



Commission on Immigrant Affairs

**Regular Monthly Meeting
Monday, July 10, 2017 6:30 PM
Islamic Center of Greater Austin
5510 Manor Rd., Austin, Texas, 78723**

Approved Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

The Commission on Immigrant Affairs convened in a regular monthly meeting on Monday, June 10, 2017 at Islamic Center of Greater Austin, 5510 Manor Rd., Austin, Texas.

Board Members in Attendance:

Karen Crawford, <i>Chair</i>	Nasario Jaimes	Nicole Merritt
Pedro Villalobos, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	Elisse Jean-Pierre	Aditya Rastogi
Krystal Gomez	Walid Kobrosly	Glenn Rosales

Board Members not in Attendance:

Samuel Adair
Abby Batko-Taylor
Montserrat Garibay

Staff in Attendance:

Connie H. Gonzales, Staff Liaison/APH

1. CALL TO ORDER – Karen called to order at 6:30 pm

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

- Kmail Hasan, founder of Austin Muslim Civic Ambassadors shared his ambition to get involved within his Muslim community and the city politics. Expressed great admiration for the CoIA board members and its advocacy efforts for all immigrants.
- Jacob Avonowitz, representing Immigrant Attorney, Jose “Chito” Vela, III. Conducted brief introduction and offered to help however he can.
- Stephanie Webb, Decipher Austin shared their purpose: developed a database to gather public experiences about local policy implementation.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June, 2017

- Glenn motioned to accept the minutes with amendments.
- Pedro seconded the motion.
- Approved on 9-0 vote with Samuel, Abby, and Montserrat absent

4. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:

- A. Darwin Hamilton, Board member of Grassroots Leadership and Reentry Advocacy Project**

- SB4 – GL has been at the forefront of the direct action against SB4. Contact GL org. if you're interested in direct action
- Missing in discussion is the language barriers in doing visitations at detention centers.
- Romero filed repeal already – special session

B. Budget items

- Special events fund?
- How about big budget items for next year?
- Legal funds for immigrants (permanent fund)?
- Staff person/welcoming office
- City website where all resources are pooled
- Budget recommendation working group:
 - Nicole
 - Krystal
 - Aditya
 - Glenn
 - Elisse
- Motioned by Nicole
- Seconded by Krystal
- Approved on 9-0 vote with Samuel, Abby, and Montserrat absent

C. SB 4: Protecting Immigrant Community

- Karen with update on injunction
 - There's been a hearing. State has moved to bring suit to Austin from San Antonio
 - Chief Manley is very informed. Don't foresee any major changes to APD work. He can't stop an officer from asking the question, but there's no requirement to answer.
 - Might be good to gather questions and fear from the community from different advocacy groups.
 - Maybe a town hall or roundtable?
 - Chief Manley and/or someone at City Hall-roundtable
 - Town hall to answer questions
 - Univision is hosting forum. JOLT
 - Town Hall working group:
 - Karen
 - Walid
 - Krystal
 - Nicole
 - Nasario
 - Motioned by Karen
 - Seconded by Aditya
 - Approved by 9-0 vote with Samuel, Abby, and Montserrat absent
- ILRC created SB 4 toolkit – Angie Young – invite to next meeting
 - Local options
- Krystal to contact APD
 - to come up with a process creating a paper trail of asking immigrant status
 - where they are with recommendations
 - invite them to August meeting
 - Motioned by Pedro
 - Seconded by Nicole
 - Approved by 9-0 vote with Samuel, Abby, and Montserrat absent

- D. Future projects (Welcoming Office and City Website)**
 - Nasario to look into how these are set up
- E. Continuation of the DACA program**
 - Paxton to sue if DACA isn't discontinued in September
 - Should we do anything about this?
 - Austin is Texas's punching bag
 - Discussion of DACA litigation – Nasario will forward
- 5. OLD BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**
 - A. "Cite and Release" recommendation – Pedro**
 - Tabled b/c no response from APD.
 - B. Gateways for Growth Challenge**
 - Tabled. Karen will follow up.
 - C. New requirements related to City Code Chapter 4-8: Registered Lobbyists – Nicole**
 - Tabled until August
 - D. ACLU People Power meeting – Pedro**
 - Good meeting.
- 6. STANDING ITEMS**
 - A. Welcoming City Workshops**
 - 1. New Assignments:**
 - Reanimate the housing working group – Walid and Elisse
 - 2. Public Safety - Karen and Pedro:**
 - Judge Garcia of San Antonio has questioned the constitutionality of detainers
 - Travis County Sheriff's department is offering resource pamphlets to all victims of a crime.
 - 3. Children in Schools –Krystal and Glenn:**
 - Krystal will research the school districts in Austin
 - 4. Civic Engagement - Nicole and Samuel:** No update
 - 5. Legislative updates - Krystal and Sam:** No updates
 - B. Cities United for Immigration Action Update: None**
 - Krystal motioned that Nasario be primary contact
 - Seconded by Pedro
 - Approved by 9-0 vote with Samuel, Abby, and Montserrat absent
 - C. Joint Inclusion Commission Update: Next meeting end of July, Nicole to attend**
- 7. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
 - Education Austin will conduct a citizenship drive on July 29th (will post on face book page)
- 8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM**
 - SB 4: Protecting Immigrant Community/Town hall meeting with Advocacy groups
 - Discussion of DACA Litigation
 - Newsletter – regenerate
- 9. ADJOURNMENT**
 - Karen motioned to adjourn meeting at 7:39 pm
 - Pedro seconded
 - Approved by 9-0 vote with Samuel, Abby, and Montserrat absent

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