

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING
February 2, 2016
Time: 9:30 a.m.**

Holiday Inn Columbus Dwtm-Capitol Square
Conference Room Salon B
175 E. Town St. Columbus, OH 43215

Attendance**Commissioners - Present**

Tony Ortiz - Chairman
Michael Florez - Vice Chair
José Feliciano, Jr. - Secretary
V. Anthony Simms-Howell
Mary Santiago
Gregory Guzmán, PhD.
Beth Guzman-Bowman
Emanuel Torres
Rev. Juan Rivera
Dan Molina

Legislative Members - Present

None

Commissioners - Absent

None

Staff - Present

Lilleana Cavanaugh - Executive Director
Lair Marin- Community Liaison
Andrea Lewis- Public Policy Officer
Georgina Alvarez - Organizations Development Officer
Briana Black - Administrative Clerk

Call to Order

Chair Ortiz calls meeting to order at 9:31 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag is recited.

Call of the Roll

There are 10 Commissioners present, thus constituting quorum.

Chair's Report

Chair Ortiz does not have any urgent matters to report.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Ortiz presents previous meeting's Minutes to the board for review and approval.

Motion #1 - 2 - 2016 - To approve the December 15, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes as submitted. Moved by Commissioner Torres. Seconded by Commissioner Rivera. Motion carries.

Agency Report

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Luis "Tony" Ortiz, Chair
Dayton

Michael Florez, Vice Chair
Cincinnati

Jose Feliciano Jr., Secretary
Aurora

Mary Santiago
Lorain

V. Anthony Simms-Howell
Cincinnati

**Elizabeth Guzman-
Bowman**
Columbus

Emanuel Torres
Columbus

Gregory Guzmán, PhD
Maumee

Rev. Juan Rivera
Campbell

Dan Molina
Loveland

Rick Perales
State Representative
District 73 ~ Greene County

Dan Ramos
State Representative
District 56 ~ Lorain County

Gayle Manning
Senator
District 13 ~ Huron & Lorain
Counties

Charleta Tavares
Senator
District 15 ~ Franklin County



Chair Ortiz hands the floor to Executive Director Lilleana Cavanaugh. Ms. Cavanaugh invites Public Policy Officer Andrea Lewis to provide the update for the months of December 2015 and January 2016. Ms. Lewis highlights four key items:

First, she shares an overview of the December 2015 Latino Community Report, "Ohio's Changing Face: The Case for Culturally Responsive Institutions." She also informs the Board that this report is relevant to a current bill in the Senate, sponsored by Senator Tavares, that will require cultural competency training for medical professionals who wish to renew or receive their licensure.

Second, Ms. Lewis presents to the Board the 2015 Annual Report, which she worked on compiling with the help of intern/volunteer Justin Magaña.

Third, she provides an update in regards to "Resolution No. 2015-01- On Recognizing March 31st as Cesar Chavez Day in Ohio," and her current work on securing a legislator to introduce the legislation in order to begin advocacy efforts for sponsoring the bill.

Finally, PPO Lewis informs the Board on her work with Representative Barbara Sears to create a bill that would allow non-profit minority organizations to become MBE-certified, which could increase their opportunities to work with State entities.

For more detail on the Public Policy Center update, please see the December and January Monthly Reports on OCHLA's website.

Chair Ortiz opens the floor to questions in regards to the Public Policy Center update. There is one.

Commissioner Simms-Howell requests that the Commission look into securing the figures for the amount of taxation required from small businesses, especially in regards to Latino small businesses, and how the taxes and costs (workers' compensation, health care, etc.) are effecting the business' sustainability. PPO Lewis thanks Commissioner Simms-Howell for his inquiry and proposes they meet in order to further discuss the specific figures he is looking into procuring and the type of study that would need to be performed. Vice Chair Florez recommends that the Commission contact the Ohio Hispanic Chambers of Commerce for individualized information, and that this would be a task best fit for OCHLA's Workforce and Economic Development Committee. Commissioner Simms-Howell reminds the Board that while the Ohio Hispanic Chambers of Commerce are interested in obtaining this information, these figures are information that most individuals or entities will only be willing to provide to the Commission or other government bodies. Chair Ortiz recommends that this item be further discussed during the 2016 Board Retreat. Ms. Lewis reminds the Board that the July 2015 Latino Community Report on Hispanic-owned businesses also includes helpful information on the number of Latino-owned businesses in Ohio, their buying power, their business receipts, etc. and she offers to provide Commissioner Simms-Howell with a copy of the report.

Chair Ortiz asks if there are any more questions in regards to the PPO update, and he invites Community Liaison Lair Marin to provide an update for the Latino Community Network. Ms. Marin has four main items of business:



First, she provides an update on the newest version of the OLANet and her current work with past Commissioner Mike Robinson on updating the Ohio Hispanic Dashboard.

Second, Ms. Marin informs the amount of constituency requests from 2014 to 2015 have increased by more than 100 individual cases, and the amount of job opportunities the Commission has been asked to promote have almost tripled within the last year.

Third, she mentions the significant amount of promotion that OCHLA has accomplished via Facebook and Twitter, and that the OCHLA Facebook page now has 1,064 “likes.”

Finally, Community Liaison Marin informs the Board that the Commission has increased its contact with State agencies, and uses her current work with the Bureau of Workers Compensation and her efforts with COWIC as examples.

For more detail on the Latino Community Network update, please see the December and January Monthly Reports on OCHLA’s website.

Chair Ortiz opens the floor for questions about the Latino Community Network update. Seeing none, he invites Organizations Development Officer Georgina Alvarez to provide an update for the Organizations Development Center. Ms. Alvarez highlights two key items of business:

First, she provides a brief report on the Ohio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Quarterly Meeting.

Second, she briefly reports on 2015 Agenda Latina and the main areas in which the grassroots organizations need guidance/assistance.

For more detail on the Organizations Development Center update, please see the December and January Monthly Reports on OCHLA’s website.

Chair Ortiz opens floor for questions on the Organizations Development Center update. Seeing none, he hands the floor to Executive Director Cavanaugh, who presents the 2015 Annual Report to the Board for approval and acceptance.

Motion #2 - 2 - 2016 - To approve the 2015 Annual Report as submitted. Moved by Commissioner Florez. Seconded by Commissioner Santiago. Motion carries.

Chair Ortiz then proceeds to the next item of business, the Committee Reports.

Committee Reports

In regards to the Education Committee update, Chair Ortiz states that the Committee has chosen the proposals that will be presented at the summit. He informs that the Ohio Dept. Education and the University of Toledo are our partners for the event. He reminds the Board that the Ohio Latino Education Summit will be taking place on March 11th, 2016 at the University of Toledo. Chair Ortiz also emphasizes that the Commission will be having a Board Meeting on Thursday, March 10th, the afternoon before the Summit in Toledo. He informs the Board that there is a lot of interest from



a number of entities who wish to partner with the commission to host the 2017 Ohio Latino Education Summit.

There are no other Committee updates. Chair Ortiz proceeds to the next item on the agenda, which is Old Business.

Old Business

Chair Ortiz highlights one key item of business, to continue the discussion on the Commission's branding. He invites AG Representative Walter McNamara to present his recommendations.

AG McNamara reminds the Board that the question under discussion is the name used for the entity: Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs versus the Ohio Latino Affairs Commission, and the distinction between this being a policy issue versus a legal issue. There are three potential recommendations that McNamara offers.

First, He states that if the Commission wishes to change its mandated name from "Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs" into "Ohio Latino Affairs Commission," this action would require a statutory change.

Second, the Commission can choose to keep the mandated name, and could draft a rule to become a DBA as a Ohio Latino Affairs Commission, meaning we are "Do Business As" the Ohio Latino Affairs Commission.

Finally, the Commission could just use the branding of Ohio Latino Affairs Commission but ensure that all legal documents always include Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs name.

Chair Ortiz opens the floor to questions on Mr. McNamara's offered solutions. There are three.

First, Commission Guzman inquires whether or not there is a set preference or standard for nomenclature in regards to Hispanic and Latinos, for example on State forms or applications that are requesting information. McNamara states that he is not aware of any set standard, Executive Director Cavanaugh confirms that on surveys and questionnaires there is no standard, but the common terminology is Hispanic/Latino. McNamara suggests that the Commission choose a name that emphasizes how they would like to be perceived.

Second, Vice Chair Florez reminds the Board that the branding "Ohio Latino Affairs Commission" was adopted by the Commission during the Strickland administration when statewide agencies were asked to standardize their branding.

Finally, Commissioner Torres inquires about the design/name stated on the OCHLA pins worn by each staff and Board member, and Executive Director Cavanaugh confirms that these pins have included the original name of the Commission. Chair Ortiz suggests that Ms. Cavanaugh meet with AG McNamara and make a recommendation on this issue at the next Board Meeting.



Chair Ortiz asks if there are any more questions in regards to Old Business, and seeing none he proceeds to the New Business.

New Business

There are three items of new business.

First, Chair Ortiz reminds all Commissioners of the May 16th, 2016 deadline for their Financial Disclosure Filing, and that any late fees incurred will be owed by the Commissioner responsible.

Second, Chair Ortiz invites Ms. Cavanaugh to provide an overview on the USHLI Conference and the invitation to attend. Ms. Cavanaugh requests permission for herself and PPO Lewis to attend the conference and for the costs to be covered by the Commission. She states that funding for the participating in this conference has already been considered on our budget planning.

Motion #3 -2 - 2016 - To approve the Commission to cover the cost for two staff members to attend the 2016 USHLI National Conference. Moved by Commissioner Florez. Seconded by Commissioner Simms-Howell. Motion carries.

Finally, Chair Ortiz invites Executive Cavanaugh to review the 2016 Board Meetings and Special Events Calendar and inform the Board on date changes that have been made.

Chair Ortiz opens the floor to questions in regards to New Business, and seeing none he proceeds to the next item on the agenda.

Public present:

- Noemi Brady and Patricia Lopez – Pathstone

Motion #4 -2 - 2016 - To open the floor to public commentary. Moved by Commissioner Florez. Seconded by Commissioner Guzmán. Motion carries.

Chair Ortiz hands the floor to Noemi Brady and Patricia Lopez of Pathstone. They give a brief introduction on this non-profit organization including location, the services that it provides, and the needs that they have identified while providing these services.

Chair Ortiz opens the floor for questions in regards to Ms. Brady and Ms. Lopez's comments. There are six.

First, Executive Director Cavanaugh asks if their services reach all migrant workers, or if they are restricted to only providing services to the agricultural sector. Patricia Lopez confirms that the grant funding they receive enables them to serve seasonal workers, and she briefly outlines the qualifications that workers need to meet in order to be considered "seasonal" by the grant.

Second, Commissioner Guzmán inquires whether Pathstone has had communication with FLOC. Lopez confirms that they have communicated with FLOC, specifically in regards to the Toledo and Dayton areas.



Third, Chair Ortiz asks in how many different states does Pathstone exist? Patricia Lopez confirms that Pathstone is currently in Puerto Rico, Vermont, Pennsylvania, New York, Indiana, and Ohio.

Fourth, Commissioner Feliciano asks if Pathstone has had the opportunity to reach out to HOLA in Lake/Ashtabula counties. Lopez claims that they have not yet reached out to HOLA but thanks him for the recommendation and states that they will do so.

Fifth, Chair Ortiz inquires about Pathstone's Ohio offices, to which Patricia Lopez replies that they have offices in Toledo, Dayton, New Carlisle, and London. Ortiz inquires how much communication Pathstone has with Maria Goeser in the Ohio Department of Job & Family Services, and Lopez confirms that they often work with her in regards to farmworker community outreach.

Finally, Executive Director Cavanaugh asks for insight on how the community is reacting to Pathstone's presence, given the current atmosphere of fear due to mixed family households and concerns regarding immigration, deportations, etc. Patricia Lopez states that a lot of migrant workers families contact the offices to seek clarification. She states that Pathstone collaborated with Sister Maria to hold an open house for families to obtain legal and educational advice on these issues.

Ms. Lopez states that one issue they have found with families is the inability to reach the Honduran Consulate and requests OCHLA's assistance in finding a solution with this issue.

Executive Director Cavanaugh also brings to the Boards attention a letter that the Commission received from Springfield City schools, and recommends that Board Members familiarize themselves with the information included in the letter in case they are questioned about the school systems providing services to students regardless of their migratory status.

Chair Ortiz asks if there are any more questions in regards to Public Commentary. There are none.

Commissioner Torres briefly reports on a conversation with Jane Able regarding initiatives that are being implemented to differentiate minimum wages for youths vs. adults. He inquires whether this would be an issue that the Commission would want to look into, and if so, he would take the action to connect with Ms. Able in order to assist those in the Latino community that would be affected. Chair Ortiz recommends that Commissioner Torres reach out to Executive Director Cavanaugh to determine next steps.

Chair Ortiz asks if there are any more questions in regards to Public Commentary. There are none.

Motion #5 - 2 - 2016 - To adjourn meeting. Moved by Commissioner Florez. Seconded by Commissioner Feliciano. Motion carries.

Board meeting adjourned by Vice Chair Ortiz at 10:21 a.m.



Luis “Tony” Ortiz, Chair

Jose Feliciano Jr. , Secretary





**ADDENDUM TO MINUTES
February 2, 2016
Motions Carried**

<u>Motion #1 - 2 - 2016</u>	To approve the December 15, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes as submitted.
<u>Motion #2 - 2 - 2016</u>	To approve the 2015 Annual Report as submitted. Moved by Commissioner Florez. Seconded by Commissioner Santiago. Motion carries.
<u>Motion #3 - 2 - 2016</u>	To approve the Commission to cover the cost for two staff members to attend the 2016 USHLI National Conference.
<u>Motion #4 - 2 - 2016</u>	To open the floor to public commentary.
<u>Motion #5 - 2 - 2016</u>	To adjourn meeting.



ADDENDUM TO MINUTES
February 2, 2016
ATTACHMENTS

DOCUMENT	AUTHOR
December 2015 Monthly Report	Executive Director Cavanaugh
January 2016 Monthly Report	Executive Director Cavanaugh

