



COMMISSION ON IMMIGRANT AFFAIRS

Monday, June 7, 2021 5:30 PM

VIA VIDEOCONFERENCING

Meeting Minutes

Board Members in Attendance:

Krystal Gomez, Chair

Nicole Merritt, Vice Chair

Karen Crawford

Adrian De La Rosa

Montserrat Garibay

Rennison Lalgee

Kate Lincoln-Goldfinch

Joseph Ramirez-Hernandez

Juan Vences-Benitez

Board Members not in Attendance:

Glenn Rosales

Staff in Attendance:

Sinying Chan, Staff Liaison & Health Equity Unit Program Coordinator/APH

CALL TO ORDER

1. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 3, 2021

- Nicole moved to approve May minutes; Adrian seconded; all in favor

2. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS:

A. Update from Rocio Villalobos on her work with the Equity Office

- Starting May 14, 2021, with the collaboration of Austin Public Library, Austin Public Health, and USCIS, Austin has been hosting naturalization ceremonies again. Voter registration and library card registration are available, as well as COVID-19 vaccines. ATXN attended the May 28, 2021 ceremony to shoot footage and do interviews for City View features. Will be shared during Welcoming Week in September
- Rocio has been meeting with various city departments and community partners to discuss the enhanced library card. Some concerns are on Austin Public Library's databases and privacy information collection and storage. Community groups expressed interest in the card serving as a photo ID as well
- All recommendations are in for the Reimagining Public Safety Task Force and working groups; the proposals are separated in to two phases to review; community



review panel for APD training will continue their work on the Reimagine Police Academy to provide training recommendations for cadets

- Mini grant program will likely launch next week to provide awards for programs that are designed to eliminate structural barriers and/or improve quality of life for various immigrant communities; would like the commission to spread the word about the program and have some commissioners to join as part of the review panel; Krystal, Nicole, and Karen will be helping to review
- Juan moved to form a working group around the enhanced library card; Karen seconded; Krystal, Adrian, and Juan will be on the work group

B. Ayesha Hassan, Austin Refugee Roundtable, updates on World Refugee Day celebration

- World Refugee Day is usually celebrated on June 20 each year, but this year it is celebrated throughout the whole month of June. Will have more diversity and event planning to include and educate as many people as possible. Will have different theme each week. With the whole-month celebration, can include asylees and asylum seekers

3. OLD BUSINESS

A. Budget updates

- No budget updates

B. Report back from ISNA and the RST quarterly consultations

- ISNA - big recruitment phase to reach out to organizations on what services they can offer to immigrant children and their families

C. Joint Inclusion Committee meeting update – Karen

- No budget updates

D. Update of Texas Legislative session – Krystal

- Escaped the anti-immigrant bill session; special session is a possibility

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Updates from APD
- Updates on Welcoming Cities
- Voting on a representative to attend Austin Public health Asian Pacific Islander Task Force Meetings
- Municipal ID
- Update on TPS

ANNOUNCEMENT

ADJOURNMENT

- Kate moved to adjourn; Karen seconded; all in favor



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