



## **Commission on Immigrant Affairs**

**Monday, March 9, 2015 6:30pm  
Austin City Hall, Executive Session Room #1027  
301 W 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Austin, Texas, 78701**

### ***Approved Regular Meeting Minutes***

***The Commission on Immigrant Affairs convened in a Regular meeting on Monday, March 9, 2015, at Austin City Hall, 301 W 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Executive Room #1027, Austin, Texas.***

<b><i>Members Present</i></b>	<b><i>Members Absent</i></b>
<b><i>Angela-Jo Touza-Medina, Chair</i></b>	<b><i>Pranav Parekh</i></b>
<b><i>Mark Hand, Co-Chair</i></b>	
<b><i>Peter Shen</i></b>	
<b><i>Sandra Molinari</i></b>	
<b><i>Julius Okelo</i></b>	
<b><i>Nancy L. Lobato</i></b>	

***Staff Liaison: Connie H. Gonzales***

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Angela-Jo Touza-Medina called meeting to order at 6.30pm.
- 2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:**
  - Amee Atuar of FWD.US requested the CoIA cosponsor this year's cultural event honoring Immigrant Heritage Month. It would be a movie screening at Zilker Park to highlight the Immigrant experience and how immigrants are important for America. A written proposal to follow.
- 3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 2015**
  - Commissioner Julius Okelo made a motion to accept the February 2015 meeting minutes.
  - Commissioner Peter Shen seconds the motion.
  - February 2015 meeting minutes approved on a 6-0 vote with Commissioners Pranav Parekh absent.
- 4. ADOPTION OF 2015 MEETING CALENDAR: Tabled**
- 5. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**

**A. Review of narrative report Health and Human Services Department – Adrienne Sturup.**

- HHSD staff submitted a draft proposal to the City Manager
- With the following recommendations:
  1. Assign a program administrator
  2. Create a task force with representation from the City Attorney's office, Public Safety Committee and other departments affected
  3. A feasibility study to determine the cost of implanting the program
- The task force is charged with:
  1. Addressing all concerns identified in the stakeholders process
  2. Design rules and processes
  3. Create card design
  4. Develop implementation plan
- Presented at City Council meeting on February 14, 2015.
- To be voted on March 23, 2015
- Stakeholders seem to support
- Some concerns shared:
  1. Client confidentially
  2. Debit card fees
  3. APD honoring the card as valid ID

**B. Transition plan for new commissioners**

- Adrienne Sturup to forward information

**C. Cities United for Immigration Action**

- Mayors from over 70 cities joined forces supporting Immigration Reform.
- Austin City Council has approved to sign on to the initiative. Mayor Adler is aware of this initiative.
- A work group was formed to work on the Municipal ID ordinances
- CoIA suggested that Adrienne Sturup join the task force

**D. SXSW Partnership for a New American Economy Mayoral Event on the Role of the Immigrants in the Economy**

- Dan Wallace of New American Economy will put on event at City Hall hosted by the Mayor.
- Request made for CoIA to co-sponsor event.
- This is a roundtable discussion to highlight immigrant contributions to the National State of local economy and to discuss how cities in the U.S. are working to welcome the immigrants.

**E. Activities for National Immigrant Heritage Month**

- Tabled

**F. Austin Multicultural Festival**

- For information visit [www.austintexas.org/includes/events/international-multicultural-festival](http://www.austintexas.org/includes/events/international-multicultural-festival)
- Request made for CoIA to co-sponsor
- Guest speaker

**6. OLD BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**

**A. Welcoming City Initiative Update**

- I. Review of Narrative Report

- [www.austintexas.gov/internationalwelcome](http://www.austintexas.gov/internationalwelcome)
- II. Focus groups
  - Surveys delivered through Nextdoor.com to 50,000 people
  - Have received 582 responses as of today
  - Surveys will close in March
- III. Elected Official Interviews
  - CoIA to conduct meetings with new council (3 or 4 at a time)
  - Facilitator and scribe for each meeting
- IV. Summit Debrief
  - 100 attendees
  - Excellent speakers
  - Under budget!

## **7. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Need a volunteer to follow the legislative and provide montly updates of any items that CoIA can make any recommendations.

## **8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM:**

- A. Pending decisions of city council on Executive Action
- B. State Legeslative updates
- C. Transition plan for new Commissioners

## **9. ADJOURNMENT:**

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:10pm by Chair Angela-Jo Touza-Medina.

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