



# ICLA

Iowa Commission of Latino Affairs

## Meeting Minutes

Saturday, August 25, 2018-12:00 PM-1:30 PM  
University of Iowa Memorial Union, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor.

### Commissioners Present

- Alfonso M. Perez, by phone
- Jeannette Brown
- Lorena Gingerich, by phone
- Marlu Abarca

### Department of Human Rights Staff Present

- Sonia Reyes-Snyder, Office of Latino Affairs

### Commissioners Absent

- Juan Rodriguez
- Junior Jaime

### Public Members Present

- Sara Myren
- John Dunsheath
- Brent Myren
- Cecilia Martinez

Persons who wish to participate by phone should call 844-891-9182  
When prompted, enter conference code: 969-212-9213

### I. Call to Order, Welcome to new commissioners & Introductions

Roll call at 12:05 PM

### II. Public Comment

- Dunsheath shared that he liked the statement that the commission issued about the Mollie Tibbitts crime. He thanked the commission for supporting the immigrant community.
- Myren asked the commission not to invite Governor Reynolds to the Hall of Fame Ceremony due to statements the governor has made against the Latino and other immigrant Iowans and more importantly to make the Latino and immigrant communities feel safe.

Abarca shared that the agenda is being put on by the Chair and Vice-Chair of the commission, they will set up a call with all commissioners to discuss the Iowa Latino Hall of Fame Ceremony agenda and speakers.

- Martinez shared that she is glad to be part of the Legislative Committee that put on the first Latino Day on the Hill in 2018 and is looking forward to the 2019 event. She recommended that the committee invites youth to speak and a legislative training to the event.

### III. Approval of meeting minutes from June 19, 2018 and April 20, 2018

*Abarca moved to approve the meeting and call minutes*

*Gingerich seconded*

*All in favor*

#### **IV. Approval of Commission statement about Mollie Tibbitts**

- Brown shared that the Iowa Commission of Latino Affairs voted by email on issuing the attached statement on 8/24/2018.

*Brown moved to approve the meeting and call minutes*

*Abarca seconded*

*All in favor*

- The statement was sent out by Jeannette Brown, Commission Chair on 8/24/2018. Commissioners shared that they have received a lot of praise and thanks from community members. Brown received many thank you emails from recipients. Brown shared that the commission's goal with the statement was to promote everyone's human rights not about politics or campaigns.

#### **V. Michelle Reuss Resignation from the Commission**

Brown shared that Michelle Reuss resigned from the commission due to other commitments.

#### **VI. Approval of August Commission Report for DHR Board**

*Abarca moved to approve the meeting and call minutes*

*Gingerich seconded*

*All in favor*

#### **VII. Legislative Committee Chair Report by Marlu Abarca**

- Abarca shared that she is working with the committee on the 2019 Latino day on the Hill. She is recruiting college students to help. The committee will hold a press conference the day of the event to control the message. Legislative training will be offered. Iowa Latino Hall of Fame honorees will be invited to attend. Legislators from areas with high numbers of Latinos will be invited to speak. Youth will be invited to speak. The goal of the event is to bring Latinos to the capital and provide them with legislative experience and resources.
- Gingerich recommended that the commission does a PSA in Spanish encouraging Latinos to vote. Abarca recommended that the commission works with La Reina and La Ley.

#### **III. FALO Committee Report by Jeannette Brown**

- The articles of incorporation have been filed with the Secretary of State
- Brown did the paperwork with the IRS to obtain non-profit status, FALO has a IEN number.
- FALO needs to pay \$275 to the IRS
- Des Moines Metro Credit Union will donate FALO \$500 to get the organization started.
- Brown will open an account with the Credit Union.

#### **IX. PILA Committee Report by Sonia Reyes-Snyder**

- PILA will be launched during Latino Heritage Month
- There are two networking events scheduled in Des Moines and in Dubuque
- PILA will offer professional development webinars for its members
- Next year there will be a PILA conference
- There will be two initiatives under PILA: LGBT Coalition & Afro-Latinx Coalition being led by Marlu Abarca.
- PILA is open for Latinx college students and Latinx professionals

**X. 2018 Hall of Fame Update by Lorena Gingerich**

- All honorees and their families have been notified
- Brown & Abarca are working on the ceremony program, awards, invitations, flyers and scripts.

**XI. Office of Latino Affairs & Department of Human Rights Report by Sonia Reyes-Snyder**

- Sonia organized the Department’s Human Rights Youth Summit, youth from across the state attended.
- Sonia is working on PILA and other office, division and department initiatives.
- Sonia reported about the NALEO conference she attended, commissioners are interested in participating next year

**II. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 1:35 PM

Important Dates	
September 15-October 15	Latino Heritage Month
October 20, 2018	Latino Hall of Fame Awards
November 16, 2018	Commission Meeting in Hampton
January 25, 2019	Latino Day on the Hill & Commission Meeting
March 15, 2018	Commission Meeting in Sioux City
June 28, 2018	Commission Meeting in Dubuque