

Commission on Immigrant Affairs

Regular Monthly Meeting
Monday, September 9, 2019 6:30 PM
AK Black Building
928 Blackson Ave, Austin, Texas 78752

Approved Meeting Minutes

1. **CALL TO ORDER** at 6:30 pm
2. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – August 2019
 - A. Minutes were not reviewed.
3. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**
 - Raul Alvarez - Executive Director of Can appeared for Citizens Communications
 - Went over the 10 year review
 - Presented their Dashboard of key socioeconomic indicators for Austin and Travis
 - Highlighted the report's equity data
 - Wanted to check in with us on the language access report (he previously presented)
 - Now have a language access action team to help implement the report
 - Wants to come back and get our feedback for action that can be taken
 - Action meetings are First Wednesday of the month at 1:30
 - After we review their material, we can ask them to come back and present on specific issues (like the Language Access Working Group) or to answer questions on the dashboard
4. **NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**
 - A. Discussion of work plan for the next year, structure of working groups
 - Discussion of Work plan for the next year, structure of working groups
 - Look into changing our classification to a quality of life commission
 - Community forums
 - Town HallsFill vacancies in Cesar's and Flannigan's districts (4&6)
 - B. Guest speakers - next meeting
5. **OLD BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**
 - A. Update on city budget and status of Commission's budget recommendations
 - Legal services funding is level
 - Proposed funding for the municipal ID study
 - Naturalization clinics - funded 2 years (we asked for 1)
 - Immigration Heritage Festival - won't fund directly but they will help access other funds that are available
 - Rental assistance program - this is something that is moving forward but we'll probably have to follow up on it
 - Vote tomorrow on the budget
 - Welcoming Cities Officer - we need to continue to stress the need for this position to have authority to make decisions and commitments on behalf of the city. We discussed recommending the salary be increased to
 - \$115K, to bring it closer to an executive level positionReviewed the Business Process Specialist,

- Business Process Consultant, and Business Process Senior Consultant job descriptions to see what would work best.
- We recommend they hire this person into the BP Consultant or Senior Consultant role/pay band due to the ability to attract candidates and have the authority needed to do the job
- Naturalization Clinics - being funded, working out the contracts

6. STANDING ITEMS: Discussion and Possible Action

(a) Updates from Welcoming City Workgroups - review current workgroup membership: Dissolving working groups for now. Will add in new groups or form the groups again as needed in the future

- Public Safety
- Civic Engagement
- Budget
- Welcoming City Office
- Children in Schools
- Immigrant Heritage Festival
- Workforce and Economic Development
- Updates from other workgroups

B. Cities United for Immigration Action Update- Sam

- Cities United for Immigration Action Update - Karen is going to Seattle and will have a report next month

C. Joint Inclusion Commission Update - Karen and Krystal

We will be scoring a series of mini-grants (114 will be granted) from the City to help with various issues having to do with equity issues

- 5 people volunteered, each will review and score, total of 23 grants. Reviewers are Krystal, Karen, Nicole, Montserrat, and Rennison

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

8. TASKS FOR NEXT MEETING

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

10. ADJOURNMENT – Adjourned at 8:26 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 Public Health at (512) 972-5017 or email: stephanie.hayden@austintexas.gov, for additional information. TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.