

Commission on Immigrant Affairs

Austin City Hall, Room, Executive Session Room #1027 301 West Second Street, Austin, Texas Monday, February 11, 2013, 6:30pm APPROVED REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The Commission on Immigrant Affairs convened in a regular meeting on Monday February 11, 2013, at City Hall, 301 West 2nd Street, Executive Session, Room #1027, Austin, Texas.

Members Present	Members Absent
Peter Shen, Chair	Sunny Ogunro
Donald Krupens, Vice Chair	
James Kuhr	
Angela-JoTouza-Medina	
Pranav Parekh	

Liaison: Connie H. Gonzales for Joe Barnes

AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER Peter Shen, Chair called meeting to order 6:30pm.
- 2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL- No citizen communication
- 3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 9, 2013 Minutes approved by 4-0 vote.
- 4. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

A. EGRSO International Economic Welcome Program There was a consensus from the board to continue supporting the program. Board members will attend the March 2, 2013 session @ Pan Am Recreation Center.

B. Translation of City of Austin Website – Summary from James Kuhr and Angela-Jo Touza-Medina – met with Sherriff Hamilton to start a dialogue – partnership was formed to make website more user friendly for all residents. Mr. Kuhr has offered to assist with the process. Mr. Parekh has offered to translate in Hindi and Mr. Shen in Chinese and Mandarin.

C. Board vacancy – Welcome Mr. Pranav Parekh appointed by Mayor Leffingwell

5. OLD BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:

A. Secured Communities Program – Discussion postponed until next meeting.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS -

A. Emergency Card Update – Discussion postponed until next meeting.

B. Citizen Communication Guest – Angela-Jo Touza-Medina – discussed preliminary plans to invite community based organizations (CBO) to share any issues/barriers that the CBO faces when servicing immigrants. Here are some of the items we agreed to convey to our respective Council members as reflective of an implementation of a Commission work plan

- Adopting a topic/issue based annual work plan to request community input. The definitive plan will be established at the March meeting. Community organizations participating in citizens communications will be asked the following questions:
 - What barriers are you encountering in the provision of services to immigrants?
 - How could the City/Commission help you?
 - What are some items or aspects of this issue as it pertains to immigrants the City should keep in mind as it looks forward, particularly in light of immigration reform?
- Produce a monthly productivity summary (1 paragraph or so) for City Council
- Confer with other boards and commissions on cross-cutting issues to build consensus before moving them to City Council.
- 7. ADJOURNMENT Motion to adjourn at 7:15pm approved by 4-0 vote.

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