

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING February 17, 2012

El Centro de Servicios Sociales de Lorain
2800 Pearl Avenue
Lorain, OH 44055

Mary Santiago, Chair
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Cleveland

Michael Florez, Secretary
Cincinnati

Lourdes Barroso de Padilla
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Isabel Framer
Copley

Emerald Hernandez
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Rev. Max Rodas
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Richard Romero
Lorain

V. Tony Simms-Howell
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Baldemar Velasquez
Toledo

Luis "Tony" Ortiz
Beavercreek

Dan Ramos
State Representative
District 56th ~ Lorain County

Christina Hagan
State Representative
District 50th ~ Stark County

Gayle Manning
Senator
District 13th ~ Huron, Lorain,
Seneca (Part)

Charleta Tavares
Senator
District 15th ~ Franklin (Part)

Attendance

Commissioners - Present

Mary Santiago
V. Anthony Simms-Howell
Richard Romero
Michael G. Florez
Isabel Framer
Emerald Hernández
Lourdes Barroso de Padilla
Baldemar Velásquez

Staff - Present

Lilleana Cavanaugh - Executive Director
Lair Marin-Marcum - Office Manager
Nolan Stevens - Acting Policy Liaison Officer
Jose Cos - Organization Development Officer

Appointed Legislators to Commission

Senator Gayle Manning

Call to Order

Chair Santiago called the meeting to order at 1:31p.m.

Call of the Roll

There are eight Commissioners present, thus constituting quorum.

Motion #1 - 2-2012 - To approve the November 2011 Board Minutes. Moved by Commissioner Baldemar Velasquez. Seconded by Commissioner Richard Romero. Motion carried.



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Board of Commissioners**Mary Santiago**, Chair
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Senator
District 15th ~ Franklin (Part)**Chair's Report and Commentary**

Chair Santiago hands floor to Commissioner Isabel Frammer to report on the White House Summit. Commissioner Frammer gives a brief report on the summary of the White House Hispanic Summit that will place in The Lorain County Community College the following day on February 18th. This type of White House summits have already taken place in several other states with leaders of the Hispanic Community and those who work with the Latino Community to discuss issues and best practices that concern the Hispanic community. The participants are able to set and create their own agenda as well as to talk with Federal organization such as HUD, etc. Most of the people in the Board Meeting today are planning on attending.

Chair Santiago recognizes Senator Manning and thanks her for attending.

Chair Santiago hands floor to Executive Director Lilleana Cavanaugh for Director's Report.

Directors' Report**Latino Community Network Report**

Executive Director Lilleana Cavanaugh gives a report on the Monthly Reports for the November & December 2011 and January 2012.

The key event that that took place in December 2011 was the Governor's Meeting with Latino leaders. A direct result of the meeting was the formation of the Latino Workforce Taskforce to review opportunities for career and job training, access to business opportunities and investments. The taskforce will be lead by Commissioner Romero and will include community leaders. As part of our strategic initiatives, every year the commission hosts "Agenda Latina", a capacity building event geared towards Latino organizations and leaders. In 2012, the White House Hispanic Summit, taking place on February 18th will take the place of Agenda Latina. Additionally, the Legislative Visit Day 2012 will take place in partnership with the Ohio Hispanic Chambers of Commerce on May 9th at the Statehouse. A draft schedule of the event has been shared with the board. The format of the event has been revised to include regional meetings with the legislators and working sessions in the afternoon. OCHLA continues to collaborate in important statewide initiatives as well. For example, we are actively involved with the Ohio Human Trafficking Commission; we are also collaborating with ODJFS as they prepare to host a statewide Latino informational session on the department's services. The ODJFS informational session is a direct result of our December meeting with community leaders and the Governor .



Director Cavanaugh informs the board that the DHO is now confirmed for Friday, October 5th, 2012, and asks to please mark your calendars.

The Commission has been asked to be part of "Close the Gap" a pilot heart disease prevention program in Franklin County and metropolitan area that could potentially expand to other counties in the state of Ohio. This project seeks to increase awareness and educational opportunities regarding heart health. Director Cavanaugh and Officer Cos will be working with the advisory board of this group to ensure participation and inclusion of Hispanics in the initiative. Finally, in an effort to support building capacity initiatives, Director Cavanaugh has been collaborating with leaders in Columbus seeking to establish a National Society of MBA's [NSHMBA] chapter in Central Ohio. This chapter will be able to provide an avenue for networking, continued professional development, mentoring and camaraderie among Hispanic professionals. There are two other chapters already in Ohio: Cincinnati and Cleveland.

Executive Director Cavanaugh hands floor to Organizations Development Center Officer (ODCO) Jose Cos for his report.

Organizations Development Center (ODC) Report

Organizations Development Center Officer (ODCO) Jose Cos highlights the main tasks during the last two months have been facilitating information to organizations regarding how to screen, select and apply for grants. A connection with United Way and Public Safety Department was accomplished for Officer Cos to attend their grant trainings, with their permission, Officer Cos has now tailored instructional packages and power points for organizations and made this information available through OCHLA's website. Bi-monthly grant announcements continue to be sent out; these announcements have created a synergy of communications and on a daily basis to and from Latino organizations interested in applying for grants. The commission's presence in social networks continue to increase providing a better opportunity to communicate information and share valuable resources. Lastly, in collaboration with the Ohio Latino Health Coalition, LULAC, the Latino Mental Health Network and other future partners, our commission will organize a Latino Health Summit that will tentatively take place in the summer of 2012. The purpose of the summit will be to address to review the challenges and opportunities faced by Hispanic Ohioans in the health arena, including best practices, research, outreach, access, collaboration, etc., with the purpose to improve services and access in the community. More details about the Health Summit will be provided in following board meetings.

Floor is open to questions and commentary.

Commissioner Romero would like to report on grant opportunities, he suggests some type of tracking to find out who is making use of this resource. ODCO, Jose Cos reported that he is already tracking them.

Commissioner Framer suggest that ODCO Jose Cos reaches out to HUD as a resource for grants. There may be opportunities to connect HUD with OCHLA, in particular regarding housing discrimination and immigrant focused grants.



ODCO Jose Cos states that he has worked with the Ohio Commission on Minority Affairs on a HUD application template and is trained to prepare through a package for a grant application reaching out to Latinos.

Executive Director Lilleana Cavanaugh hands the floor to Policy Liaison Nolan Stevens

Public Policy Report

Public Policy Officer (PPO) Nolan Stevens gives highlights on the public policy reports regarding the legislation that has moved in the past couple of months. Officer Stevens reports and informs on the working projects updates of Voter Registration, the primary elections coming up and meetings with Federal & District legislators. In regards to the Bills, Officer Stevens would like to recognize Senator Manning and Chief Cel Rivera for their work on Bill 258 for the Blue Amber Alert. Floor is given to Senator Manning for a description and explanation of Bill 258 that passed unanimously; Senator Mannin thanks Chief Rivera for his determination and testimonies. Officer Nolan Stevens explains other Bills moved and responds inquiries about the same: HB116 on bullying, HB262 on human trafficking, HB286 & SB215 on electronic verification and HB333 H2A Immigrant workers visas grace period & HB378.

Chair Santiago hands floor back to Executive Director Cavanaugh. Executive Director presents the OCHLA Annual Report for 2011, completed and presented per the guidelines during the first meeting of the fiscal year. All commissioners have received the report and electronic versions of the same are available online. Once accepted by the board, the report will be distributed to the Legislature and government agencies.

Motion #2 - 2-2012 - To approve the 2011 Annual Report. Moved by Commissioner Richard Romero. Seconded by Commissioner Baldemar Velasquez. Motion carried.

Motion #3 - 2-2012 - To approve the November & December 2011 and the January 2012 Director's Report. Moved by Commissioner Michael Florez. Seconded by Commissioner Baldemar Velasquez. Motion carried.

New Business

Commissioner Romero emphasizes the importance of concerted efforts to motivate and find creative ways to engage the Hispanic community to vote. Commissioner Emerald Hernandez highlights the good work that Officer Stevens and Vice President of the Board of Education Ramona Reyes have done, as part of OCHLA's Voter Registration Campaign, to reach out to Columbus churches and other actions to motivate voter registration.

Chair Santiago hand floor to Executive Director Cavanaugh for the Education Committee report.

Education Committee Report



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Executive Director Cavanaugh introduces the City of Cleveland plan for transforming schools report issued for the Governor and reports that Latino organizations, such as Esperanza Inc. are involved in the blueprint of this plan. The report is presented for commissioners' information. Director Cavanaugh highlights an interesting suggestion of this transformation plan is the possibility of charter schools with bilingual and dual language programs. Commissioner Andres Gonzalez has been working closely with the Cleveland leaders engaged in this effort and will continue to report on its results.

Director Cavanaugh reports on the Career and College Fair held in Cleveland with close to 500 students participating in the event. The partners for this education outreach activity included OCHLA, USHLI, ECHHO and Esperanza Inc. Through our collaboration efforts with USHLI (United States Hispanic Leadership Institute), OCHLA will be helping in the realization of another college and career fair in Toledo for May 2012. The commission will continue to work closely with USHLI to try to host another career and college fair in South West Ohio before the end of 2012.

Chair Santiago hand floor to Commissioner Romero for the Workforce Development Report

Workforce and Development Committee Report

Commissioner Romero reports on meetings with Richard Frederick, Assistance Policy Director, Workforce Development, Office of the Governor. This meeting is part of the taskforce created in December 2011 during the meeting with Governor Kasich. Attending in the taskforce meetings were representatives from the Department of Development and State agencies that are charged with increasing and enhancing access to business and workforce development opportunities for Latinos. Commissioner Romero highlights the economic agenda action steps suggested by the committee, which include actions to assist Hispanic chambers, Latino entrepreneurs, start up businesses, access opportunities for high growth industries, work with organizations like jump start, Ohiojobs, Third frontier. Other suggestions seek support in investment, taking a look at workforce development initiatives that could potentially be channeled through non-profits which are already successfully providing some type of workforce and job preparedness. The taskforce would like to see more Latino representation in state minority business advisory councils and a closer working relationship with JobsOhio. Commissioner Romero requests the involvement of Commissioner Tony Ortiz and Commissioner Andres Gonzalez to assist him in the work of this taskforce in the area of education and on the job training.



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Chair Santiago hands floor to Commissioner Baldemar Velasquez who would like to talk about another issue pertinent to immigration and the economic development.

Commissioner Velasquez reports he was invited to serve on a Midwest Chicago council on global affairs to help and build a Midwest coalition that examines immigration's impact in the region's future. The purpose is to assemble a high level bipartisan task force of thought leaders representing business, political, civic, religious and educational sectors from throughout the Midwest to provide a picture of the impact on immigration on the Midwest.

Chair Santiago asks Commissioner Velasquez to prepare a report on the work of the council and forward it to commissioners for review. She suggests that the item can be added to next board meeting's agenda, if he would like to expand on this matter.

Commissioner Romero expresses interest in collaborating with this taskforce. Commissioner Framer requests clarification regarding the scope of this council, whether it is statewide or regional; Commissioner Velasquez answers that this is regional effort.

Chair Santiago reminds commissioners that they have all received the dates for the 2012 board meetings and requests approval of the board meeting calendar.

Motion #4 - 2-2012 - To approve the 2012 Board meetings Calendar. Moved by Commissioner Michael Florez. Seconded by Commissioner Emerald Hernandez. Motion carried.

Chair Santiago informs that all Commissioners have successfully completed their mandatory Ethics training for year 2011 and would like to thank the Board.

Secretary Michael Florez reminds all commissioners that the Ethics Commission Financial Disclosure forms must be submitted before April 16th and that a late submission will result in stiff fines of almost \$100 a day. If any of the Commissioners have any questions, to please contact him directly.

Chair Santiago congratulates the office team on the preparation and presentation of a timely Annual Report and reminds the team to ensure that all the Legislators get a hard copy.

Commissioner Framer informs that the America Bar Association recently issued a standards on use of interpreters for the courts, a resolution approved by the conference of Chief Justices and the conference of Court Administrators. It's a standard on how the court should appoint interpreters and recommends that

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the commission keep in mind as a resource. Second, the regarding Title VI: National origin discrimination, the US Department of Justice just issued informational videos in other languages and has been translated. These are also very good resources to place on OCHLA's website.

Commissioner Lourdes Barroso de Padilla announces that the month of February marks the celebration of the bicentennial of the great city of Columbus and extends her gratitude to Executive Director Cavanaugh and the staff for the translation of several documents. Commissioner Barroso de Padilla would also like to invite the commissioners to be part of the many celebrations that will take place throughout the city, which includes Festival Latino.

Motion #5 - 2-2012 - To go into Public Commentary. Moved by Commissioner Anthony Simms-Howell. Seconded by Commissioner Michael Florez. Motion carried.

Public present:

Lee Framer
Chief Cel Rivera
Blanca Chavez
Julie Aldrich
Arzella Melnik
John Musik
Lucy Bermudez
Rev. Max Rodas
Andres Gonzalez

Chair Santiago would like to thank El Centro for hosting the OCHLA Board Meeting in their facilities.

Motion #6 - 11-2011- To adjourn the meeting. Presented by Commissioner Florez. Seconded by Commissioner Rodas. Motion carried.

Board Meeting is adjourned by Chair Santiago at 2:41pm.

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ADDENDUM TO MINUTES

February 17, 2012

Motions Carried

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Motion #1 - 2-2012	To approve the November 2011 Minutes.
Motion #2 - 2-2012	To approve the 2011 Annual Report
Motion #3 - 2-2012	To approve the November & December 2011 and January 2012 Director Reports
Motion #4- 2-2012	To approve the 2012 Board meetings Calendar
Motion #5- 2-2012	To go into Public Commentary
Motion #6- 2-2012	To adjourn the meeting





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ADDENDUM TO MINUTES

February 17, 2012

ATTACHMENTS

DOCUMENT	AUTHOR
Director's Report: November, and December 2011	Executive Director Lilleana Cavanaugh
Director's Report: January 2012	Executive Director Lilleana Cavanaugh
2012 Board Meetings Calendar	Constituent Services & Office Manager Lair Marin-Marcum

