



Agenda

DATE 6/1/17 TIME 11:34a

SERVED BY Chris Sanchez

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IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, June 6, 2017

Market Station

Conference Room

500 Market Station

4:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes: May 2, 2017
4. Community Comments
5. New Business/Action Items:
 - a. None
6. Old Business:
 - a. Subcommittee Updates:
 - Welcoming Communities
 - Education
 - Social Media & Communications
 - Refugee Resettlement
 - Police Department
7. Comments from the Chair and Committee Members
8. Report from Staff
 - a.
9. Adjournment

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Approval of Minutes March 7, 2017	Corrections: Page 4 – Chris Sanchez – said that the use of Social Media to alert the public of ICE’s presence would be extremely helpful. The use of social media to inform the public would be great and we will talk to our public information office on how we can use social media. Page 5. Ms. Diaz said, we need to pass the word work to exercise caution when speaking. Page 7. 6th paragraph, 2nd sentence. When SOMOS started getting calls [insert several years ago] from families they were describing SFPD cars ... [wants to make sure that everyone knows it didn’t happen recently]. Susan works with students from K thru 8. <i>Ms. Lopez moved to approve the minutes as amended, second by Ms. Hayre, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.</i>	Page 2 - 3
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IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE
Tuesday, June 6, 2017
4:30 pm -6:00 pm

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Acting Chair, Javier Rios called the meeting to order for the Immigration Committee at 4:30 pm at the City of Santa Fe Market Station Conference Room. Roll call reflects a quorum.

PRESENT:

Javier Rios, Acting Chair
Maria Cristina Lopez
Susan Hayre
Marcela Diaz
Jewel Cabeza de Vaca

NOT PRESENT:

Alejandra Seluja, Chair, Excused
Amparo Guerrero
Maria Jose Ugalde-Alzacar
Elizabeth Hemmer

STAFF/OTHERS PRESENT:

Chris Sanchez, Staff
Officer Chris Reynosa, SFPD
Fran Lucero, Stenographer

2. Approval of Agenda

Date of Minutes on Agenda is incorrect, March 7, 2017 not May 2, 2017.

Ms. Diaz moved to approve the agenda as amended, second by Ms. Lopez, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

3. Approval of Minutes: March 7, 2017
Corrections:

Page 4 - Chris Sanchez - said that the use of Social Media to alert the public of ICE's presence would be extremely helpful. The use of social media to inform the public would be great and we will talk to our public information office on how we can use social media.

Page 5. Ms. Diaz said, we need to pass the word ~~work~~ to exercise caution when speaking.

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Susan works with students from K thru 8.

Ms. Lopez moved to approve the minutes as amended, second by Ms. Hayre, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

4. Community Comments
None
5. New Business / Action Items
None
6. Old Business

a. Subcommittee Updates:

- Welcoming Communities

Mr. Sanchez: In terms of the application process we are coming close to the end of the year. Mr. Sanchez is working on his budget balance to research if they can pay the registration fee of \$200.00 for Welcoming Communities. If money is not available this fiscal year, Mr. Sanchez will have funds July 1 2017 to pay for this registration fee. Ms. Diaz asked if once fee is paid and they are members if the city could put a link on the website, Welcoming Communities is a great resource for the public to know of.

Ms. Diaz wanted to alert people that in late April, 2017 there were 9 letters that went out from the Department of Justice that went out to communities that were suspected as Sanctuary cities and in our movement there is a whole effort to have a major coordinated response from these cities which include New York, Chicago, Salt Lake City, etc., there 9 cities. The letters were sent from the Trump Administration and they said they needed to justify that they were abiding by the law or they would not receive federal funds. Of course, all of them are saying publicly, of course we are well within our rights of the law. There is a coordinated effort by their legal department to put the best information forward. Santa Fe is not on that list and we do not want to be on that list. Ms. Diaz said that if we were to get a letter we would need to format a strategic and legally sound response.

Ms. Diaz said within the time frame of our last meeting to date, we signed on to the Amicus Brief of cities that supported Santa Clara/San Francisco law suits against the Trump Administration executive orders against sanctuary cities. Ms. Diaz said she wasn't sure if this was reported but it is important to know that we did that.

Ms. Lopez asked how does that affect the preliminary injunction?

Ms. Diaz said that the preliminary injunction amongst other things; the letters are from DOJ in relation to very specific law, because everyone has said very clearly. "you can't just threaten" and we and all the lawyers that we worked with here in Santa Fe would contend that even if they took the law enforcement away we would (in audible). They really narrowed what they were asking, at first it was a lot of bluster, but then after this particular law suit and injunction, they are really having to narrow it, so that is where the DOJ is.

Officer Reynosa SFPD: Offered comments regarding constitutionality. He continued to share information, based on personal resources vs. on behalf of the SFPD. He believes in protecting people's constitutional rights. Mr. Reynosa did say that he does not want anyone in the community to be afraid of the SFPD officers; he wants them to feel open about speaking to an officer. He concurred with Ms. Diaz that the letter from the Trump Administration DOJ is to scare the community.

- Education

Maria Cristina Lopez/Amparo Guerrero

Ms. Lopez said that there were several things that have transpired related to Education. Bilingual Education affects not only immigrants but our Hispanos, Nuevo Mexicanos and the Native Americans in our state. PED got rid of two components of bi-lingual education without getting the input from those who it affects. They had a public hearing and were then going to implement the changes. The public hearing was very strong against the changes, a lot of our Native American leaders came and were very upset and felt disrespected that they were not contacted about these changes as well as our people, families from outside Santa Fe. New Mexico has the largest Latino populations in the Country, like 46% and we have the largest Native American population in the state. There are five components to bi-lingual education and the two they got rid of were maintenance, which is to maintain your native language as you get better at English; and the other was enrichment. We attended a meeting at the Public Education Department as members of the Immigration Committee, they did not have translators and we offered our services. PED was very taken

back that no one was accepting these changes. They said that they would hold another meeting in August and in the mean time they will be talking to the interested, affected people. They did not have interpreters for the SOMOS families that went to testify.

We also attended a meeting conducted by SFPS Superintendent Veronica Garcia who is a breath of fresh air. She listens and she is interested in our people and she understands. She is holding community partner meetings with students, teachers, parents, agencies, Immigration Committee, all types of people. This was a good forum as we spoke about generalities. Ms. Lopez said that she talked to the Superintendent about her take on bilingual education and she said that right now we have schools with programs, we need to know what people need in the schools and then provide the programs. Mr. Sanchez asked if the Superintendent knew that Ms. Lopez was on the Immigration Committee and this was in the affirmative. Mr. Sanchez also stated that the Superintendent has expressed openly how much she wants to help.

Ms. Lopez stated that next Monday, June 12th is the first day of the trial and the public is being invited to the press conference. The important thing is that our children are not being taken care of.

Ms. Diaz stated that MALDEF is suing on behalf of several parents the State Legislature as well as the Public Education Department for not providing sufficient resources to a host of educational programs. A lot of the programs are targeting English language learners, minority students, Native American students, immigrant students as is outdated by our State Constitution. There is a deep structural problem with our State Constitution in the way education is funded. MALDEF is suing on behalf of several Santa Fe families who have raised children in the K-12 educational system.

- Social Media & Communications
Jewel Cabeza de Vaca

Chris Sanchez: Has met several times with the Committee and stressed the importance of getting committee member Bio's to him as soon as possible.

Julie Sanchez is also a web master and will help maintain the Immigration page. Mr. Sanchez said he is also looking at how to communicate with the community. We need to make sure that the web page is done first. Quality time has been sent strategizing on how the web page should look.

Mr. Sanchez said they would like to have a block party before school starts in the south side. The Web site is important to bring people together. Ideas are welcomed from the committee members. It is important to bring the people together and to let them know how we can help them.

Committee members clarified that much of the content of their Bio's is pertinent to their participation in the Immigration Committee.

Ms. Cabeza de Vaca said that once the web page is thriving they can add more information for the public and the committee can always post up to date and current postings. Ms. Cabeza stated that the question they all should ask is; "how do we increase our membership?"

- Refugee Resettlement

Javier Rios has spoken to Karen Gonzalez who is the Refugee Manager at the Department of Health and has invited her to previous meetings. She will attend a meeting in the near future and talk about how federal government plays into the refugee resettlement. She shared a piece of information on how the number has decreased from 150,000 to a possible 50,000 of refugees that might come to Santa Fe. She shared the number of refugees they provided services during FY 2016 New Mexico and is able to provide FY2017 number as well when she attends the Immigration Committee meeting. She shared that Catholic Charities is no longer offering resettlement services and that Lutheran Family Services is the only refugee site in New Mexico.

Follow Up: Mr. Rios will invite Ms. Karen Gonzales to a future meeting to share and answer questions.

- Police Department

No meetings with the Chief, information will follow.

7. Comments from the Chair and Committee Members

Proclamation for Cara Esquibel – Xochitl Campos-Biggs is now gone and information cannot be retrieved. The City Council meeting of July 12th is when we would like to have the proclamation read as her birthday is July 17th. Ms. Diaz said that one of Cara's students will intern with SOMOS and she will ask for students to attend. Mr. Sanchez asked for information on her personal and professional life for the content of the proclamation.

Mr. Rios said that they had also been talking about moving to bi-monthly meetings during the year and if there is a need to meet more often request a monthly meeting. Mr. Sanchez said that sub-committees should be working between meetings. Mr. Sanchez said he wants to create efficiency for meeting participants and reiterated if there is a need we can set up an emergency meeting or a meeting of need. He also stated that when meetings have been ~~cancelled~~ it has been basically attributed to not having a quorum.

8. Report from Staff

Ms. Sanchez talked about having a Strategic Planning Retreat meeting for the Immigration Committee. This is a great opportunity to talk about our vision, give periodic updates. This provides the committee an opportunity to prioritize the functions of the committee. Mission is imbedded in the resolution that created the Immigration Committee. Mr. Sanchez would like to suggest approximately a 4-hour block for discussion. He stated that the Mission is extremely important and on the website this should be the first thing that is posted, the Mission, Vision and Outcomes.

Ms. Lopez said that the Mission is imbedded in the Resolution that created the Immigration Committee.

Ms. Sanchez also recommended that either in August, September or October the Immigration Committee would then go before the governing body to update them on the work of the Immigration Committee and other Human Service committees.

Ms. Cabeza de Vaca asked; with what has been stated above how does the committee contribute to add substance to this.


Chris Sanchez is Director of the Community Services Department and Youth and Family Services and oversees additional divisions. He is looking at the next 2-months to add staff.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Immigration Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 pm

Signature


Javier Rios, Acting Chair


Fran Lucero, Stenographer