



**State of Connecticut**  
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**Affairs Commission**

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**Chairperson**

Isaías T. Díaz, Esq.  
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**Secretary**  
Yolanda Castillo  
**Treasurer**  
Dr. Eugene M. Salorio

**Commissioners:**

Ramón L. Arroyo  
Carlos E. Candal, Esq.  
Hon. Migdalia Castro  
Roberto C. Fernandez  
Dr. Sonia B. Mañjon  
Enrique Marcano, Sr.  
Lourdes E. Montalvo  
Ed Rodríguez  
Norma Rodríguez-Reyes  
Maritza Tirú  
Danny Torres

**Acting Executive Director**  
Werner Oyanadel

**Special Projects Director/  
Grants Writer**  
Lucia Goicoechea-Hernández

**Senior Legislative Secretary**  
Clarisa Cardone

**MINUTES**  
**LPRAC Regular Commission Meeting**  
**April 18, 2012**  
**Legislative Office Building, Hartford, Connecticut**  
**5:35 p.m.**

Commissioners Present:	Ramón L. Arroyo, Honorable Migdalia Castro, Yolanda Castillo, Roberto C. Fernandez, Enrique Marcano, Sr., Lourdes E. Montalvo, Dr. Eugene Salorio and Danny Torres
Commissioners on phone:	Norma Rodríguez Reyes
Commissioners Absent:	Carlos E. Candal, Esq., Richard A. Cruz, Isaías T. Díaz, Esq., Dr. Sonia B. Mañjon, Ed Rodríguez, and Maritza Tirú
Staff:	Werner Oyanadel, Acting Executive Director and Clarisa Cardone, Sr. Legislative Secretary

**Tape 1 A**

**Commissioner Yolanda Castillo** chaired the meeting as Chairman Díaz, Esq. was not present. She also did the roll call. Quorum was established.

**Public Participation:** Ms. Ana Maria García, Results Based Accountability Training and Mr. Chris Pallato, Vice President of the YMCA.

**Commissioner Montalvo** came in at 5:43 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion made to approve the minutes of March 21, 2012 by Commissioner Montalvo and seconded by Commissioner Honorable Castro. Motion approved as follows:**

**8 Yeas: Commissioners Arroyo, Hon. Castro, Fernandez, Marcano, Sr., Montalvo, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Torres**

**6 Absent: Chairman Díaz, Esq., Commissioners Candal, Esq., Cruz, Dr. Mañjon, Rodríguez and Tirú**

**CHAIRPERSON'S/ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Mr. Oyanadel** highlighted the fact that LPRAC hosted a Press Conference about the outcome of our latest 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the Socio Economic Study. This press conference was extremely well attended by Connecticut lawmakers including most of the Latino Legislators and several of our Commissioners. CTN, Univision and Telemundo were also present and tomorrow this story will be released by CTNEWSJUNKIE.COM among others. They are going to be publishing the whole press conference on-line and CTN and we are planning to upload it to our state website. Mr. Oyanadel commended Commissioners Castillo, Salorio (who got a round of applause from everyone), Arroyo and Rodríguez Reyes who served as our Mistress of Ceremony. In the next couple of days, LPRAC staff will be prepare an Op Ed piece and we will be talking to different media outlets to see if they want to do a story based upon the data we released. He also got a phone call from the Press Office from the House of Representatives and they said that some of the Latino Legislators in the CT General Assembly will be re-posting the Press Release in their websites and they will be commending LPRAC for the work of this event as well. He wanted to congratulate the Commission on the excellent event today.

**Motion made to approve the Chairperson's/Executive Director's report by Commissioners Dr. Salorio and seconded by Commissioner Castro.**

**Discussion:**

**Commissioner Arroyo** said that he saw the few acts concerning different issues affecting our community in your report and basically he looked at the act concerning the new barbershop apprenticeship program and he noticed that our proposal is to have 16 year old be licensed and apprentice.

**Mr. Oyanadel** said yes that LPRAC actually introduced a proposal at the beginning of the year and we asked the Health Committee in the Legislature to introduce the bill that will allow for the creation for an apprenticeship program so that young barbers could essentially be allowed to practice their trade while they work under the presence of a master barber in the State of CT. Unfortunately, the Health Committee in the Legislature wrote a bill that was really awful because they basically wanted to create a study that later down the road will be reviewed by the

Legislature and that is not what we were envisioning to do right now. Commissioner Montalvo and he met with the co-chairs of the Health Committee and they invited State Representative González, they invited the Health Department and the Department of Labor, all to sit down and to see if they can amend another bill in the Legislature so that we can pass it this year. Unfortunately, the Dept. of Labor was not present at that meeting and the outcome of this bill this year is unknown.

**Motion approved as follows:**

**8 Yeas: Commissioners Arroyo, Hon. Castro, Fernandez, Marcano, Sr., Montalvo, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Torres**

**6 Absent: Chairman Díaz, Esq., Commissioners Candal, Esq., Cruz, Dr. Mañjon, Rodríguez and Tirú**

#### **PUBLIC INFORMATION/TALENT BANK COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Commissioner Rodríguez Reyes, Chair for this committee** reported the following

1. They met on Tuesday, April 10, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. Commissioner Rick Cruz and Mr. Oyanadel were in attendance.
2. They discussed the Press Conference that was held today and
3. They discussed their outreach plan for LPRAC. In specific, the importance of conducting a paid outreach public information campaign about the work that LPRAC has done. The committee recommends LPRAC to allocate \$40,000 of LPRAC's funds for fiscal year 2013 for this purpose. They want to get the message out about our commission using message, branding, tv, radio, newsprint and so therefore if we can get a public relations agency, an advertising agency. If we put out a proposal to see how they would see us branding throughout the state so it was recommended that we need a motion to approve this allocation from the commission.

**Commissioner Honorable Castro** asked if it is going to be a bidding process for the company that is going to oversee this or an RFP.

**Commissioner Rodríguez Reyes** It is going to be an RFP.

**Motion made to approve the Public Information/Talent Bank Committee report by Commissioner Montalvo and seconded by Commissioner Hon. Castro. Motion approved as follows:**

**8 Yeas: Commissioners Arroyo, Hon. Castro, Fernandez, Marcano, Sr., Montalvo, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Torres**

**6 Absent: Chairman Díaz, Esq., Commissioners Candal, Esq., Cruz, Dr. Mañjon, Rodríguez and Tirú**

#### **PRIORITIES & LEGISLATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Mr. Oyanadel** reported in the absence of Commissioner Candal, Esq., Chair of this committee. He said that the committee met over the phone on Wed., April 11, 2012 at Noon on the phone. Commissioners Cruz, Honorable Castro and he were in attendance. They discussed the following:

1. Senate Bill 24 – An Act Concerning Educational Competiveness;
2. Senate Bill 364 – An Act Concerning Traffic Stop Information;
3. A discussion about Secure Communities Program;
4. They testified in support of several components within Senate Bill 24 at two public hearings hosted by the Education committee of the CGA and presented their testimony before the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus and the NAACP;
5. They also participated in a Racial Profiling Task Force conducted by AAAC and the Commission on Human Rights & Opportunities Commission to speak in support of SB 364;
6. In reference to the Secure Communities, he wanted to remind the Commission that LPRAC wrote a letter to the Governor to ask him for a delay of implementation until a thorough review of this program or to “opt out” of this program all together but Mike Lawlor, Governor Malloy’s Under Secretary for Criminal Justice called us back in response to our letter and agreed with us that there are legitimate concerns when it comes to the implementation of the Secure Communities Program and as a matter of fact the Governor asked for and received a delay in the activation because of these concerns. What this program does is it essentially converts local law enforcement officers into defector agents of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency (ICE). The Governor shares the opinion of many police chiefs that this policy could lead to a situation where victims and witnesses in the immigrant community would be reluctant to cooperate with local and state law enforcement, something that would completely undermine the goals of this program. “The Governor has asked Department of Corrections Commissioner Leo Arnone to create an ongoing review of how this program is implemented and what the ramifications are, and see what if any corrective action is needed going forward. Decisions on how to respond to each request will be made on a case-by-case basis.”

**Commissioner Arroyo** left at 6:27 p.m.

7. At the invitation from the Speaker of the House, LPRAC had a staff person at the English Language Learners (ELL) taskforce and they just conducted their last meeting. Their recommendations maybe included in the education reform legislation.

**Commissioner Marcano, Sr.** left at 6:33 p.m.

**Commissioner Castillo** said that we, as a Commission, should monitor this.

**Motion made to approve the Priorities & Legislation Committee report by Commissioner Fernandez and seconded by Commissioner Hon. Castro. Motion approved as follows:**

**6 Yeas: Commissioners Hon. Castro, Fernandez, Montalvo, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Torres  
8 Absent: Chairman Díaz, Esq., Commissioners Arroyo, Candal, Esq., Cruz, Dr. Mañjon, Marcano, Sr., Rodríguez and Tirú**

#### **SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Commissioner Montalvo** reported the following information:

1. They met on Wed., April 11, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. and talked about the Lifetime Achievement Award recipients. One of the places mentioned was the San Juan Center of Hartford, CT as it is the 40<sup>th</sup> year anniversary. Another Commissioner submitted the name of Rosa Correa of Bridgeport; she has supported the community for over 30 years;
2. The subcommittee met on the golf tournament and made several decisions
3. We will meet again on Wed., April 25, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. in Room 2600. The theme for the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Awards is "Unsung Heroes".

#### **Tape 1 B**

**Motion made to approve the Special Projects Committee report by Commissioner Hon. Castro and seconded by Commissioners Fernandez and Dr. Salorio. Motion approved as follows:**

**6 Yeas: Commissioners Hon. Castro, Fernandez, Montalvo, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Torres  
8 Absent: Chairman Díaz, Esq., Commissioners Arroyo, Candal, Esq., Cruz, Dr. Mañjon, Marcano, Sr., Rodríguez and Tirú**

#### **RESULTS BASED ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Commissioner Montavlo, Chair for this committee** said that we are trying to get the RBA sessions done before the golf tournament. It's an Ad Hoc Committee under Special Projects Committee. She also mentioned that she started the RBA Training today.

**Motion made to approve the RBA Committee report by Commissioner Hon. Castro and seconded by Commissioner Dr. Salorio.**

#### **Discussion:**

**Commissioner Dr. Salorio** asked if a week from tomorrow you are doing the Safety RBA here – Gunlocks. Then she corrected and said not Friday because Commissioner Torres who is one of the Commissioners working on that RBA along with Commissioner Marcano, Sr. and neither one of them can attend so we will not conduct it them.

**Commissioner Montavlo** said that the new date for the Safety RBA is Thursday, April 26, 2012 and the topic will be the impact of gunlocks on violence reduction here in Connecticut among Latinos.

**Motion approved as follows:**

**6 Yeas: Commissioners Hon. Castro, Fernandez, Montalvo, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Torres  
8 Absent: Chairman Díaz, Esq., Commissioners Arroyo, Candal, Esq., Cruz, Dr. Mañjon, Marcano, Sr., Rodríguez and Tirú**

#### **OLD & NEW BUSINESS**

**Motion made to approve the issuance of an RFP in accord with the plans of the Public Information Committee by Commissioner Dr. Salorio and seconded by Commissioner Hon. Castro.**

#### **Discussion:**

**Commissioner Hon. Castro** said that the discussion is that \$40,000 so that it's approved so they can move ahead with the beautiful perfect timing plan that they have.

**Commissioner Montavlo** asked do we have actually that kind of money to move on into this, where is this money coming from?

**Mr. Oyanadel** said that one of the reasons why we are not doing this program during this fiscal year is because we don't have that type of money for that but that's why the committee decided to recommend this expenditures in fiscal year 2013.

**Commissioner Montavlo** said that we have not yet gone after the General Assembly to get money to hire a Director for our Agency but yes we are going on and spend \$40,000. Can someone give her some kind of rationale on this?

**Mr. Oyanadel** responded that the funds for this outreach plan will be used from already allocated funds. The monies are going to come from our agency's "other expenses account" and not from our personnel line item so this has no impact for our staff for next year.

**Motion approved as follows:**

**5 Yeas: Commissioners Hon. Castro, Fernandez, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Torres**

**1 Nay: Commissioner Montalvo**

**8 Absent: Chairman Díaz, Esq., Commissioners Arroyo, Candal, Esq., Cruz, Dr. Mañjon, Marcano, Sr., Rodríguez and Tirú**

**Commissioner Castillo** said that there is a recommendation that Commissioner Torres become the Chairman of the Special Projects Committee.

**Commissioner Torres** accepted the position.

**Commissioner Rodríguez Reyes** said that if LPRAC is not going to have a booth at the Latino Expo. Any Commissioners that can attend can share within her booth from La Voz Hispana all the materials available to promote our upcoming events.

**Commissioner Montalvo** said that at the last meeting we held a vote to have LPRAC purchase a booth at this event in East Haven. Commissioner Rodríguez Reyes is directly involved with this event because of her personal business and therefore this constitutes a conflict of interest. Commissioner Rodríguez-Reyes should have abstained from this vote.

**Commissioner Castillo** who is she pointing this out to, Commission as a whole or Commissioner Rodríguez Reyes?

**Commissioner Montalvo** she answered that she is pointing it out to both.

**Commissioner Rodríguez Reyes** asked for a legal opinion to be requested on this issue. She does not believe that her vote constituted a conflict of interest because her involvement with this event is non profit and there is no exchange of money and the event itself is a free community engagement event about programs available in the community for the Latino family.

**Commissioner Castillo** said that it looks like there are two separate issues at hand in this dialogue, one is the potential conflict of interest on the vote by one of our commissioners and the other, is the fact that the motion failed which means LPRAC will not pay for a booth at this event.

**Mr. Oyanadel** stated that even if Commissioner Rodríguez-Reyes abstained from voting the vote still would have carried but reminded everyone that in the final vote the Commission still felt that we should not buy a booth at this event anyways.

**Commissioner Montalvo** added that through the state, they offer ethics training and it's free. She's going to recommend that the commissioners take advantage of this and go to these trainings. One thing is when you are working at a local level and it's a different thing when you are dealing at the state level. It will be very important to get this training.

**Commissioner Fernandez** asked a question to the Acting Executive Director, if we have a procedure in place when you have any ethics questions, do you call somewhere, do you write a letter, what is the procedure if there is one?

**Mr. Oyanadel** replied by saying that if the board of LPRAC votes in favor of making such a request, the LPRAC staff would write an official letter on behalf of LPRAC to the Ethics Commission seeking clarification about an issue we may have.

**Motion made to adjourn at 7:09 p.m. by Commissioner Castillo and seconded by Commissioner Hon. Castro. Motion approved unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted by,

Yolanda Castillo, Secretary  
LPRAC Board

YC:cjc