



## COMMISSION ON IMMIGRANT AFFAIRS

Monday, August 2, 2021 5:30 PM

**VIA VIDEOCONFERENCING**

### Meeting Minutes

#### Board Members in Attendance:

*Krystal Gomez, Chair*

*Rennison Lalgee*

*Glenn Rosales*

*Nicole Merritt, Vice-Chair*

*Mehraz Rahman*

*Juan Vences-Benitez*

*Adrian De La Rosa*

*Joseph Ramirez-Hernandez*

#### Board Members not in Attendance:

*Karen Crawford*

*Kate Lincoln-Goldfinch*

#### Staff in Attendance:

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

### CALL TO ORDER

#### 1. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 7, 2021

- Mehraz moved to approve June minutes; Glenn seconded; all in favor

#### 2. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS:

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

- Enhanced library cards – spoke with two community groups regarding enhanced library cards – unhoused population and LGBTQI+; UT is thinking to have self-identified LGBTQI+ students have their chosen names in the front of the student ID cards and legal names at the back; that might extend to all students; Rocio will speak with Austin Public Library and City Legal next week to talk more on the enhanced library cards
- Immigrant Integration Mini Grant – got 22 applications from 7/8/21-7/31/21; a range of projects that people are interested to get funded; Karen, Krystal, and Nicole expressed interest on assisting to evaluate projects; hopefully to decide aware recipients at the end of August
- Data and findings from the surveys on New American Economy in five cities will be available soon; will include recommendations on emergency preparedness and response



- Welcoming Cities report is finalized and ready to be shared. Dr. Wasem from LBJ School of Public Affairs will come present next month; will have recommendations on job opportunities and affordable housing
- Welcoming Week next month; still in the talk on which library branch will host the naturalization ceremonies next month; could be the Twin Oaks or the Southeast branch

### **3. OLD BUSINESS**

#### **A. Budget updates**

- No budget updates

#### **B. Report back from ISNA and the RST quarterly consultations**

- No updates

#### **C. Joint Inclusion Committee meeting update – Karen**

- No updates

#### **D. Update of Texas Legislative session – Krystal**

- In special session; Democrats walked out; so far no immigration-related items

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Dr. Wasem to present on Welcoming Cities report
- Have APD come present quarterly
- Check if RAICES would like to come present next month

### **ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

- Nicole moved to adjourn; Mehrnaz seconded; all in favor



The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 2 days before the meeting date. Please contact Stephanie Hayden at the Austin Public Health at (512) 972-5017 or email: [stephanie.hayden@austintexas.gov](mailto:stephanie.hayden@austintexas.gov), for additional information. TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.