - To adjourn the meeting. Presented by Commissioner Santiago. Seconded by Commissioner Chris Rodriguez. Motion carried.

Commissioner Romero wished Merry Christmas and Happy New year to all.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Richard Romero, Vice Chair

Michael G. Florez, Secretary