



Agenda

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Immigration Committee

January 11, 2011 – 5:45 p.m.

Santa Fe Public Library
Community Room, 2nd Floor
145 Washington Avenue

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Agenda
- III. Approval of Minutes
 - a. November 2, 2010
- IV. Announcements
- V. Community Comments
- VI. Old Business
 - a. Update on English/Spanish Bias Based Policing Complaint Form
 - b. Meeting with Police Chief and Mayor
- VII. New Business
 - a. Report on trip to Cuba by Chester Toppie and introduction of special guest from Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico
 - b. City Council Resolution in support of drivers licenses for immigrants
 - c. Public Safety Committee's Resolution in support of driver's licenses for immigrants
 - d. Public Hearing at SFCC or other venues
- VIII. Communications from Staff
- IX. Communications from Committee
- X. Adjourn

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IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE
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Approval of Minutes: 11/2/2010	<p>Page 5: VI-a: Ms. Diaz asked if the Captain could read the part on the complaint portion. Complaints of biased profiling and must be paid-filed within 90 days.</p> <p>Page 4: 5th Paragraph: Ms. Shinas said that a city forum would really be good. She said they the way the economy is the expectation will be not to spend money.</p> <p>6th Paragraph: Councils should be Councilors</p> <p><i>Rev. Topple moved to approve the November 2, 2010 minutes as amended, second by Ms. Shinas, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.</i></p>	3
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Old Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Update on English/Spanish Bias Based Policing Complaint Form b. Meeting with Police Chief and Mayor Koss c. City Council Resolution in support of driver's licenses for immigrants d. Public Safety Committee's 	<p>Bias Based Policing Complaint Form is on the website, both in Spanish and English.</p> <p><i>Mr. Rivera moved to accept the resolution as presented with the addition of a Whereas in support of law enforcement and thank you to City Councilor Ron Trujillo and the Public Safety Committee, second by Rev. Topple, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.</i></p>	4-6

Resolution in support of driver's licenses for immigrants.		
<p>New Business</p> <p>Report on trip to Cuba by Chester Topple and introduction of special guest from Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico</p> <p>Public Hearing at SFCC or other venues.</p>	<p>Report by Rev. Topple postponed until next meeting.</p> <p>Presentation by Cipriana Hurtado</p> <p>To be rescheduled for a future meeting</p>	6-9
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IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES

January 11, 2011
5:45 pm – 7:45 pm

The Immigration Committee meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm at the Santa Fe Public Library, Community Room, 2nd floor by the Chair, Maria Cristina Lopez. A quorum was declared by roll call.

I. Roll Call

In attendance:

Maria Cristina Lopez, Chair
Betty Shinas
Marcela Diaz
Erwin Rivera
Miguel Angel Acosta
Jewel Cabeza de Vaca

Absent:

Elizabeth Hemmer
Amparo Guerrero

Others Present:

(Staff)
Carla Lopez, Staff Liaison
Melissa Byers, Legal Assistant

Captain Gerald Rivera
Fran Lucero, Stenographer

Moment of Silence for those affected by the violence in Tucson, Arizona. Rev. Topple offered words of prayer and remembrance in memory of those who suffered in Tucson, Arizona.

II. Approval of Agenda

Changes from the Chair: New Business (c) will be moved to Item (b) under Old Business. Item (a) under Old Business will be: Meeting with Police Chief and Mayor, (c) Update on English/Spanish Bias Based Policing Complaint Form. Item # (a) and (b) under New Business is removed. Note: (a) – Report on trip to Cuba by Chester Topple will be heard at a later meeting. Special Guest from Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico will be heard under New Business

Rev. Topple moved to approve the agenda as amended, second by Mr. Rivera, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

III. Approval of Minutes

a. November 2, 2010

Page 5: VI-a: Ms. Diaz asked if the Captain could read the part on the complaint portion. Complaints of biased profiling and must be paid-filed within 90 days.

Page 4: 5th Paragraph: Ms. Shinas said that a city forum would really be good. She said they the way the economy is the expectation will be not to spend money.

6th Paragraph: ~~Councils~~ should be Councilors

Rev. Topple moved to approve the November 2, 2010 minutes as amended, second by Ms. Shinas, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

IV. Announcements

1. Mr. Rivera talked about Events: Martin Luther King Day – Rally around issues on Education, at the State Capitol starting at 2:00 pm. Hoping for a strong participation of the immigrant students so they can be heard on the Dream Act.
2. Wednesday, January 19th is Family Day at the NM Legislature, ENLACE is a co-sponsor. Press Conference from 11:30 am till about 1:00 pm in the rotunda. Immigration Committee is strongly urged to attend.
3. ENLACE Day will be February 11, 2011 at the NM Legislature. They will SKYPE live from the Legislature starting about 11:00 am with ENLACE departments from throughout the state. Youth Alliance Day is January 26th.
4. February 10, 2011 is the Santa Fe Community College Lottery Banquet; Representative Michael Sanchez will be in attendance.
5. Ms. Diaz talked about the Immigrant Day of Action: February 2, 2011 – Big march to the Capitol will be at 12 noon. She encouraged folks to register by calling 505-424-7832 or going to www.somosunpueblounido.org. (Distributed Flyers)
6. Ms. Diaz announced that February 11, 2011, SOMOS un Pueblo Unido is one of the lead organizations planning the Las Mujeres March. This will be people from throughout the state who will discuss multi- issues, not just immigration issues basically trying to open a dialogue, not just with the legislature but with our first women and Hispanic Governor. There will be a conglomerate group of organizations participating. Mr. Rivera added that this is also African American Day at the NM Legislature.
7. Ms. Diaz announced that Sandoval and Taos County are the first counties in the country to selectively honor ICE holds. Not only are they terminating their engagement of the criminal alien program with ICE but they are not holding people under the “criminal alien” SCAAO guidelines. We are the first in the country and we have already had inquiries from New York and San Francisco about emulating our policies. Congratulations extended to Marcela Diaz for this hard work.
8. Ms. Cabeza de Vaca: February is Heart month; there will be classes on January 19, 2011 at 6:00 pm for women and heart health at the Women’s Health Service, 901 W. Alameda, Suite 25, Santa Fe, NM. The Chair suggested that the classes be offered in Spanish.

9. Mr. Acosta announced that Capital High is trying to do more outreach to family's; more so the immigrant families. They will hold a Parents Night on January 20, 2011 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm for parents. Mr. Acosta will be there to help translate and to assist with the questions and answers for the evening.
10. Mr. Acosta stated that the campaigns for school boards are taking place. The issues are around small schools and they are not addressing overcrowding in the south side. The League of Women Voters and the Democratic Party are coordinating forums and are very interested in the south side matters.
11. Mr. Acosta made a comment regarding his concern on the appointment of the NM Higher Education Cabinet Secretary.
12. Carla Lopez: The other thing that is missing is how much we spend on education. Education has to be funded 30% more so that there are social workers and ENLACE. We know the solutions but the public process across the country has not been there to move the money back in to education. It is spent more on defense and prisons.
 - a. The Chair stated that a forum on education may be something that the Immigration Committee may want to consider holding in the future.
13. Ms. Shinas suggested that it would be helpful in the future for all of these events to have flyers and put them out for the population to have access to them.

V. Community Comments

VI. Old Business

- a. Meeting with Police Chief and Mayor
- b. Public Safety Committee's Resolution in support of driver's licenses for immigrants.
(Melissa Byers, Legislative Liaison Assistant, City Attorney's Office)

Ms. Diaz, Maria Cristina Lopez, Chair and Ms. Carla Lopez met with the Police Chief and the Mayor to discuss the challenges that we are having with the driver's licenses. The Police Chief he was interested in getting this information out to other Police Chiefs and subsequently we helped put together a fact sheet that should be coming from the Chief's office detailing on how having driver's licenses for immigrants has impacted his officers and law enforcement in general. Ms. Diaz asked for a status on where we are in seeing this fact sheet on City Police letterhead. Ms. Lopez, Staff Liaison said that it is in the Chief's jurisdiction and she will follow up on status. The chair said that other options were discussed with the Chief and he chose to do a fact sheet. He stated that he did support driver's licenses for immigrants but that he thought talking one-to-one with Police Chiefs would be a better way of doing it. Ms. Diaz said that she believes there is a meeting of the Police Chiefs Association in January and she hopes that we can present and talk to other police chiefs at that time to share with them the positive effects of this request for law enforcement. Secondly, we spoke to the Public Safety Committee; City Councilor Ron Trujillo is the Chair for this committee. We were able to explain our stand on driver's licenses. The Committee decided that they would like to pass a resolution initiated from the Public Safety Committee. The Police Chief spoke eloquently at this meeting on behalf of this subject and the committee was very supportive.

The Chair said that with all the information that they shared with Ms. Byer that the information is missing on the wording of how driver's licenses are a tool for law enforcement. Ms. Diaz said that the Public Safety Committee was specifically concerned on the effect this would have on law enforcement. The Chair would like to see the wording that

it is a tool for law enforcement. Ms. Diaz said that it is important that if this is going to be sent to the Governor or the Legislature that they know this is endorsed by the City and Police Chief believe that if the driver's license was to be revoked or suspended or if this law was to be repealed that it would have an adverse impact on public safety and law enforcement.

Ms. Byers said that initially she worked off the Fact Sheet that she was provided by Ms. Lopez, Staff Liaison and populated the resolution draft with several Whereas statements. Ms. Byers met with the City Attorney and he reviewed and did not recommend doing an intense document as it has been sent to the legislature in 2003 when the law was changed. He wanted to make sure that mention was made about the impact on law enforcement and insurance and we added a few facts and the support of the Public Safety Committee of the law the way it is. In addition it states that the City Council also supports sustaining this law.

Ms. Diaz said that there will be new legislators who will not know why the City of Santa Fe supported this law in 2003. She stated that even in the initial resolution there is no mention of what we have seen in the last seven years. She asked if we could add one Whereas that says according to our Police Chief that this has helped our officers during stops and providing identification. SOMOS states; "During stops or investigations, police can quickly identify immigrants and check their record without having to examine documents in foreign languages. This makes officers safer and more efficient." Ms Byers stated that she will discuss this language with the City Attorney to incorporate wording in to the resolution.

Ms. Byers informed the committee that it will be introduced to the City Council tomorrow, it the resolution will be presented to the Finance Committee on January 18th the Public Safety Committee on January 20th and City Council on the 26th. The Resolution will be on the Website by 5:00 pm to review. Note: After the resolution is introduced, it can be viewed by Friday on the City Attorney's Website.

Mr. Rivera moved to accept the resolution as presented with the addition of a Whereas in support of law enforcement and thank you to City Councilor Ron Trujillo and the Public Safety Committee, second by Rev. Topple, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Diaz distributed a fact sheet of information on driver's licenses for immigrants. She recommended that the committee use this fact sheet as a tool when doing outreach presentations for support. In addition a handout to supply a testimony was distributed and encouraged. It is also a good way to explain how they use their driver's licenses. In addition was a registration form for the Immigration Day of Action.

Ms. Diaz announced that they will be conducting a meeting with Sheriff's throughout the state and if the Committee knows any of them directly in Northern New Mexico or Police Chiefs, it would be great to show off our law enforcement support. SOMOS will be presenting on January 19, 2011 for 2 hours at the Sheriff's Association. This invitation was extended by the Lea County Sheriff.

Mr. Rivera asked if there is a way for the Governor to cancel driver's licenses outside of legislation. Ms. Diaz will send additional information to Mr. Rivera on this question.

- c. Update on English/Spanish Bias Based Policing Complaint Form
Captain Rivera noted that this complaint form is on the Website for use.

VII. New Business

- a. Report on trip to Cuba by Chester Topples and introduction of special guest from Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico –Postponed until next meeting.

Presentation by Cipriana Hurtado, Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico (Note: Summary was translated from Ms. Hurtado's presentation given in Spanish).

Rev. Topples introduced Ms. Hurtado and her family and explained that they had left Juarez where they had lived all of their lives and moved to Chicago because they feared for their life as they were strong advocates for human rights. They chose Chicago because they knew some people a religious organization who would help them. They were in Chicago for that time and they felt very distant from their friends and family in Ciudad Juarez and they asked for help for churches in Albuquerque and Santa Fe to see if they could help. Mr. Eric Mason asked what type of help they would need and they were asking for airline tickets for three people from Chicago to Albuquerque. They are now here in Santa Fe and they have an apartment where they live. Rev. Topples said that the congregation of the church is looking for financial help for their family, and Mr. Rivera is helping her family in education for her children.

Welcome to Ms. Hurtado

Ms. Cipriana Hurtado

We are from Ciudad Juarez where I worked in Ciudad Juarez in the field of women's rights. I started working at the age of 13 in the Maquiladora's for 15 years. When I left work in the Maquiladora I had a business as I participated in a community program through the church. My grandmother was a healing person in Juarez.

I started working in the Maquiladora to get better working conditions for women. Many of the business were in electronics so we used many chemicals in our jobs so we fought for better health conditions. Since we were not told what types of chemicals were being used, many were getting sick and we still were not told how it would affect our health. Most of the women were the ones that worked the labor jobs in the Maquiladora and the men were either directors or in supervisory positions. This is how I became involved with women's rights. In the Maquiladora's there is a black list and this would hurt you from getting jobs. If you were organizing any type of improvements you were on that black list. There were many of us who were let go from our jobs and we could not get other jobs because of this list so we formed an organization made up of a working group. We gathered and worked with other women's organizations and we made contact and worked with the women in Central America when the Maquiladora's were being relocated. We informed them of the low salaries and the chemicals We Were exposed to. We had many problems with Immigration as they would not allow the women from Central America to enter in to Juarez. They said there was uncertainty that they would stay in Mexico and said they might go to the United States.

In 1993 we experienced a very sad situation where many women were being targeted and soon after there were many assassinations and deaths of women. There were a lot of young women who were missing and the law enforcement people did not want to look for them. They were coming from other countries and our own people but we were not given any attention. We tried to report this injustice by reporting this but they would not pay attention to us in Juarez or in Chihuahua. When articles begin to show in the newspaper in El Paso more visibility was brought forth. They continued to abuse us in Juarez because of this negative attention they were getting. We were mostly women and we didn't have jobs, we couldn't take care of our children. We did succeed in some ways, we won several cases and we still fight for those exploitation cases. I am not an attorney, but I do research to see how we can help. This is a big problem that no one wants to give attention to. There is also a lot of experimentation with these women, and in many cases many of the women and the younger women are still missing. That concerns us very much. In 2007 I had another hard experience with the assassinations and the use of armed weapons that they threatened us with, violence became a bigger problem. The government supported the use of the military and the armed weapons. We again expressed our disappointment on the support they were giving the military. Before the military forces came to Juarez, we spent time meeting with many to explain and for them to recognize the amount of women who were pregnant and the youth that were being assassinated. There is no safety in the homes. We also feel that there really is no protection against drug trafficking. We would like to help the families that have been affected as they would enter in to the homes and break in, take family members, accusing them of having weapons or drugs and they hurt them. The armed civil police are not trained to handle these types of situations. A lot of younger men are missing and we are losing our younger generation through assassinations. We are missing a lot of women who have been assassinated and their bodies have not been found; they killed one of my friends, Josefina. They first took her son, and we filed a protest in Mexico DF to please return her son in whatever condition he would be in so he could be buried. They wanted their family members at least to have a place to put them to rest in peace. We have tried to tell these families to please have faith and we would help them to find their lost children. We have found some bodies of the youth that have been missing but they continue to take women and more so late at night. When the maquiladora's close late at night, we would have to walk home and they would take advantage of this time to capture the young girls. Some of the women are now lovers of the drug traffickers only to save their own lives or are taken by the drug dealers and they don't fight the situation. The problem is that this is an investigation of those that are missing, I have tried to help with two brothers that have been missing since 2008 and they still have not been found. In 2007 we looked for another young man whose body was found in 2009 on the border of the city. These are just a few of the examples of the reality that we lived. Help has been requested for many including myself, but there is no assistance for people who need help. I was given a cell phone in the event I had an emergency and they had the federal police go by my home but they did not provide safety for my family. I left to Chicago for 6 months; I have been meeting with churches to let everyone know what is happening in Juarez. I took a leave of absence from the Universidad de Ciudad Juarez. It is not safe to go back. Recently one of my colleagues and a student was shot at the University. There are many threats to our life. In Chicago there were kidnappings and the federal police have tortured many in Juarez. It was the recommendation of many in Juarez and Chicago who told us not to return to Juarez. We have had many threats and more so from the Federal Police in Juarez. We aren't happy with this decision as we miss our friends and family and would like to work for a better life.

I continue to work through the internet to denounce these crimes. We have worked many years with the border patrol.

The Chair said that this is a very sad situation. She grew up in Juarez and it has been about 2 years since she has visited her family. The Chair asked how the Committee could help.

Ms. Hurtado added that she believed that another one of her dear friends was killed today.

Questions from the Committee:

Mr. Rivera: How can we educate ourselves more and how can we be of help to you? Mr. Rivera asked Victor, the son, if he wanted to say something at this meeting.

Victor Hurtado: My mother has explained the situation. When I turned 18 we looked forward to going out with our friends in Juarez. It was not safe to go out and there were a few times that they wanted to take me in. I did not want to leave my home but I had to follow my mom for safety.

Cipriana Hurtado: There is an exchange of photos and there is a lot of money that is also exchanged. Everyone knows who the culprits are in the drug cartel, but they are the ones that are not stopped. There is also laundering of money, business people and those who are taking our youth. We continue to fight against the drug cartel. The best thing that could be done is to write to the Congressional Delegation to not send money back to Mexico. No one knows if this money is being used to buy more Weapons. A lot of the Maquiladora's that were closed are now in El Paso. It should be urged to take care of human lives in Mexico. There are so many problems and with all of the violence there are over 3,000 homes that have been vacated and the number of those who have been killed.

The Chair asked if it would be ok to use her name in the minutes. Ms. Hurtado said yes, she did not have a problem if they used her name.

Ms. Hurtado stated that there is so much publicity about the dangerous situation in Juarez, that those journalists and those who are working to support human rights are putting their lives in danger. Ms. Hurtado would like to speak to as many groups and organizations as she can to see help for this cause.

Mr. Rivera will work with a lot of the educational institutions to deliver this message. He has spoken to Ms. Hurtado directly and will stay in contact with her.

Rev. Topple said that if anyone knows someone that would help a refugee family through a monthly pledge that contributions are being accepted through the Westminster Presbyterian Church and the check should note: Refugee Support.

Ms. Hurtado said that she wants to remain in the United States and she wants to continue her work to help the many people in Juarez that are suffering dramatically. She still works with many people in Juarez. "It has always been my interest to work in the community. We don't know what is going to happen in the future." She stated that they are working through a lawyer in El Paso regarding their immigration status and do not know what will become of

that. She humbly stated that they are living in this apartment but they need help. We don't want Juarez to turn in to another Columbia where so many of the hard working people got killed. She said that she worries about a lot of the youth today, one thing is that the recession hit hard so families don't have jobs and the kids don't go to school and they don't have any type of athletics for them to get involved in because they can't afford it.

"My presentation is strictly in Spanish but I could get someone to translate."

Marcela Diaz: It is important to get this message out to those who can change the situation. We have the fear that when they deport our youth to a country where they have never been, this could happen to them.

The Committee members stated that a possibility would be to contact Our Lady of Guadalupe Church for help. This is a very complicated problem and if we don't continue the fight, more tragedy will happen. We need to unite.

The Chair stated that we would be in contact and was sure that different organizations would call for a presentation. The Chair urged the members to contact organizations that they know who might assist this family with financial support. "Thank you for coming to speak to us tonight. We appreciate you and hope that we can continue to support you in your mission."

- b. Public Hearing at Santa Fe Community College or other venues.
To be rescheduled for a future meeting.

VIII. Communications from Staff

Ms. Diaz stated that it is important to have representation at the following meetings.

January 18th – Finance Committee – 5 pm – Chester Topple

January 20th – Public Safety – 4:00 pm – Marcela Diaz

City Council Meeting – January 26th

IX. Communications from Committee

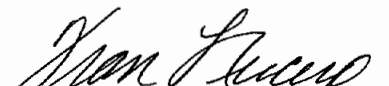
January 18th – Prayer

X. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Immigration Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm

Signature Page:

Maria Cristina Lopez, Chair



Fran Lucero, Stenographer