

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING October 15th, 2010

Hyatt Regency Hotel
350 N. High Street
43215 Columbus, Ohio

Attendance

Commissioners - Present

Mary Santiago
V. Anthony Simms-Howell
Richard Romero
Isabel Frammer
Lourdes Barroso de Padilla
Michael G. Florez

Commissioners - Excused

Baldemar Velásquez
Andres E. Gonzalez

Staff - Present

Lilleana Cavanaugh
Ursula Barrera-Richards
Lair Marin-Marcum

Call to Order

Chair Santiago called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Call of the Roll

There are seven Commissioners present, thus constituting quorum.

Chair's Report and Commentary

The September Minutes will be tabled and will be presented at the next Board Meeting in October

The DHO was a great success and our staff did a wonderful job and would like to give them a hand. Excellent job and they made the Commissioners proud.

The date for the Agenda Latina has been changed to November 8th.

Chair Santiago hands floor to Commissioner Simms-Howell for Financial Report. Financial Report is given.



Directors' Report

Executive Director Cavanaugh hands floor to Policy Director Barrera-Richards for Policy report. It's been a busy month for the Policy Center and the legislators briefings included information on the Puerto Rican birth Certificates situation and keeping them informed on how to serve our constituents. We completed the Latino Community report that this month focuses on childhood obesity and will be made available. She has made a focus on expanding the Legislation that we are tracking and expanding it to include domestic violence, childhood health legislation and there are several bills circulating regarding that deal with health, nutrition & physical education standards that we need to focus and give our input on. We are also focusing on domestic violence legislation, mortgage, mitigation for foreclosure bills, bullying, small business incentives. We continue to focus and monitor immigration and human trafficking which have traditionally been the types of bills that public centers monitors. Under Connecting and building pursuant to our statutory mandates, the Department of Education and the Governor's Office approached us to write a letter the Race to the top initiative. Following with this commitment with the Governor's Office, Executive Director Cavanaugh and Vice Chair Gonzalez met with John Stanford from the Governor's Office. They will be meeting with them again in two months to strategize and work with them and see how we can be useful as Race to the Top develops rolls out. It will be an exiting endeavor for the Commission to be part of this plan. Under workforce and Economic Development, she has been working Commissioner Romero's idea to begin to get members of the community involved in workforce investment boards. She will work on a project on how to recommend people to these boards. In workforce development she continues to develop and work on information to put up in our website. An important event that took place was the recognition to Senator Voinovich which was a great success.

Commissioner Florez asks that on September 23rd the new Health Care legislation came into effect and a lot of insurance companies were refusing to cover individual children and not selling that any more. Some states were addressing that with some legislation. The question he has is, if Ohio is addressing that problem since that problem occurs with children that are not in college and are usually minorities or lower income. Policy Director Barrera-Richards will be happy to look into it which will be a great question for some Legislators and the Attorney General.

Commissioner Farmer has a couple of questions, first if the Commissioners will be receiving information on the legislations that she's following like domestic violence and immigration and if the Commissioner will be testifying in any of the hearing that they receive a draft of the testimony on this issues. Is there a plan? Policy Director Barrera-Richards states that the same plan as before when we get testimony that we would run it by the Commissioner and notifying during the weekly Policy Brief, unless we find out last minute. We normally do not get notice until Thursday before a Tuesday or Wednesday hearing.



Commissioner Framer's second question is regarding the Puerto Rican birth certificate issues and the documentation they are been requested. Executive Director Cavanaugh replies that the type of documentation needed for Puerto Ricans to show proof of identify has not changed. There is a core group of documents that have been requested. When individuals do not have these documents, there are sent to a task force that will work with that person to see what they do have, what can they get and how they we can work with you and help you resolve the issue. If there are special cases, then we go directly to the Department of Foreign affairs in Puerto Rico. The role that our Office plays as the switchboard operator. We make sure that these people get in touch with the actual constituents so that they deal with it individually. People are been served and the BMV has been very good working with our Office and herself and Policy Director Barrera-Richards have been spending good quality hours working with the Governor's Office, the BMV and the Department of Public Safety in driving the point on how critical this is to our Community.

In regards to the Workforce investment Board, Commissioner Romero would like a letter to be drafted and sent out to all the counties where we know there is a significant Latino population asking if there are any Latinos serving. In regards to Senator Voinovich's recognition, he would like a follow up on the report that shows the significant impact that Latinos are making in Ohio and the idea of been able to send everyone back to their country was economically impossible. He would also like the report regarding the Latino farmers and their impact. He would like Executive Director Cavanaugh to express the Puerto Rican issue in a press release explaining what they should do if they have a problem.

Continuing with the Policy tracking, Policy Director Barrera-Richards states that there have been no legislative updates because the legislators have been out on session since May. They will be returning in November and the policy briefs will be more geared towards actual legislation, less articles. November and December will be very hard on testimony and hearings and she will get the word out given that it's a valuable resource. There was a meeting between LULAC, FBI and Cincinnati regarding Public Safety in Hamilton County since there were some publicized violence issues geared towards Latinos. They are actively looking into these actions and doing training with community. Commissioner Framer would like to be informed in the future of these meetings. She also pointed out that there is fear in the Community regarding the crimes and assaults taking place. Commissioner Framer would also like the Commission to continue with the articles as well as the legislation in Weekly Policy Reviews.

Policy Director Barrera-Richards gave update of Human Trafficking Advocacy Day on SB 235 and HB 466.

Executive Director Cavanaugh moves forward with the rest of the Directors report.



DHO - Summary wrap up. The partnership with E & E was very successful. The Conference had an attendance of almost 500 people and we were able to secure the attendance of First Lady Francis Strickland for the luncheon. In regards to the DHO event, Executive Director Cavanaugh would like to publicly thank Office Manager Lair Marin-Marcum as the Manager for the event, she did an amazing job following her lead in organizing the logistics of the event. In regards to the awardees she worked very closely with all awardees preparing the bio's and has asked them to continue been our ambassadors and strengthen our relationship in the community. She would like to thank the Commissioners in the selection of the awardees and helping us communicated with them. She would like to Thank Commissioner Florez as the co-Master of ceremonies. We did very good with the Sponsorships; we had 15 that worked with us in one way or another. We would like to continue this relationship and we hope to nurture and stay connected with them. Twenty-six awards were presented and we are delighted that everything went as smoothly as it did. Thank you very much.

HHM - All events have been updated and received positive comments and have more than 100 activities and events posted, a bit more than previous years. The work has been intense with date entry that has worked quite well. We have been connecting with them even though it has been impossible for us to be in many of those events but have spend a lot of time promoting them throughout our networks.

The September National Preparedness month imitative was completed well and The commission received a certificate of recognition from the National Preparedness month Organization highlighting the initiatives that the Commission did. Moving on the emergency preparedness issue, October is Fire Prevention month. We have created within our website a list of information and resources for the community on Fire prevention. We are working with the Fire Marshall on getting a curriculum in Spanish that will be share with the folks that are working directly with the community. Mr. David Wallace who was her last year during the Leadership conference with the community grassroots organization, is working in a training Program on how to serve Latinos. Hopefully this will be used by the Fire Marshall and other entities to help the community. Fire Prevention is an initiative where we are investing a lot of energy this month. Once again, Flu season is around the corner and we are doing the out-reach campaign and working with the Health Department again as they have reached out to us again.

She will be attending the Latina Leadership summit on October 24th with the Spanish Coalition. Victor Leandry will be replacing Sonia Troche in the Minority Health Coalition and will be meeting with him to strategize on how the commission can work with him in this new position. In the monthly report you will see all the mayor events that The US Hispanic Institute has and that we have been promoting. As a result, tons of information has been coming out of the commission this month. Please keep us posted on information and events. Lastly she will be attending Convencion Hispana tomorrow.

She would also like to introduce the two new volunteers from Capitol University: Sara Wills and Courtney Winterberger.



Motion #1 - 10-2010 - To approve the September Director's Report. Moved by Commissioner Florez. Seconded by Commissioner Simms-Howell. Motion carried.

Old Business

Chair Santiago informs that we have received a letter of extension from OBC for an extension to September 30, 2011 for the SBC's Project Open. Executive Director Cavanaugh explains that Project Open had two components, first is the work with the Columbus Hispanic Chamber which has been finalized. The second is the Latino SBDC, because they were able to secure some grant money from other sources, they are now able to expand the project to September 30, 2011 They have submitted all the documentation and was reviewed by Executive Committee. Basically it is expanding the programming and same type of project and approve the existing.

Motion #2 - 10-2010 To approve the extension of the letter of extension for OBC. Moved Commissioner Florez. Seconded by Commissioner Framer.

Discussion

Commissioner Florez states that we should make clear that there will be no more extension. If the money is not used by September 2011 that it should be returned to the Commission. Executive Director Cavanaugh confirms and states that it will be put into the letter.

Motion carries

The following agencies introduced themselves:

- Lifeline of Ohio
 - Public Utilities Commission
 - Ohio State Treasurer
 - Ohio Attorney General Office
- Department of General Office

Motion #3 - 10-2010 - To recognize the public. Presented by Commissioner Florez. Seconded by Commissioner Romero. Motion carried.

Public Commentary

Public present:

Rachel Lewis - Lifeline of Ohio
Eridania Rosario - Treasurer of Ohio
Arzella Melryk - Did not specify
John Muzic - Observer and represents himself
Julie Aldrich - Did not specify



Joel Arredondo - CHIP
Jose Ramirez - Hispanic Fund of Lorain
Robyn Taylor - Ohio Department of Health
Jade Davis - Public Utilities Commission

Announcements

Convencion Latina is tomorrow in Cleveland October 16 from 9:30am - 3:30pm.
Next Board meeting is November 9th.

Adjournment

Motion # 10 - 4-2010 To adjourn the meeting. Presented by Commissioner Romero.
Seconded by Commissioner Framer. Motion carried.

Chair Santiago adjourned the meeting at 11:14 a.m.

Mary Santiago, Chair

Michael G. Florez, Secretary



ADDENDUM TO MINUTES

October 15, 2010

Motions Carried

Motion #1 - 10-2010	To approve the September Director Report
Motion #2 - 10-2010	To approve the extension of the letter of extension for OBC
Motion #3 - 10-2010	To recognize the public
Motion #4 - 10 -2010	To adjourn the meeting