



## Meeting Minutes

Friday, August 13, 2021

10:30 AM to 2:30 PM (12:00pm Lunch)

Veterans Memorial Coliseum, 20 W State Street, Marshallton, IA 50158

Google Meet joining information: Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/hkt-otxb-cpn>

Or dial: (US) +1 502-530-1094 PIN: 108 326 591#

### I. Welcome and Introductions

<p><b>Commissioners Present</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Caleb Knutson, Story City</li> <li>• Marlu Abarca, Des Moines</li> <li>• Dalina Sajadian, Mason City</li> <li>• Louis Moreno, Des Moines</li> </ul> <p><b>Commissioners Absent</b> Lorena Gingerich</p>	<p><b>Staff Present</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sonia Reyes, Office of Latino Affairs</li> <li>• Karen Ruiz, Office of Latino Affairs - <u>Latinos CAN</u> Coordinator</li> <li>• Trevalova Augustin, API Affairs Office</li> </ul>	<p><b>Public Members</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NONE</li> </ul>
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### II. Public Comment

NONE

### III. Commission Vacancies

Commissioner Knutson has reached out to the Governor’s office to inquire about filling the open positions.

### IV. Review of the Office of Latino Affairs duties

- A. **216A.14 Office of Latino affairs — duties.** The office of Latino affairs is established and shall do the following:
1. Serve as the central permanent agency to advocate for Latino persons.
  2. Coordinate and cooperate with the efforts of state departments and agencies to serve the needs of Latino persons in participating fully in the economic, social, and cultural life of the state, and by providing direct assistance to those who request it.
  3. Develop, coordinate, and assist other public organizations which serve Latino persons.
  4. Serve as an information clearinghouse on programs and agencies operating to assist Latino persons

**B. Review of the Office of Latino Affairs community involvement and activities**

**V. Commission Planning Session**

**A. Review Commission’s duties.** According to [Iowa Section Code Section](#)

[216A.15](#) (PAGE 6) the Iowa Commission of Latino Affairs has the following duties:

1. Study the opportunities for and changing needs of the Latino population of this state.
2. Serve as liaison between the department of human rights and the public, sharing information and gathering constituency input.
3. Recommend to the board the adoption of rules pursuant to chapter 17A as it deems necessary.
4. Recommend legislative and executive action to the governor and general assembly.
5. Establish advisory committees, work groups, or other coalitions as appropriate

**B. Review of attendance requirements according to Iowa Code.**

[1.3\(8\) Nonattendance](#). Any person who has been appointed to the commission shall be deemed to have submitted a resignation if:

- a. The commission member does not attend three or more consecutive regularly scheduled meetings, or
- b. The commission member attends less than one-half of the regular meetings held within any 12-month calendar period

**C. Review of the [2019-2025 Plan](#)**

**D. Review of the current Commission Initiatives**

<b>Commission Duties under <a href="#">Iowa Section Code Section 216A.15</a></b>	<b>Current Initiative</b>
I. Study the opportunities for and changing needs of the Latino population of this state.	Meetings in different parts of the state gathering community input.
II. Serve as liaison between the department of human rights and the public, sharing	● Social Media (Commissioners Knutson & Abarca)



information and gathering constituency input.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and involvement with the Spanish Helpline</li> </ul>
III. Recommend to the board the adoption of rules pursuant to chapter 17A as it deems necessary.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICLA representation in the DHR Board</li> <li>• Annual Commission Report</li> </ul>
IV. Recommend legislative and executive action to the governor and general assembly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to ask for a meeting with what Governor</li> <li>• Latino Day on the Hill</li> <li>• Annual Policy Recommendations</li> </ul>
V. Establish advisory committees, work groups, or other coalitions as appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PILA</li> <li>• Iowa Queer Communities of Color Coalition</li> </ul>

### E. Planning for 2021-2023

1. Discuss and select the initiatives for the 2021-2023 plan.
2. Selection of commissioner leader per initiative
  - a) Planning session per selected initiative
3. Future Meeting Locations

### PLAN

#### **Initiative 1: Create and maintain relationships with the Latino communities across the state.**

- Commission meetings will be held in different locations around the state to gather public input
- The Commission will review data from the U.S. Census and the Iowa Data Center
- The commission will share resources on its social media

#### **Initiative 2: The narrative of Latinos in Iowa will be upheld**

- When issues arise that the commission will address:
  - A special meeting will be called
  - The secretary will personally invite community leaders to the meeting
  - The Vice-Chair will draft a statement

- The commission will meet, discuss, and vote on statements

**Initiative 3: Annual Latino Day on the Hill**

- A commissioner will chair a planning committee that will include other commissioners and community members
- The committee will develop policy recommendations that will be approved by the commission

**Initiative 4: Iowa Queer Communities of Color Coalition**

- Commissioner Abarca will be the chair of this initiative

**Initiative 5: PILA (Association of Iowa Latinx Professionals)**

- Commissioner Knutson will be the chair of this initiative
- A Latino Gala will be explored by this committee

**VI. Vote for the plan for 2021-2024**

Motion: Knutson

Second: Sajadian

All in agreement

Motion passed.

**VII. Adjourn**

ACCESSIBILITY- Commission meetings are open to the public. If other accommodations are needed, please contact the office prior to the meeting. For further information, contact Sonia

Reyes at [sonia.reyes@iowa.gov](mailto:sonia.reyes@iowa.gov)