



**COMMISSION ON IMMIGRANT AFFAIRS
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, February 10, 2010, 6:30 PM**

The Commission on Immigrant Affairs convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, December 16, 2009 at City Hall, 301 West 2nd Street, Room 1027, Austin, Texas.

Members in Attendance

Thomas Esparza, Vice-Chair
Miguel Ancira
Laura Hernandez
Sunny Ogunro
Syed Rahman

Presenters

Rashed Islam

Members Absent

Robert Martinez
Linda Phan, Chair (excused)

Staff

Ron Hubbard, HHSD

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Vice-Chair Esparza called the Commission meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Commissioners introduced themselves since there were new members.
2. **CITIZEN'S COMMUNICATION:** None.
3. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes from the meeting of December 9, 2009 were approved on Commissioner Hernandez's motion and Commissioner Ancira's second on a 5 - 0 vote.
4. **PRESENTATION:** Rahsed Islam presented to the Commission about the Bangladesh Association of Greater Austin (BAGA). Discussion followed. Vice-Chair Esparza asked that the presentation handout be made part of the meeting minutes and there was no objection.
5. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - a. **Emergency Contact Card:** Postponed due to Chair Phan's absence.
 - b. **Immigrant Services Network of Austin:** Vice-Chair Esparza provided an update about the Network.

- c. **Commission Recruitment:** Commissioner Hernandez discussed the Commission's recruitment needs since all vacancies have been filled.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Law Enforcement Affairs:** Commissioner Ancira presented an overview of law enforcement regarding immigrants. Discussion followed.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Items for the March 2010 Agenda were identified by the Commissioners. The items were:

- a. **Notario Publico Awareness:** Discussion and possible action regarding a recommendation to City Council to address the confusion about the distinction between "notario publico" and "notary public."
- b. **Legal Assistance to Immigrants:** Discussion and possible action regarding funding recommendations to City Council for services to provide legal assistance to immigrants.
- c. **Census Awareness:** Discussion and possible action regarding recommendations to City Council about ways to increase awareness of and participation in the census.
- d. Include invitations for participation of community based agencies in the discussion: Immigration Counseling and Outreach Services, Catholic Charities, and American Gateways.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned without objection at 7:45 p.m.

ATTACHMENT: BAGA PowerPoint handout.