



## **Commission on Immigrant Affairs**

**Regular Monthly Meeting  
Monday, December 11, 2017 6:30 PM  
Austin Public Health/A.K. Black Building  
928 Blackson Ave.  
Austin, Texas, 78752**

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

***The Commission on Immigrant Affairs convened in a regular monthly meeting on Monday, December 11, 2017 at Austin Public Health/A.K. Black Building, 928 Blackson Ave., Austin, Texas.***

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

Karen Crawford, <i>Chair</i>	Montserrat Garibay	Walid Kobrosly
Pedro Villalobos, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	Krystal Gomez	Nicole Merritt
Sam Adair	Nasario Jaimes	Glenn Rosales
Abby Batko-Taylor	Elisse Jean-Pierre	

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

Aditya Rastogi

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

Connie H. Gonzales, Staff Liaison/APH

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** – Karen called to order at 6:28 pm
- 2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION** – None
- 3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** October, 2017
  - Walid motioned to accept the minutes
  - Nasario seconded the motion.
  - Approved on 11-0 vote with Aditya absent
- 4. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**
  - A. Follow up Town Hall**
    - APD to upload a bullet point summary of changes in their policies on website – Karen will follow-up
    - Upload on CoIA Facebook page
    - Follow up with Sherriff Hernandez – “What documents one can show for proof of residence”
  - B. Discussion of By-laws language – Krystal**
    - Karen motioned for Krystal to draft new by-laws
    - Nicole seconded the motion.

- Approved on 11-0 vote with Aditya absent.

**C. Prioritize work for 2018**

- Karen motion to continue monthly meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 6:30pm
- Pedro seconded the motion.
- Approved on 11-0 vote with Aditya absent.
- Meeting location at City Hall is pending
- Special events:
  - Staff Liaison
  - Immigrant Heritage Month – June
  - Budget recommendations – Start working on now. Month of April is dead line. Can call a Special Called Meeting if necessary.
  - Town Halls (2)
  - Newsletter (quarterly). Include a spotlight on local immigrant events/groups and highlight sponsorships.
  - Immigrant Heritage Festival – working group: Krystal, Nicole, Elisse, Sam, and Karen
  - Reach out to other Quality of Life Commissions on community projects and/or resolutions
  - Submitting a resolution to City Council in reference to the ordinance on Texas Property Code and Immigration status
  - Partner up with other community groups on Voters Registration events - “Know Your Rights” and “Register to Vote - New Citizens voters.

**D. Friedrich Neumann Foundation - Pedro**

- Delegation of people from seven other countries who are researching immigration issues. Visited Austin this year and spoke with Community leaders and compile a report of any initiatives in place to assist immigrants.

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

**A. Discussion of DACA Litigation – Nasario - None**

**B. Future Projects (Welcoming Office and City Website) – Nasario**

- Review of best models from other cities.
- Working group: Elisse and Karen

**6. STANDING ITEMS**

**A. Welcoming City Workshops**

**1. Affordable Housing – Walid and Elisse:**

- Continue to work with HACA, Caritas, APH/Stephanie Hayden to assist single-parent refugees with affordable housing.

**2. Children in Schools –Montserrat, Krystal and Glenn: No update**

**3. Civic Engagement – Elisse, Nasario, Nicole, and Samuel: No update**

**4. Public Safety - Karen, Aby, Aditya, Montserrat, Krystal and Pedro:**

- Forward Resolution No. 20170109-005A to City Council Member
- APD request Commission on Immigration Affairs board members assistance with U Visa Policy and appeals
- Travis Co. is in the process of re-writing U Visa Policy – Karen wants CoIA to be involved. Krystal and Karen will contact DA office

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

- Focus is on Dream Act – groups are pushing to move to the end of the month

**C. Joint Inclusion Commission Update:**

- No update
- Karen motioned Krystal as point of contact
- Nicole seconded the motion

- Approved on 11-0 vote with Aditya absent
- Karen motioned Nasario as backup
- Pedro seconded the motion
- Approved on 11-0 vote with Aditya absent
- Next meeting:

**7. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Workers Defense Project is having Deportation trainings for Lawyers on 1/25/18

**8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM**

- Immigrant Heritage Festival
- Welcoming City Office

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

- Pedro motioned to adjourn meeting at 7:31 pm
- Glenn seconded the motion
- Approved on 11-0 vote with Aditya absent

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 Adrienne Sturup at the Austin Public Health, at (512) 972-5167 or email: [Adrienne.sturup@austintexas.gov](mailto:Adrienne.sturup@austintexas.gov), for additional information. TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.