



Agenda

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IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, August 22, 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: June 6, 2017
4. Community Comments
5. New Business/Action Items:
 - a. Presentation from NM Department of Health
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
9. Adjournment

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IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE
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IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE

Tuesday, August 22, 2017

4:30 pm -6:00 pm

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Chair, Alejandra Seluja 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:

Alejandra Seluja, Chair
Maria Jose Ugalde-Alzacar
Maria Cristina Lopez
Marcela Diaz
Jewel Cabeza de Vaca

NOT PRESENT:

Susan Hayre. Excused
Amparo Guerrero, Excused
Elizabeth Hemmer
Javier Rios

STAFF/OTHERS PRESENT:

Karen Gonzales, Department of Health
Chris Sanchez, Staff
Lt. Judah Montano, SFPD
Fran Lucero, Stenographer

2. Approval of Agenda

Welcoming Communities will not report today.

Ms. Diaz moved to table Welcoming Committee and to report at September meeting amending the agenda, second by Maria Jose Ugalde-Alzacar, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

3. Approval of Minutes: June 6, 2017

Spelling of Ms. Karen Gonzalez (Gonzales)

Ms. Maria Cristina Lopez moved to approve the minutes as amended, second by Maria Jose Ugalde-Alcazar, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

4. Community Comments

None

5. New Business/Action Items

a. Presentation from NM Department of Health - Karen Gonzales

Ms. Gonzales was invited to speak about Refugee Resettlement in Santa Fe. First, we do not have a refugee resettlement site in Santa Fe. Most of our refugees come in through Albuquerque. Lutheran Family Services is the sole agency in New Mexico. Catholic Charities was the agency of contact for over 25 years. In December 2016 they stopped resettlement services. They are still providing support services but it is more working with communities to provide the services instead of providing the direct service. Department of Health provides domestic health screening for all newly arrived refugees. When a refugee is set to travel to the US they have an overseas exam and when they enter the US they are given the domestic health screening. We have a contract with Human Services to assure that refugees can receive health care, they also qualify for Medicaid and remain eligible for 1 year. They are connected with primary care and mental health care providers. Right now they have 3 to 4 large facilities to provide services. Historically 250-270 refugees have received service and that number has increased in the last 2 years. One of the things that set refugees aside from immigrants is that they do not have to reside in the US for 5 years to receive benefits.

In 2016 there was an increase in refugees, 468 from the 250-270, reason for that was due to border crossing. FY18 – July thru May, we have seen 440 refugees. Although the demographics have changed, Cuba is still the primary resettlement group – about 30% from there; followed by the Democratic Republic of Congo with 24% and 14% from Afghanistan, 8% from Syria. Legislative fact sheet indicates the statistics (Exhibit A).

Lutheran Family Services did apply and were approved to set up a resettlement site in Santa Fe. Department of Health works together to find primary care providers to help with screenings. DOH is working with La Familia and St. Vincent's to provide the mental health services as well as the domestic health screen. However, with the change of administration they went from resettling up to 110,000 refugees in the US and it was capped at 50,000. By July or June of next year they had resettled more than half of the designated number. The funding did not follow the approval to set up Santa Fe as a resettlement site. Santa Fe is on the back burner so they are waiting for funding to fall in to place.

Ms. Diaz – Does the funding get approved annually by Congress? Did the budget proposal that passed House Appropriations include resettlement money?

Ms. Gonzales – That is an interesting question. When the President submitted his proposed budget, he decreased a number of the line items in the budget. Congress did reinstate the budget and the Department of Health is waiting for confirmation of the partial grant that they received and the terms if it will be 1 year or 3 years. For this next year they are anticipating about 270 arrivals. Right now they are on moratorium status. In order to be considered for travel to New Mexico they have to be bona fide relationship and that would be a parent, sibling, child and she believes they have expanded. 270 will take them back to what they were resettling 3 years ago.

Maria Cristina Lopez asked who figures that number at the 270. Ms. Gonzales stated that Lutheran Family Services reviews and states the number that they can resettle. It is also based on the primary care and mental health providers and housing.

Ms. Diaz asked if this is all in Albuquerque.

Ms. Gonzales said that last year they settled a large amount in the southern part of the state.

We are getting notification from CDC upon their arrival, mostly the Cuban population.

Resettlement Partners have a contract with language interpretation. There are minimal times where there may not be an interpreter depending on the rural area and language. Every effort is made to find an interpreter.

Maria Cristina Lopez: What are your biggest problems?

Ms. Gonzales stated that the biggest problem is language interpretation. Communicating with the client, integrating them in to the US Health System, finding providers to work with them therefore working hard to build a provider data base. This is a completely new environment to them. There are competing priorities and it can be difficult with them. Case management is the one area of service that is made available and the cohesive work amongst the providers and MCO's are helpful. Lutheran Family Services helps them with transitional residential services after the 3-months along with case management.

How does the REAL ID Act work for them?

Ms. Gonzales said that until they get their naturalization papers they would get an ID card/license.

Thank you for your presentation. Ms. Gonzales left her contact information for future needs.

6. Old Business:

a. Subcommittee Updates:

- Welcoming Communities – Marcella Diaz - No report until September meeting.
- Education - Maria Cristina Lopez: No report until September meeting.
- Social Media & Communications - Maria Jose Ugalde-Alcazar
Chris Sanchez, talked about hiring a new staff member who will help with the website and social media piece. Mr. Sanchez will e-mail the members who have not submitted their bio's for the website. Pictures will be taken at the September meeting. It was noted if you don't want to take your picture that is understood and if you have a head shot, please send it in.
- Refugee Resettlement – Ms. Gonzales from the Department of Health presentation was good.
- Police Department – Lt. Judah Montano

The Chair stated that she met with the Chief and learned that SFPD had sent a letter to ICE. The question is, our SFPD is not helping ICE with their efforts, but the other law enforcement agencies are helping ICE. The Chair said that SFPD is doing outreach to assure the community is not working with ICE. The Chair would like to know if the Chief received a response from his letter.

Lt. Montano said they worked with the Mexican Consulate through their event to provide information and to listen to concerns. This month, with Fiestas and Zozobra coming up, the SFPD is limited in preparation for this heavily populated event. The Chair acknowledged and expressed her thanks for the SFPD, and Deputy Chief Salbidrez involvement with the Guadalupe Credit Union event; this is positive support and outreach in the community.

The Chair asked if the numbers in crimes being reported by immigrants have increased or decreased? Lt. Montano said that they have not seen an increase in crime numbers; also the fear is not as evident as it was when the President took office. He noted that the population in Santa Fe is not demonstrating any affect from the federal happenings, it seems that they are reporting concerns as needed and taking care of business as a norm. When the President was first elected there was a time where they would run from the Police in fear, but that has settled down.

Ms. Diaz stated that they (SOMOS) are hearing some things like where do DWIs go. There is an issue with the DWI program, District Court turning people over to ICE which is really problematic. It is not the court officials, which is beyond you (referencing Lt. Montano). Other than the local Police Department normally does the DWI within our municipal court system where it doesn't happen. Those are rumors that they are hearing and in fact a reporter called and they declined to talk about it as they were just curious whether or not SFPD was seeing any traffic on this.

Lt. Montano said they haven't seen any trends and stated that they are not sent to District Court unless they are a felony DWI.

Ms. Diaz talked about discretion and marijuana possession.

Lt. Montano said there is non-discretion. They do not really do marijuana possession, they do a lot of civil citations or destruction. The City has told them that should be the lowest priority and at this point it is more work than it is worth. When it comes to DWI discretion the officers still have the authority to use their discretion between one and three, as these are misdemeanors.

Ms. Diaz asked if these go to District Court.

Lt. Montano stated that no DWI will go to District Court unless it is the fourth or there is a felony attached to it.

Ms. Lopez said that last year the SFPD was still taking cases to Magistrate Court and not to Municipal Court; now you are saying that is not happening?

Lt. Montano stated that the Officers still have the discretion to make that decision. As an administration, SFPD has really tried to keep them away from that avenue. Legally they have a choice, we can't stop them from making that choice. It is the law.

Ms. Diaz stated that there is a conflict between the state law and the city law.

Lt. Montano stated that they are urging the officers, because the city has grown and the caseload has increased so much, to get away from that practice.

Ms. Lopez said that there were few cases at the municipal court because they knew they were not going to prosecute.

Lt. Montano said they can't tell an officer not to enforce the law.

Ms. Diaz: Asked about any additional training that has been done in the last 7-8 months regarding immigration policy. One of the things that the Resolution dealt with "Sanctuary Resolution", was the acceptance, which is law; the driver's authorization card, has the driver's authorization card been a part of the training and update on the Sanctuary Policy? Also a UVisa update. She stated that they have been hearing great reports from the immigration attorney's about the quickness in which the Department is working with UVisa's, but it would be great to hear from the SFPD. Has there been an uptake on the UVisa application, knowing the numbers would be very helpful. Update for September 5th, we have all been reading in the news about Internal Affairs investigations regarding officers, or at least one officer. All we know is what we are reading and we know you can't do anything about that, what can we expect about those investigations. A general update and information on this matter would be very helpful for when we are talking to our community members who are hearing this as well, we would like to know what or how we would respond and lessen their fears.

Lt. Montano said that it was his understanding that Chief Gallagher wrote a report on the contents of that investigation and information cannot be released due to the confidentiality of that matter. The officer in question is slated to retire in the next 2 months.

Ms. Diaz said she doesn't trust what she reads in the New Mexican, one of the things she has been hearing is how long does this investigation take, give a quick 2 minute tutorial on how long they take. It would apply to not only this case, it would apply to any complaint about bias based policing or breach of the sanctuaries.

Lt. Montano stated that Internal Affairs investigation starts when there is an allegation made against a police officer. At that point the complaint has been made, there are currently 2 Lieutenants and 1 Captain within Internal Affairs. The reason things are taking so long at this time is because there was a back up from the recent administration. When they get a complaint they have 6 months for the investigation. The investigation is very thorough and time consuming. For one to get done in 6 months has to be a case that was not complicated. There are a lot of Lieutenants working on general investigations, but because they are so specific you have to be very particular on how it is presented so you don't violate the officer's rights, it goes to review by the Captain. After he reviews it, it goes to Chief Gallagher. If there is discipline pending it then goes before the City Manager and the City Attorney. Investigations based on the nature of the complaint could take longer. It is also noted that it

can get kicked back to the Supervisor for added information. It was reiterated that 6 months would be for a non-complicated case but it could take up to 6 months to a year.

7. Comments from the Chair and Committee Members

The Chair reported on a small workshop, SCORE and with support from the city provided a seminar for Latino's. The Chair was a presenter providing information on resources available to those people who speak Spanish. It was not well attended as information was not disseminated in a timely manner. Allegra Love was also there to make a presentation. There were questions on what is needed to start a new business. One question was if they have to be a legal citizen to apply for a business license and for taxes. Fabian Trujillo from City Economic Development also presented and offered to help with information and business plans. They also had the Puntos Avansamos workshop through the Guadalupe Credit Union and they plan to do this quarterly or every 6 months. There was a good partnership of information. Ms. Seluja stated that she has travelled throughout the US and one example was some young ladies from Chile, they lost their friends because they are not white. Ms. Seluja said that on the positive side, she was in Connecticut and there are two credit unions that are going full force in to serving immigrants. At one of the event, the US Congressman from Ct. said that he was in support and would help in anyway that he could. He also reiterated that the Governor in Connecticut would also support the members of this community.

Javier Rios attended a meeting at the Mexican Consulate office, mostly community partners who talked about providing help, mostly in health. They stated that we really need to emphasize to our community members that it is not only help with passports and matriculas that they offer, it is many other services, including legal services. Mr. Rios said he has worked with the Mexican Consulate office for years and this is the first of this sort of meeting supporting services. There are many partners to keep people safe. Mr. Rios echoed that in working with the refugees there is a massive problem with language access. That barrier is difficult in the educational institutions, it takes a while to learn the language.

Marcella Diaz: The horror stories we hear are also in New Mexico. In speaking with a family from Guatemala, a minor child was coming unaccompanied and stopped by border patrol and the family picking him up was undocumented in Santa Fe. He applied for asylum. Because his uncle took responsibility for him, they have all of his information, no criminal record, the only reason why ICE came to the door was because he went to pick up his nephew. The Uncle opened the door because he thought it was the local police and answered all the questions, it was ICE and they were

there to deport him. SOMOS just did a training with law enforcement in Farmington to discuss policy. There is an ICE agent in that community, Sheriff's Department, that cooperate with ICE. It might be good to do a training here in Santa Fe to provide that education. That understanding needs to be promoted. It is important for the Police Department the real fears they feel. This is happening in the community and there are great fears.

The Chair said there is the question that individuals feel Santa Fe is a sanctuary city and that ICE cannot be here. It is important to promote trainings as Ms. Diaz has explained.

Maria Cristina Lopez wants to add a community training option for the SFPD and other local law enforcement agencies on the next agenda.

The Chair asked Ms. Diaz if she could provide the contacts that would be willing to make this type of presentation. Ms. Diaz said they did this training in Farmington. Ms. Diaz offered to bring the collateral she used for the Farmington training.

Lt. Montano asked if this could be done in October 2017. The Lt. did learn that this was done during briefings and he would like to follow that format.

Chair stated that at the September meeting they will have a discussion and offer formal proposal/invitation to come to the October Immigration Committee meeting.

Maria Jose Ugalde-Alzacar said she had heard from friends that they had a very traumatic experience at DMV, they felt like it was a deportation center. She stated that they are making plainly racist remarks.

The Chair said she would like to add to the September Agenda discussion on the Real ID.

Ms. Diaz said that they have a hot line to report this type of concerns with Real ID. She would also like to have a discussion related to the non-compliant Real ID.


8. Report from Staff

Next Meeting September 5th at 4:30 pm.

9. Adjournment

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

Signature


Alejandra Seluja, Chair


Fran Lucero, Stenographer

New Mexico Department of Health
Refugee Health Program Overview
2017 Legislative Session

Exhibit A.

Refugee Health Program Goals

- **Health screenings and mental health assessments** serve as an entry point into the U.S. health system, preventing unnecessary emergency room visits.
- **Prevent transmission** of communicable diseases to the public.
- **Ensure follow-up** for conditions affecting personal well-being or impeding a refugee's ability to effectively resettle and function in the U.S. society (economic self-sufficiency and/or unnecessary admin/clinical costs).

The **DOH Refugee Health Program** is funded through a federal Office of Refugee Resettlement grant and a General Services Agreement with the NM Human Services Department. There are no state general funds supporting this program.

Refugee Health Primary Functions

- **Domestic health screenings** are provided to all newly-arrived refugees within 90 days of arrival in NM. Services include:
 - Screening for TB, sexually transmitted infections, HIV, hepatitis B and C, Sickle Cell, Malaria, and chronic conditions
 - Vaccinations
 - Referrals for medical, dental, and vision care
- **Mental health services** are offered to all newly-arrived refugees. Services may include screening, assessment, case management, and referrals for mental health treatment services.
- **Refugee health and mental health education and training**
 - For refugees: Stress management and self care education, which includes coping with physical, social, psychological and spiritual changes associated with relocation.
 - For Providers: Skills to assess and treat social and health/mental health problems that can exist among people displaced by extreme hardship, war and human rights abuses.
- **Interpreter and translation services (86% of clients required interpretation during domestic health screening)**

Fiscal Year 2016 Refugee Health and Mental Health Services

