

## MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING September 7, 2010

Supreme Court Building,  
South Hearing Room  
65 S. Front Street  
43215 Columbus, Ohio

### Attendance

#### Commissioners - Present

Mary Santiago  
Andres E. Gonzalez  
V. Anthony Simms-Howell  
Richard Romero  
Isabel Frammer  
Michael G. Florez  
Baldemar Velásquez

#### Commissioners - Excused

Lourdes Barroso de Padilla

#### Staff - Present

Lilleana Cavanaugh  
Ursula Barrera-Richards  
Lair Marin-Marcum

### Call to Order

Chair Santiago called the meeting to order at 1.35 p.m.

### Call of the Roll

There are seven Commissioners present, thus constituting quorum.

Chair Santiago gives floor to Commissioner Simms-Howell for Financial report.

Motion #1 - 9-2010 - To approve the August 2010 Board Minutes. Moved by Commissioner Florez. Seconded by Commissioner Frammer. Motion carried.

### Chair's Report and Commentary

Chair Santiago would like to move on to the Committee reports.



## Education Committee

Vice Chair Gonzalez welcomes the guests to the Board meeting and begins the Education committee report. An update is presented regarding the following items:

- 1) Race to the Top grant, the Department of Education and Governor's office meeting. The discussion considered alignment of what OCHLA can potentially offer in connecting with the Latino community and being a key stake holder with the Department of Education during the implementation of Race to the Top Grant.
- 2) Educators and Community helping Hispanic Onwards (ECHHO) an organization on Higher Education institution primarily in Colleges in Ohio. Partnership opportunity and meeting to take place with the strategic planning Committee.
- 3) LULAC. The 2011 Convention will take place in Ohio. The Youth Collegiate Forum to be brought to Cincinnati; they would like to consider a partnership with OCHLA to recruit students for this event.

Floor is open for questions and answers.

Commissioners from Cincinnati: Florez & Simms-Howell will be involved in LULAC Convention support or initiatives that involve the commission.

## Directors' Report

Executive Director Cavanaugh begins with the report on Agenda Latina, an event that is hosted by the Commission as an opportunity to strengthen the connections that exist between the Latino Community and the State of Ohio. The purpose to achieve is to improve the collaboration between our agency as well as foster the communication between the grass root organizations and Social service organizations that are in the community, in order to create better practices on how to improve the communication between those entities and the state government. Agenda Latina is tentatively scheduled to take place in October 29<sup>th</sup>. We will be bringing in representatives from grass root organizations across the state as well as social services agencies as well as other parties that are interested in the three main themes: Education, Workforce and Economic Development and Leadership Development. There are a lot of opportunities right now where we want to create those connections between the Department of Development, The Hispanic Chambers of Commerce and the private Sector. More details on this event as well as potential list of agencies to be invited will be shared at a later date with the Board for review.



Executive Director Cavanaugh moves forward with the rest of the Directors report. Policy Director Barrera-Richards continues with the weekly Policy briefs, legislature briefings via the e-mail campaign feature and continues to work with legislatures.

Legislators received updates regarding the DHO Gala, the Military Service Awards as well as the update on the Puerto Rican Birth Certificates. The Public Policy Center has also concentrated efforts in working with the Interagency council to find out what are their needs regarding outreach and communications with the Latino community. OCHLA has been asked by community leaders to support effort to recognize Senator Voinovich. He will be honored by the Latino Community for his retirement and to recognize him for the contributions to the Latino Community during his political career. The recognition event will take place during the last quarter of the year. A detail report regarding the updates with the Puerto Rican Birth Certificates was included in the monthly report. OCHLA has been working closely with the BMV, the registrar, The Governor's Office and The Puerto Rican Government as well to facilitate communication and interactions between all those involved in the issue.

In the area of Latino Community Network, the team continues to be focused on how to bring more information to our constituents within the limited constraints of having only three staff. The website has become even more critical as our means of communication. A special website for Hispanic Heritage Month has been created. This year, on our website we will be posting the events with the hyperlinks and continue to populate this page throughout the months of September and October. September is National Preparedness month, one of the Commission's key priorities on helping the community be prepared for emergencies. Every week we do an e-campaign and we have a special website where we provide information about what it is and why it is important in English and Spanish. As well as a lot of information on fire prevention because this is an area where unfortunately we've have some very unfortunate situations have happened in the Latino community. Most of the information is in English but we also have hyperlinks with information in Spanish as well. This year we are also including videos which we have learned from Community leaders that work very well, especially with the children and the mothers. We have created a workforce in economic development webpage, where more information on Project Open with be placed. We have all the information on all the grass roots initiative which we posted before and now we have a section there where we want to do a series of resources and information to help the community and help people learn more about what is out there in workforce and economic development.



To finalize, in Education, it is going to be one of the areas where we are going to be much invested, therefore we have created a page starting with the core report and uploaded all the information and added our ESL Catalogue and has all the historical information on The Soluciones campaign. We provided a lot of this data and the historical information to the Department of Education and Governor's Office when they were preparing the Race to the Top grant. Director Cavanaugh hands the floor over to Chair Santiago to talk about the DHO.

Floor is open for questions and answers.

Commissioners Framer asks regarding the bilingual material and the great resource links that was sent out regarding Public Safety if this will be available in our website Executive Director Cavanaugh explains that all that will be put up on the website during National Properness month. The Office decided that instead of it been a one-month effort we want to leave it on the website year round since it is critical information and continue the effort. Commissioners Framer asks for an update on the bilingual ballots in Cuyahoga County. Executive Director Cavanaugh states that Policy Director Barrera-Richards has the information and it will be sent out by e-mail. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Mike Stizziano states that they will have a full report on that situation.

Commissioner Romero states that one of the main problems with Emergency Preparedness is communicating and would like to document that. Commissioner Framer states that she has background information on that issue since that's the area where she works on in Policy. She informs that all fire Departments and law enforcements must have a plan in place; it's a requirement if they receive Federal Financial assistance. She was witness to a plan that they put in place for dispatchers that they were able to save lives. Executive Director Cavanaugh confirms that this will be one of the issues that will be in the Agenda Latina. Commissioner Framer also expresses the importance of this issue since it helps Homeland security as well.

## New Business

### DHO

Chair Santiago hands floor over to Executive Director Cavanaugh to explain the logistics regarding the Diversity Leadership Conference and the DHO. Chair Santiago clarifies that the DHO is part of the Director's Report and now we ask for acceptance.

**Motion #2 - 9-2010** To approve that the 2010 DHO awards as detailed in the report that was reported. Moved Commissioner Florez. Seconded by Commissioner Framer.

Discussion is open

Commissioner Romero would like to make a correction on Celestino Rivera's name. Baldemar Velasquez nominates Jack Gallon Attorney and advocate for the Community in Northwest Ohio. Commissioner Romero adds the importance of the Nuestra Familia awards as they are the recognition of non-Latinos that have done great thing in our Community as well. Nuestra Familia means Our Family.  
Motion carried with correction and nomination.



**Motion #3 - 9-2010** - To approve the August Director's Report. Moved by Commissioner Florez. Seconded by Commissioner Velasquez. Motion carried.

Executive Director Cavanaugh presents Mr. Victor Leandry Director of El Centro de Servicios Sociales gives an NCLR presentation.

Floor is open for questions and answers.

The following agencies introduce themselves:

- Ohio Secretary of State Office
- Ohio Attorney General Office
- Department of General Office

Commissioner Framer would like to see if it is possible to add to Public Safety some bilingual material that could be disseminated regarding Safety and Preparedness issues in communities.

Commissioner Romero would like to check if the two legislatures in our letterhead, Representative Stewart and Representative Boose have any genuine interest for the Commission.

**Motion #4 - 9-2010** - To recognize the public. Moved by Commissioner Florez. Seconded by Commissioner Simms-Howell. Motion carried.

### Public Commentary

Public present:

Mr. Victor Leadry - El Centro de Servicios Sociales

Chris Hughes - Ohio Secretary of State

Brian Shinn - Ohio Secretary of State

Jamie Heberling - Director of Communications / Ohio Attorney General

Manildth James - Consumer Educator / Ohio Attorney General

Brandi Martin - Ohio Civil Rights Commission

John Muzic - Observer and represents himself

Clin J. Mackie - Did not specify

Arzella Melryk - Did not specify

Julie Aldrich - Did not specify

Dick Hohn - Cincinnati

Raul Soto - ODE

Mike Stinziano - Assistant Secretary of State

Tina O'Grady - Ohio Department of Public Safety

Reverend Max Rodas - New OCHLA Commissioner



Announcements

Chair Santiago reminds Commissioners to make sure their Hotels are booked for the DHO and that any loose ends are tied. Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame, Commissioner Baldemar will be inducted on October 14h. Hispanic Heritage Month is from September 15th through October 15<sup>th</sup>. If anyone has an event that we do not have on our website, please let Executive Director Cavanaugh know.

Adjournment

Motion # 5- 9-2010 To adjourn the meeting. Presented by Commissioner Florez. Seconded by Commissioner Framer. Motion carried.

Chair Santiago adjourned the meeting at 3:31 p.m.

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Mary Santiago, Chair

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Michael G. Florez, Secretary



**ADDENDUM TO MINUTES**

**September 7, 2010**

**Motions Carried**

Motion #1 -9-2010	To approve the August 2010 minutes
Motion #2 -9-2010	To approve that the 2010 DHO awards as detailed in the report that was reported be accepted
Motion #3 -9-2010	To approve the August Director Report
Motion #4 -9-2010	To recognize the public
Motion #5 - 9-2010	To adjourn the meeting