



## **Commission on Immigrant Affairs**

### **Regular Monthly Meeting**

**Monday, September 12, 2016 6:30 PM**

**Austin City Hall, Executive Session Room #1027**

**301 W 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Austin, Texas, 78701**

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

***The Commission on Immigrant Affairs convened in a Regular Monthly Meeting on Monday, September 12, 2016 at City Hall, Executive Session Room, First floor in room 1027, 301 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Austin, Texas.***

#### **Board Members in Attendance:**

|                                      |                    |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Angela-Jo Touza-Medina, <i>Chair</i> | Nicole Merritt     |
| Alba Sereno, <i>Vice-Chair</i>       | Piper Nelson       |
| Karen Crawford                       | Elisse Jean-Pierre |
| Krystal Gomez                        | Pedro Villalobos   |

#### **Board Members not in Attendance:**

Rosalia Austin  
Kevin Countie

#### **Staff in Attendance:**

Connie H. Gonzales, COA HHSD

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** – Angela-Jo Touza Medina, Chair called the Board Meeting to order at 6:30 pm
- 2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION** - None
- 3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** June, 2016
  - Commissioner Alba Sereno motioned to accept the minutes.
  - Commissioner Piper Nelson seconded the motion.
  - Motion passed 8-0 with Commissioners Kevin Countie and Rosalia Austin absent.
- 4. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**
  - A. Maria Arabbo-AISD District Refugee Family support Specialist**
    - Written report to follow
    - Working committee to meet with Office of Innervation

## **5. OLD BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**

### **A. City of Austin Health and Human Services Dept. – Report on FY16-17 Budget, Kimberly Maddox**

- Explained the budget process
- Proposal submitted requesting a 1% budget cut in Public Safety Dept. to fund HHSD budget increase request
- [www.ci.austin.tx.us/financeonline](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/financeonline)

### **B. Austin Police Department U-Visa Certification – Commander Eveleth, Sgt. De Los Santos and Dolores Laparte-Litton**

- Explained application process
- Team of two sergeants reviews application and forward to lieutenant for final approval

### **C. Clarification on Board/Liaison Responsibilities**

- Chair Angela-Jo Touza-Medina

### **D. Meeting Attendance**

- Chair Angela-Jo Touza-Medina expressed the importance of attending

### **E. 2016 Budget Recommendations**

- None
- Start conversations with departments to push for funding
- Written recommendations should be submitted in February.

### **F. Language Access Audit Update**

- Invite Greater Inclusion Committee

### **G. Boston University Initiative on Cities Workshop on Immigrant Integration**

- Written report to follow

## **6. STANDING ITEMS**

### **A. Welcoming City Workshops**

- Community Engagement: Newsletter sent out quarterly. Will create a schedule. Topic for October issue: “What can we learn from other cities?” Will create links for workgroups
- Krystal Gomez: Update on Cities of the United Immigration Action meetings. Will coordinate a presentation preparing for legislative session. Coordinate event in November to host a free screening of documentaries of refugee camps in conjunction with presentation by Cheryl. Update on USV TX lawsuit. Alba Sereno on call in Krystal’s absence. Obama Administration announced they have met goal of resettling 10,000 Syrian refugees. Update on the Refugee Protection Act.
- Alba Sereno will research on securing an intern for the board
- Joint and Inclusion Committee/Chair Angela-Jo Touza-Medina: Studied recommendations submitted by Hispanic Quality of Life Commission, African American Quality of Life Commission, and Asian American Quality of Life Commission. Committee supported recommendation related to Equity such as: City of Austin has to include funding in their budget for translation and interpretation. Social service agencies have to consider quality of interpretation service.

### **B. Cities United for Immigration Action Update**

- See item no. 6a.

### **C. Joint Inclusion Commission Update**

#### **a. Selection of Commission participant in Equity Officer Interviews on August 25.**

- City conducted an internal selection meeting with an Executive board
- Top four candidates selected out of 83 – one dropped out
- Wide consensus from the public forum that 1) process should start over 2) more candidates should have been included

- **The top three that participated in the public forum were: Kazique Prince, Veronica Briseno Lara and Brion Oaks**

**7. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM**

**9. ADJOURNMENT** – Chair, Angela-Jo Touza Medina adjourned meeting at 8:25 pm

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/Travis County Health and Human Services Department, 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.