



COMMISSION ON IMMIGRANT AFFAIRS

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2021 6:30 PM

Meeting Minutes

Board Members in Attendance:

Krystal Gomez, Chair

Adrian De La Rosa

Kate Lincoln-Goldfinch

Nicole Merritt, Vice-Chair

Rennison Lalgee

Joseph Ramirez-Hernandez

Karen Crawford

Board Members not in Attendance:

Sara Becker

Glenn Rosales

Juan Vences-Benitez

Staff in Attendance:

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

CALL TO ORDER

1. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 4, 2021

- Postponed to next month

2. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS:

A. Lieutenants Christine Chomout, Craig Smith, Kenneth Murphy, and Lawrence Davis, Austin Police Department (APD), to discuss: (1) U-Visa policy updates/report, (2) APD's collaboration with ICE report, (3) changes to call routing and non-emergency response services (9-1-1/3-1-1), and (4) any new reports/Chief's message

B. Vote on annual schedule

- Due to difficulty to change the traditional annual schedule, it'll remain on the first Monday of each month at 6:30 pm
- Nicole moved; Karen seconded; all in favor

C. Formation of working groups relating to the report on immigrant incorporation in Austin, Texas

- Office of Immigrant Affairs



- i. Krystal, Nicole, and Karen will join
- Naturalization and civic involvement
 - i. Kate, Adrian, and Karen will join
- Workforce development and entrepreneur resources
 - i. Nicole and Rennison will join
- Affordable housing and neighborhood preservation
 - i. Joseph and Krystal will join
- Access resources and community hubs
 - i. Kate will join

3. OLD BUSINESS

A. Budget updates

- Not clear if budget recommendations from the Commission of Immigrant Affairs are approved; Karen has followed up and waiting for the budget report
- Equity Office did not get more funding for the mini grants or expansion for immigrant affairs' office; will look into current budget and staffing to focus on those two items

B. Report back from ISNA and the RST quarterly consultations

- Juan is not present to provide any updates
- RST quarterly meeting focused on the situation of the Afghan community

C. Joint Inclusion Committee meeting update – Karen

- Overarching concern list identified by the Joint Inclusion Committee is available; discussed the concerns and priorities Commission of Immigrant Affairs would like to advocate for
- LGBTQIA+ quality of life study is released and delivered to council
- Committee for People with Disabilities' quality of life study is ongoing
- Discussed about how to have quality of life studies done more frequently, different ways of conducting the studies, and the mechanism to follow up on suggestions

D. Update of Texas Legislative session – Krystal

- No immigration-related items

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Quality of Life exploration
- Updates from Reimagining Safety Task Force

ANNOUNCEMENT

- APD now has a wage theft division in the prosecutors' office

ADJOURNMENT

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



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