



Governor Terry E. Branstad  
Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds  
San Wong, Director

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**IOWA COMMISSION OF LATINO AFFAIRS MEETING**  
Wednesday, October 19, 2016  
Marshalltown Public Library  
105 West Boone Street, Marshalltown, IA 50158  
**9:30-11:30 AM**

**Commissioners Present**

Alejandro Pino  
Jeannette Martinez  
Juan Rodriguez  
Marlu Abarca-By Phone  
Michelle Reuss  
Sal Alaniz

**Commissioners Absent**

NONE

**Department of Human Rights Staff**

Sonia Reyes-Snyder, Executive Officer  
Monica Stone, Deputy Director

**Public Members**

Erica Johnson, ACLU of Iowa  
Norma Dorado-Robles-ISU Extension and Outreach  
Diana Sloan-Iowa State University-By Phone  
Amy Chabra-Mary Treglia Center-By Phone

**I. Call to Order, Welcome & Introductions**

Call to order and introductions by chair, Michelle Reuss at 9:36 AM

**II. Public Comment**

Norma Dorado-Robles shared that she wanted to learn more about the commission  
Amy Chabra and Diana Sloan shared that they just wanted to listen

**III. ACLU of Iowa Presentation**

Erica Johnson shared the work of the ACLU of Iowa and the efforts that affect the Latino community in Iowa, specifically the Driver's License for all Bill, which the old commission members had voted to support a few years back.

Erica shared ways that commissioners can support these efforts.

Commissioners discussed how they can help and decided that they would like more information about the Driver's License bill before voting to support it.

**IV. Motion: Approval of minutes from August 19, 2016**

Pino made the motion; Jeannette Martinez seconded

Aye: All

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

**V. Department of Human Rights Report**

Sonia Reyes-Snyder presented her report to the commission without any additions

Monica Stoned shared that the department's budget will be discussed at the next DHR board meeting.

There was discussion about the possibility of voting for a new DHR Board Representative and Co-Chair, the voting of a new DHR Board Representative was put on hold.

**VI. Department of Human Rights Board Representative Report**

Sal Alaniz distributed the last meeting packet to the commission

Sonia Reyes-Snyder presented the commission with the Iowa Commission of Latino Affairs Report to inform the general public of the commission initiatives and goals.

Michelle Reuss instructed that this is what needs to be presented by the DHR board representative at the DHR board meetings.

**VII. Discussion of Board Offices and Officers**

Commissioners discussed the following:

- Complains from the community about the commission and commission representation
- Jeannette Martinez and Marlu Abarca requested that Sal Alaniz only send commission related emails
- Sal Alaniz shared that he will continue to share what he deems important information with the commissioners
- Sal Alaniz asked for clarification on what is commission business
- Secretary/Communication position duties were clarified, all commission business emails go to Marlu Abarca and she compiles these into one a week summarized email
- Alejandro Pino and Juan Rodriguez shared that they need more information about the complains regarding inappropriate commission representation
- Michelle asked that the discussion and decision to vote for a new DHR board chair be put on hold until the next meeting

As a result of Sal Alaniz's request by email to be relieved from his Co-Chair position:

**Motion:** Election of a new Co-Chair

Sal Alaniz made the motion; Juan Rodriguez seconded

Aye: All

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

**Nominations**

Marlu Abarca was nominated by Jeannette-Abarca Declined

Jeannette Martinez was nominated by Michelle Reuss & Marlu Abarca-Martinez Accepted

Juan Rodriguez was nominated by Sal Alaniz-Juan Accepted

Commissioners voted and elected Jeannette Martinez as the new Co-Chair

**VIII. Commission Activities Report**

- Centro Informativo Latino

Juan and Sonia are working on the content of the this Resources website.

The projected launch date will be the first week of January 2017.

Businesses will have the opportunity to advertise for a fee

- Cedar Rapids and Des Moines Festivals

Both festivals were a success for the commission visibility goal

- Latinx Professional Development Conference Report

Marlu, Jeannette and Sonia presented to professionals about teaching their clients to self-advocate and collected public input on what specific area needs

- 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala

This celebration is scheduled for April 8<sup>th</sup> at El Malecon

This will be a Resource Fair/Celebration for the community

- Report was presented to the commission

**IX. New Date for Legislative Training**

A meeting request will be sent out to commissioners

**X. Next Meeting Date**

Monica reminded the commission of the DHR Legislative Breakfast and invited the commission to have hold the next meeting the same day. February 23, 2017.

**XI. Adjourn**

Meeting was adjourned at 12:05 PM