



Minutes of the August 24, 2007 business meeting at the Life Enrichment Center, 425 North Findlay Street, Dayton, Ohio.

### **ATTENDANCE**

#### **Commissioners**

Blanche Aviles Casey  
Phillip R. Barbosa  
Michael G. Florez  
Humberto Gonzalez  
Daniel Porras  
Ramona Reyes  
Richard Romero  
V. Anthony Simms-Howell

#### **Staff**

Ezra C. Escudero  
Susan De Luca  
Lilleana Cavanaugh

#### **Guest attendance List**

Attached

#### **Absent**

Chris Rodriguez - Excused  
Simon Rodriguez - Excused  
Mary Santiago - Excused

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

### **CALL OF THE ROLL**

There were eight commissioners present constituting a quorum.

### **MOTION #1 - 8-2007**

To approve the June 15 meeting minutes. Presented by Commissioner Reyes. Seconded by Commissioner Barbosa. Motion carried.

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### CHAIR'S COMMENTARY

Chair Gonzalez informed that some ethnic groups in the United States do not have the same assistance to deal with certain illnesses in the community. That it would be a good thing to register for bone marrow transplant, since the test is simple. He informed that the African-American community is a group facing critical need.

INVITED GUESTS - None

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Escudero presented his July Director's Report. Copies of the report were distributed to all board members and were available to the public. A copy is attached as **Exhibit A**.

Chair Gonzalez asked Commissioner Simms-Howell to set up a process on how the new budget is to be controlled, send it to him, in order to be presented to the board at the next meeting.

MOTION #2 - 8-2007 - To approve the July Director's Report. Presented by Commissioner Reyes. Seconded by Commissioner Barbosa. Motion carried.

Director Escudero informed that he is informing of two important issues today, but the full report will be presented at the September meeting.

A copy of this August preliminary report is attached as **Exhibit B**.

Commissioner Romero expressed his concerns regarding the sponsorship from the Commission to different organizations. He recommended supporting the events through the Commission means of communications. Also that the Director or Board members can support the events by purchasing tickets.

Chair Gonzalez postponed this discussion for the new business session.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### Finance

Commissioner Simms-Howell has no additional report.

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### Communications Committee

Commissioner Reyes informed for the benefit of the new board members that they have a Communication Policy in place. New members can request from the office copy of this policy. The policy establishes that on the Chair of the Board and the Director can speak to the media. Board members should call the office about any request by the media in their respective areas.

Commissioner Porrás wanted to know the position of the Commission on immigration.

Director Escudero explained that the Commission has no talking point on immigration; that this is a federal issue and as a state agency, the Commission has no comment and had declined many interviews because immigration is outside the purview of the agency.

### Ohio's Emerging Diversity

No report.

### Education

Chair Gonzalez reported that he attended the last meeting of the Language Resource Program for the State of Ohio. That he is happy to inform that some of the recommendations from the Commission's Education Report have been implemented by the Department of Education. There is a new process for professional coming from Latin America to become teachers without having to go to Ohio State University for three years. There is an effort to bring languages back to the schools. The report is not completed yet. When ready, he will do a presentation to the board.

### Workforce & Economic Development

Commissioner Romero informed that they met with the Department of Development and they shared census data and ideas. He informed also that they met with Michelle from the Small business Development Center Program and there is an opportunity to establish small business development centers to service the Spanish-speaking business community.

OLD BUSINESS - None

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### NEW BUSINESS -

Director Escudero gave a living Resolution to the commission's host today, the Life Enrichment Center. Round of applause.

Chair Gonzalez thanked the Life Enrichment Center for hosting this meeting.

MOTION #3 - 8-2007 - To recognize the Life Enrichment Center. Presented by Commissioner Simms-Howell. Seconded by Commissioner Barbosa. Motion carried.

Director Escudero reminded that would be a nice gesture to make a minor contribution to the center for hosting the lunch.

Director Escudero presented to the Board a draft of the Resolution in Support of Convención Hispana 2007. He prepared the draft for consideration of the Board, to recognize the work that the Hispanic Roundtable in Cleveland has done. There is no compromise, only conversations, as to make this event statewide with the support of the Commission.

Chair Gonzalez expressed that the community statewide should be informed of the changes in the Commission.

Chair Gonzalez explained that what the Commission is trying to do is to buy a marketing piece, like buying a table and put a display with information.

Chair Gonzalez suggested that a sub-committee be created to address this issue and that they will present their report to the full Board at the September meeting.

MOTION #4 - 8-2007 To create a sub-committee to address the new marketing and outreach to the community. Presented by Commissioner Porras. Seconded by Commissioner Aviles. Motion carried.

The members of this committee are: Commissioners Richard Romero, Ramona Reyes and Blanche Aviles Casey.

### PUBLIC COMMENTARY

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MOTION #5 - 8-2007 - To accept public commentary. Presented by Commissioner Simms-Howell. Seconded by Commissioner Reyes. Motion carried.

Public introduced themselves.

Michael Beck invited attendees to the LULAC Gala Dinner on September 4 at the University of Cincinnati. Commissioner Simms-Howell will be honored with the Community Award. Round of applause.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Aviles Casey announced three events in Dayton during the Hispanic Awareness Month: Hispanic Heritage Festival (date not at hand) and on September 22 the Ballet Folklórico de Veracruz will be presenting at the Victoria Theater and Rigodón con Son at the Second Street Market.

Commissioner Barbosa announced that on September 14, the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce will celebrate their annual Gala at The Columbus Renaissance and the keynote speaker will be Governor Ted Strickland.

Commissioner Romero announced that on October 24 the Multi Cultural Business Center together with the Urban League is putting together a Diversity Business Expo.

Director asked Board members to submit all events for Hispanic Heritage Month to the Community Liaison, who is putting together a statewide calendar of events.

Commissioner Porrás announced the Convención Hispana 2007 on October 13 and Hispanic Business Association Entrepreneur Banquet November 2.

Commissioner Barbosa announced that the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce would celebrate their Gala on November 7.

MOTION #6 -8-2007 - To go into Executive Session to discuss personnel actions for the Director. Presented by Commissioner Romero. Seconded by Commissioner Barbosa. Motion carried.

Out of Executive Session, the following motion was presented:

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MOTION #7 -8-2007 - That the Executive Director salary be increased retroactive to the beginning of the fiscal year to \$70,000.00 and in six months, provided the Executive Director meets certain criteria, the amount of \$5,000.00 will be added to his basic salary. Presented by Commissioner Florez. Seconded by Commissioner Simms-Howell. Motion carried.

As per roll call and vote, they went into Executive Session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION #8 -8-2007**

To adjourn the meeting. Presented by Commissioner Simms-Howell. Seconded by Commissioner Barbosa. Motion carried.  
Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

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Humberto Gonzalez, Chair

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Michael G. Florez, Secretary