



Agenda

IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday August 6, 2019

Market Station

Caboose Room

500 Market Station

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

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes: July 9th Meeting
4. Community Comments:
 - a. Guests from Catholic Charities (Jenny and Fernanda)
5. New Business/Action Items:
 - a. A "Series on immigration topics to be held across the city" organized by the committee.
6. Old Business:
 - a. Subcommittee Updates:
 - i. Welcoming Communities
 1. Update on Language access RFP (Sanctuary resolution item)
 2. Update on ICE in Santa Fe in the past month
 - ii. Education
 1. Report on the Vigil at the roundhouse. Need to clear up misconceptions
 - iii. Social Media & Communications
 1. Immigration Committee Website Updates
 2. Facebook Page – City Progress Updates?
 - iv. Police Department
 1. Report out from a representative from SFPD
 2. Will SFPD representative regularly attend for our meetings?
7. Comments from the Chair and Committee Members
8. Report from Staff
 - a. Updates on letters to Mayor from prospective Immigration Committee members
9. Adjournment

Persons with disabilities in need of accommodations, please contact the City Clerk's office at (505) 955-6521 five (5) working days prior to the meeting date.

RECEIVED AT THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

DATE: August 1, 2019

TIME: 3:38 PM

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JULY 9, 2019

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CALL TO ORDER	Javier, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order for the Immigration Committee at 4:45 pm at the City of Santa Fe Market Station. Roll call reflects a quorum.	Page 1
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	Add: Guest Introductions, Census, No Match Letter and UVisas under Reports and Comments from Committee Members <i>Ms. Lopez moved to approve the agenda as amended, second by Amparo Guerrero, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.</i>	Page 1
APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 7, 2019	<i>Ms. Cabeza de Vaca moved to approve the minutes as presented, second by Ms. Lopez, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.</i>	Page 1
COMMUNITY COMMENTS a) Guest Introductions b) Camp Corazones	<i>Informational</i>	Page 1 -2
NEW BUSINESS a) Asylum Seekers Fund	<i>Informational</i> , Presenters: Bill Smith, President and CEO, Santa Fe Community Foundation and Mayor Webber, Immigration Committee Members and Kyra Ochoa	Page 3 - 5
OLD BUSINESS Subcommittee Updates Welcoming Communities - Census - No Match Letters - UVisas Education – No Report Social Media – No Report SFPD – Not Present	<i>Informational</i>	Page 5 - 7
COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS	<i>Informational</i>	Page 7
REPORT FROM STAFF	<i>None</i>	Page 7
ADJOURNMENT	There being no further business to come before the Immigration Committee, the Acting Chair called for adjournment at 6:30 pm	Page 7

IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, June 4, 2019
4:30 pm – 6:30 pm

1. Call to Order: The Immigration Committee meeting was called to order by Javier Rios, Chair at 4:45 pm, Market Station, Santa Fe, New Mexico. Roll Call reflects a quorum.

Roll Call:

PRESENT

Javier Rios, Chair
Amparo Guerrero
Maria Cristina Lopez
Jewel Cabeza de Vaca
Marcela Diaz

NOT PRESENT

Ivan Cornejo, Excused

OTHERS PRESENT

The Honorable Alan Webber, Mayor
Bill Smith, President and CEO, Santa Fe Community Foundation
Victor Vigil, Staff Liaison
Kyra Ochoa, Director of Human Services
Niza Estrada, Guest (El Camino Real School)
Val Whitley, Criminal Defense Attorney
Fran Lucero, Stenographer

2. Approval of Agenda
Add: Guest Introductions, Census, No Match Letter and UVisas under Reports and Comments from Committee Members

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

3. Approval of Minutes – May 7, 2019

Ms. Cabeza de Vaca moved to approve the minutes as presented, second by Ms. Lopez, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

4. Community Comments
 - a. Guest Introduction: Mr. Val Whitley, Criminal Defense Attorney interested in becoming a member of the Immigration Committee. He talked about the

seriousness of ICE and the encounter with the immigrants. A lot of the reporting is coming from the State Probation Office. He provided some factual information of what is happening in the courts and what is going on with ICE and the immigrants.

Ms. Diaz recognized that Mr. Whitley has been a part of this Committee through task force participation and other supportive participation. Ms. Diaz stated that it is not only the State Probation office that there are other municipalities that are supporting ICE.

Ms. Lopez stated that the Immigration Committee will recommend these candidates to the Mayor, each candidate is to submit a letter of interest and resume to staff that will in turn get them to the Mayor.

Ms. Niza Estrada (El Camino Real School)

She is a teacher of El Camino Real School; population is almost 100% Latino's and immigrants. We hear stories of student's parents who have been deported, it isn't those only who are suffering from poverty, but a lot of the cases are immigrant related. She provided examples of a situation where a father was stopped in his vehicle and arrested, the kids are fearful that this would happen to their parents. As a teacher it is hard to offer them consolation not being fully informed. One of the reasons I would like to be here is to be informed and help my families

The Chair expressed his thanks to the two potential future members and encouraged them to submit their letter of interest and resume.

b. Camp Corazones Presentation – Jewel Cabeza de Vaca

Founded in 1995, HIV women wanted to talk about what could be done for their kids. Today the stigma of aids is still very strong, people are not fully informed. Ms. Cabeza de Vaca talked about a community meeting that was held at its inception and they talked about their needs and the suggestion was a "camp". It was a thought and in a couple of weeks they did their first meeting in Amarillo, Texas. We learned how they did it there. We took 15 kids and 4 volunteers and when we came back, we were excited to get started. Bread for the Journey mentored us until we got our 501(C) 3 and now after 20 years we have had a camp every year. We have been at the National Guard for the last 9 years and it is for children 5-12 years of age. Camp is a 4-day overnight camp, it will be July 18th (Registration), opening ceremony until Saturday – July 21st when we share our last meal and do awards and certificates recognizing them for what they have done. This is all done by volunteers, it is an incredible experience for these kids. For 4-days they create a community of their own and they have said that they come out of their healed. In 4-days it is a new world for them. A great tradition is a person who became the bag lady, she creates bags with draw strings to collect their soiled clothes after the camp. The only requirement is that they complete an application (very short and non-invasive) and provide a t-shirt size. This is a camp for relaxation, families are invited.

5. New Business/Action Items

a. Asylum Seekers Fund

There are refugees and immigrants seeking asylum from many different countries. Santa Fe is providing help but not housing the refugees.

- **Mr. Bill Smith, President/CEO, Santa Fe Community Foundation**
We have established a special fund and with the Mayor's help we can speak about advancing this work. I'm not an expert on immigration issues, but our foundation has been here for 38 years, I definitely run the most progressive foundation in our state. In 2018 we started to address inequity. The fund that we hold was bought to us by the city and the Mayor's leadership; and asked if we could address the funding needs that were coming our way. The shift of the dynamics on the ground has been the most challenging, the good news is that there are not large restrictions on the funds that are being contributed and we are able to help. Over the last month we have worked with the Governor's Office and we have worked with the Chief of Staff and have talked extensively to see how we can provide support on the ground. We have raised about \$200,000 to date, \$150,000 came from one donor which came without restrictions. A lot of the continued funding comes in daily. You can contribute or learn more from the Governor's Website and the Mayor's Website which have done a push to refer people to this fund. Today we received gifts from Colorado and we are grateful for the donations based on need, there are no boundaries. What is invigorating is that there are people who see the crisis and want to support the organizations on the ground that are doing the work. We are supporting the Children's Corner which is now in Deming, we have a lot of resources we are willing to deploy at this point. \$200,000 sounds like a lot of money, Annunciation House in Deming focused on getting money for buses to get them to Denver (\$75,000 was the cost), the dynamics have changed so quickly that now they don't have a need for buses, they don't need that money right now. We know there are a number of organizations who are doing great work, we are reaching out to them and trying to provide funding when we can. We have a lot of awareness to do, this is the only fund that has been set up in New Mexico and I want to explore more to get the word out and drive those resources to help the families who want to transition into our country.

Kyra Ochoa: Our staff reached out to the agencies here in Santa Fe to see what they felt were the needs for the Children's Corner. Ms. Ochoa visited a class at the Santa Fe Prep, the students went in to Amazon and bought things for these kids, they also took on a project to educate the citizens of our Community to keep the awareness going to keep the conversation at their level.

Mayor Webber cannot attend the meeting in the South to meet with the southern Mayor's as city council will be in session tomorrow evening. Mayor Keller will attend representing New Mexico to the border. "One of the things that I continue to find frustrating, I was invited to a TV program on Immigration and the Border, and the question raised was, "why is it that Santa Fe is refusing to take asylum seekers in Santa Fe". Not given the opportunity to talk about the good that Santa Fe is doing, Mayor spent his time defending the statement. We need to continue to do it in a way where they understand we are putting the resources in the hands of helping the people wherever they are being held. If the subject does come up, please speak up about the forms of how we are trying to help the people. We can't let one crisis at the border take our eyes away from what is happening in our community. We need to watch national news to be aware of what they are planning to do to assure that we are ready to support our community.

Ms. Diaz said that the messaging as commission members is important.

Mayor Webber said we can't lose track of the border issues as they become unconscious able. We need to continually put our word out to get funding to the Santa Fe Community Foundation. We need to continue to stand for the right thing and the work of this committee is fundamental, thank you for doing that. If you have any thing you feel that the Mayor can do please pass that word to him. The Kid's Corner is something we need to talk about more, now that it is in Deming; we still need to keep that at the forefront so they know that this is real. People need to know where their money is going and how is it being used. We should have pictures and faces of the kids, continued help is important.

Mayor Webber said we should not lose sight of the Census, we don't know how it will come out we need to get everyone counted.

Mr. Smith said that he hears frequently how the volunteers on the ground are getting burned out. How can we support all of these amazing volunteers, please keep this in the mix of how we can support them as well.

The Chair asked about a sub-committee to continue this conversation; Mr. Ivan Cornejo will take the lead for the Immigration Committee.

Ms. Ochoa recommended having talking points for communicating the message to those who want to help.

Ms. Guerrero said we need to use the tools we have available to deliver the message; there is strong political reference and interference and we need to have a strong message.

Santa Fe Community Foundation and the City work together to deliver the message.

Ms. Diaz said we could probably, and she speaks from SOMOS, we should think about how we speak about Sanctuary. Can any money be used to stop these people from being deported? Because you are both being interviewed, definitions on what is an asylum seeker vs. immigrant, they have not been deeply supported by our city. Applicants and refugees have been coming to the city and we have supported that they are not being deported to these countries. We know that attorney's and those organizations have a good reason to talk about asylum in a different way and they have to legally differentiate on the legal status. If in the future, you are the only Mayor that talks about the crisis of both, we thank you. We are seeing aggressive ICE enforcement in this community. We can work together on a more sophisticated method of getting the message out if we have talking points.

Mayor Webber suggested if we asked 10 people each to contribute \$10 to contribute to the fund at the Santa Fe Community Foundation it would grow rapidly. This issue is not going away, it needs to be refreshed, in September we could plan to do another event like the Unitarian Church gathering, there is a public need to be informed. People's positions change, good and indifferent.

Ms. Guerrero said that possibly in 2-3 months we should organize something big, possibly a vigil that is important to say we are here and let everyone know what is going on in our community and country and ask for support at that time. Ms. Guerrero asked Mayor Webber if he could communicate with other Mayors to seek their support and to share what each city is doing.

Mr. Smith reiterated that we have not put restrictions on use and dissemination of funding. We can finally think bigger; maybe in the next week we could send out an e-mail, 5 questions asking what is the need in the intake process?

Ms. Ochoa said in order for another community gathering, we need to send the message that we are supporting all needs not specific to one dedicated item.

Thank you to the Santa Fe Community Foundation, the city and the Mayor and Immigration Committee for focusing on this great need.

6. Old Business

a. Subcommittee Updates

- Welcoming Communities

- Census

Ms. Diaz: The Supreme Court said No, SOMOS is an organizational plaintiff with MALDEF, it is back in court.

Ms. Diaz asked if anyone has a stronger way to communicate to the community how important it is for them to participate in the Census. You can do the first round on line, if you skip questions on line it might not let you continue. If you don't answer the questions, you may get a knock on the door. We can't stop ICE from getting this information and we recommended they answer all the questions to eliminate that chance of them coming to your door. This is a problem for rural areas as they don't have easy access to on line completion of the form. Ms. Diaz will send information to the Chair of any public meetings where the message can be delivered.

Ms. Lopez said we need a lot of the points documented in a very positive and informative way.

- No Match Letters

SOMOS fact sheet. (Exhibit B) - Letters of discrepancy from Social Security. Letters in the past were being sent to the employers, and they should go directly to the individual. There are a lot of reasons it could be a discrepancy, letters in name could be transposed, etc. Many employers would say "don't worry", bring us new documents. People would do it thinking their employers were really nice, they would keep it until there was a complaint or process. This was happening during the Bush Administration. Most important is that employers know that it is not up to them to rectify it. Message is for them not to go in with false documents. Ms. Diaz said she would like to see this on the website. We could couple it with the I-9's, they are not telling their employees that they are being audited, they are basically firing them from one day to the next. It was recommended that the Mayor should do this.

- Facial Recognition – Ms. Lopez said that our community is nervous about it. Ms. Diaz said what we know as we are just settling the MVD law suit, ICE has via two ways to the MVD database they can go through law enforcement to get information on individuals, for ICE or any federal agency they cannot access the database directly, they

have to go through a state agency. That is one way to get information on a driver of last address or picture. They cannot do it in a blanket way it has to be an individual. The second way is to do it in writing asking for the information on an individual. We are getting ready to IPRA MVD on this information of how many requests they have received. They do not have any blanket information from MVD.

- UVisas: Ms. Diaz said she has heard from many that they are having problems getting UVisas from the Sheriff's Department. Ms. Diaz recommended that a meeting be planned with SOLACE, SOMOS un Pueblo Unido with the Sheriff's department to discuss the concerns. What is good about our policy is that they have to say why they are not doing it; at that time Sheila contracts through SOLACE and brings forward the questions.

- Education – Dr. Lujan Update on Schools (not present)
- Social Media & Communications – no report
- Police Department – not present. It was recommended that Lt. Jose Gonzales be reminded of the date and time of the meetings and importance of representation from the SFPD.

7. Comments from the Chair and Committee Members

Ms. Lopez asked who will speak at the Democratic meeting held at the State Capitol; it is a vigil that is going on at the border and they want speakers from Immigration organizations and speakers.

Mr. Whitley: We are not in a place to get people very involved.

8. Report from Staff

None

9. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Immigration Committee, the Chair called to adjourn at 6:30 pm.

SIGNATURE PAGE:

Chair



Fran Lucero, Stenographer