



# Agenda

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

DATE 6-29-11 TIME 5:26pm

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## Immigration Committee

July 5, 2011 – 5:45 p.m.

Santa Fe Solace Center

6601 Valentine Way

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Agenda
- III. Approval of Minutes
  - a. June 7, 2011
- IV. Announcements
- V. Community Comments
- VI. Old Business
  - a. Reappointment letters
  - b. Update on drivers licenses for immigrants / Somos
  - c. ICE in the courts
  - d. Health Advocate for the Immigrant Community
- VII. New Business
  - a. Mayor's meeting with Mexican Ambassador
  - b. Solace Presentation / Amparo Guerrero
    1. Carol Horwitz
- VIII. Communications from Staff
- IX. Communications from Committee
- X. Adjourn

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**Index Summary of Minutes  
Immigration Committee  
July 5, 2011**

| <b>INDEX</b>   | <b>ACTION TAKEN</b>   | <b>PAGE(S)</b> |
|--|---|----------------|
| Call to Order  | A regular meeting of the City of Santa Fe Immigration Committee was called to order at 5:55 pm by the Chair, Maria Cristina Lopez. Roll Call constitutes a quorum.  | 1              |
| Roll Call  | A quorum was present. 3 Absences.   | 1              |
| Approval of Agenda   | Ms. Hemmer moved to approve the agenda as presented, second by Ms. Guerrero, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.  | 1              |
| Approval of Minutes<br>June 7, 2011<br><br><u>Corrections</u><br>Corrections: 2 <sup>nd</sup> to last paragraph, 4 <sup>th</sup> sentence, remove: <del>that is</del> – insert a comma after the word resident.<br>Page 7: third paragraph – remove the word <del>they</del> and replace it with the word <b>the</b> | <b><i>Ms. Hemmer moved to approve the minutes as amended, second by Ms. Guerrero, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.</i></b>   | 1              |
| Announcements  | Welcome to the audience:<br>Family members from the Parenting Class   | 2              |
| Old Business:<br>a. Reappointment Letters<br>b. Update on Drivers Licenses for Immigrants/SOMOS<br>c. ICE in the Courts – Informational<br>d. Health Advocate for the Immigrant Community - Informational  | Chair asked committee members if they have sent their letters to the Mayor requesting reappointment.<br><br>Presentation by Ada Sallard in Spanish to accommodate Audience members and guests. No action taken. | 3-4            |
| New Business<br>a. Mayor's Meeting with Mexican Ambassador Sarukatan – Informational<br>b. Solace Presentation/Amparo Guerrero (slide presentation) – Informational<br>c. Carol Horwitz, Liaison between the City of Santa Fe for Domestic Violence and the Santa Fe Police Department – Informational               | Informational, no action taken  | 5-6            |
| Communications from Staff  | None  | 6              |
| Communications from Committee  | Ms. Hemmer will present at  | 6              |

**Index Summary of Minutes  
Immigration Committee  
July 5, 2011**

|                                |  |   |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
|                                | the August Meeting on Domestic Violence  |   |
| Signature Page and Adjournment | There being no further business to come before the Immigration Committee, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm | 7 |

# Immigration Committee

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## MINUTES

July 5, 2011 – 5:45 pm – 7:45 pm  
Santa Fe Solace Center – 6601 Valentine Way  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

### Call to Order

A regular meeting of the City of Santa Fe Immigration Committee was called to order at 5:55 pm by the Chair, Maria Cristina Lopez. Roll Call constitutes a quorum.

### I. Roll Call

#### Members Present

Maria Cristina Lopez, Chair  
Betty Jean Shinas, Vice Chair  
Elizabeth Hemmer  
Amparo Guerrero  
Jewel Cabeza de Vaca

#### Members Absent

Chester Topple  
Erwin Rivera  
Marcela Diaz

#### Staff Present:

Carla Lopez, City of Santa Fe  
Carol Horwitz, Domestic Violence Coordinator, City of Santa Fe

#### Others Present:

Ada Sallard, SOMOS  
Frances Lucero, Stenographer

### II. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Hemmer moved to approve the agenda as presented, second by Ms. Guerrero, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

### III. Approval of Minutes from June 7, 2011

Corrections: 2<sup>nd</sup> to last paragraph, 4<sup>th</sup> sentence, remove: ~~that is~~ – insert a comma after the word resident.

Page 7: third paragraph – remove the word ~~they~~ and replace it with the word **the**

***Ms. Hemmer moved to approve the minutes as amended, second by Ms. Guerrero, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.***

# Immigration Committee

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## IV. Announcements

**Audience: Members of the Parenting Class, Welcome**

## V. Old Business

- a. ***Reappointment Letters – The Chair asked if everyone had sent their letters to request reappointment. Erwin Rivera would like to serve until September and Chester Topple will serve until the end of his term in October***

**NOTE THAT PRESENTATION WAS IN SPANISH AND STENOGRAPHER HAS TRANSLATED AS PRESENTED:**

- b. ***Update on Drivers Licenses for Immigrants/SOMOS – Ada Sallard***  
*The Governor of New Mexico is forming a group and requesting funds to be used to assist her colleagues, Senator's/Representatives for their campaigns and to help her with the driver's license bill. It was stated that the immigrants are having a very hard time to get appointments for their driver's licenses. One family told Ms. Sallard that they got their licenses in Farmington. Ms. Sallard said some people came into SOMOS needing help and she wanted to find out for herself what the difficulty is in getting an appointment with MVD. She applied on-line and tried to get an appointment; and she could not get an appointment for at least 6 months. She then talked about some of the MVD's that are contracted by the State that are issuing drivers licenses to those with Immigrant status. This information is all public record and Ms. Sallard has asked for information on what is needed to get an appointment in a timely manner, they also want to see the records that have been held and all the records that show appointments that were not granted. IPRA request for information on foreign national driver's licenses. They have also requested copies of the MOU's with the outside MVD offices. They also asked for records that indicate what the Governor has done as she can make changes administratively. It was learned that to make any administrative changes they have to provide a public notice and hold a public hearing. By statute they have to respond within 15 days. MVD responded that they need more time. Ms. Sallard said that they should receive a response by July 20<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Sallard said that since January, 2011 there are some counties, starting with Hatch, NM, Eddy County, Roosevelt County, saying that they will not assist with this licensing. Ms. Sallard has spoken to the Mexican Embassy and the Ambassador is making appointments with the different counties. It is also known that the Governor's husband was an ex-County Sheriff and asking for the support of his fellow sheriff officers. Ms. Sallard said that they are working with their new Administrator, Selena who is talking with City Councilors on this matter. State Representative Roach sent a letter to all the Councilor in Portales where he did not speak truthfully about the driver's license situation. We have organized people from Portales and surrounding areas to go to that meeting tonight to show their support of being able to retain or get their driver's licenses. Ms. Sallard said that they will have to fight county-to-county for support.*

## Immigration Committee

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*Ms. Guerrero asked if SOMOS has considered having a gathering here in Santa Fe to gain more support for those families or members of the community who can assist in this matter.*

*SOMOS is travelling throughout the state receiving phone numbers in order to do a text message blitz so they receive all important information. Ms. Sallard said that she would be happy to receive names of groups to ask for their support. They are telling people again to please support this driver's license endeavor.*

*The Chair asked if any of the organization representatives at this meeting to please write a letter asking to support for driver's licenses for the immigrants. The Chair will send out a draft letter. Ms. Sallard said that letter's to the Editor can also be sent out. Ms. Shinas asked if the Labor agencies have been contacted. The Chair asked if Catholic Charities would be doing this. Ms. Hemmer said they would follow what the Archdiocese approves.*

### **c. ICE in the courts**

*A call was made to SOMOS that a gentleman had gone to magistrate court and ICE was there at the courts. The Chair said it seems that ICE has the names of those immigrants who are going to court. Ms. Hemmer said that she brought this to the committee's attention in the past. Ms. Hemmer said they have been doing this for over a year. They are arresting these individuals when they are present at court.*

*Ada Sallard: She said that SOMOS un Pueblo Unido has the same privilege as ICE to check the court records. With the record from the jail being public it shows if they are having problems with ICE or if they have been deported. In one case they arrested one man even before he could see the judge. The mother in law went in quickly to let the officials know they had picked him up outside. Another case was a young man who went to pay for a ticket, they deported him immediately as he was picked up outside. All of these cases have happened in Magistrate Court. According to the Judges they say they can't do anything because of the Federal rules and regulations.*

*Judge Segura said that he could not respond to these questions because the ruling department is the Administrative Office of the Courts. The Chair said that the Municipal Court is not having that problem because they are not allowing them in. Magistrate Court has not reached that level of support.*

*Ms. Guerrero asked if the Immigration Committee has the right to report this incident and ask the courts why they are allowing this. The Chair said that the Committee is a municipal committee and the magistrate court is Santa Fe County. The Chair said we could invite members of the court to attend one of our meetings. Ms. Guerrero said that it is good to have facts in order to support these individuals. Ms. Sallard said they only have these two cases documented. Ms. Sallard reiterated that in one case it was someone telling SOMOS of the case.*

### **d. Health Advocate for the Immigrant Community**

*We need a health advocate for the Immigrant Community.*

# Immigration Committee

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## VI. New Business

### a. Mayor's meeting with Mexican Ambassador Sarukatan

The Mayor will be visiting with the Mexican Ambassador and asked if the Immigration Committee wanted to send a message. The Immigration Committee is grateful that the Mayor would be willing to take a message to Ambassador Sarukatan.

### b. Solace Presentation/Amparo Guerrero (Power Point)

Started with the Mission of Solace

Superior Objective: Education to prevent sexual abuse.

One project called SOLACE is in its 3<sup>rd</sup> year.

- They talk about violence in general as well as sexual violence. They talk about the different forms of violence. They talk about families, they decipher the difference between violence with female and male, young children who suffer from violence and what can be done. They provided service to 959 students 7-8<sup>th</sup> grade last year.
- In the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades they do evaluations to assure what classes can be given to them. 746 students have received this information in 2010-11. This method of communication is good and it given children an opportunity to come forward and talk to someone openly.
- We also have the parenting classes that are very complicated. Divorce is something that many in the immigrant population are not ready to work with. There are many types of violence and the children become the victims.
- SOLACE is the only agency that provides service in Spanish. Many of these parents are sent by the courts.
- Education and Prevention

### Proyecto Colectivo de Joyeras de Santa Fe

Every week they come to this agency to make jewelry, the funding from sale of the jewelry is to help these ladies when they have a need. There are other women from the immigration community who help the others come for this service.

### Ways that SOACE helps:

Crisis Line

Public Announcements

Safe House SANE

Police reporting

Institutional Coordination

Therapy

Community Events

The individuals who come to Solace want to know they will be safe when reporting problems. Women always worry about how to report to the police, they are embarrassed about reporting their problems. Ms. Guerrero said it could take up to 2 weeks to report an incident because of fear.

# Immigration Committee

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This center is in a financial crisis, they are operating month-to-month. The Board of Directors is working very hard to help during this difficult time.

Ms. Cabeza de Vaca said that she did not know the situation was so serious; Solace is a very important part of this community. She also said that we all need to work together to provide help to Solace to stay open.

Ms. Guerrero said that there are so many services that fall under advocacy and there are no charges for services they provide. She said that the Public Clinic is offering many behavioral health services to include trauma, domestic violence, child abuse, divorce or separation. There is an interesting case of women who have reached the US from Guatemala and they have gotten here after being physically abused in their country. Ms. Guerrero welcomes any suggestions possible to raise money to keep them functioning.

## **1. Carol Horwitz, Liaison between the City for Domestic Violence and the Santa Fe Police Department**

Ms. Horwitz said that she used to be based out of the Police Department but she is now based out of Solace. She provides support for those individuals who are having problem with any law enforcement officer. She has been doing this for the last 4-years and she has a good working rapport with the law enforcement officers. Another thing that she does is collect statistics. *(Statistical report was handed out) Exhibit A*

Many of our immigrants are afraid to call Law Enforcement officers and a lot of this comes from what has happened in Arizona. In Albuquerque there is about a 40% decrease in immigrants calling in any kind of concerns. Santa Fe Police Department should not be asking nationality questions. Ms. Horwitz said that she has made attempts to meet with the Governor and she is unwilling to talk to the coalition against domestic violence.

One thing about sexual assault it is normally a family member. It isn't someone hiding in an alley, so that makes it even harder for members of the immigrant community. In the 911 system sexual assault calls have increased by about 40% in our community.

The question is; "are people afraid to report?" Yes, in the eyes of the community, any law enforcement officer presents fear, city police, sheriff they all wear a uniform and have a badge.

Officer Luis Carlos from the Santa Fe Police Department can sign off on Visa's. Carol will send Carla a good list of resources.

Ada Sallard asked if Carol has any documentation or names of individuals who have had problems with parking tickets, gotten arrest warrants, ICE holds and then deported. Ms. Horwitz said that she would not have specific names. She did say to get the names of anyone who has had problems with the police department and she is happy to look in to any matter.

## **VII. Communications from Staff**

**None**

## **VIII. Communications from Committee**

**None**



# Immigration Committee

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## IX. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Immigration Committee the chair called for adjournment at 7:45 pm. Ms. Hemmer will chair next month's presentation on Domestic Violence

Signature Page:

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Ms. Maria Cristina Lopez, Chair



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Fran Lucero, Stenographer