



**State of Connecticut**  
**Latino and Puerto Rican**  
**Affairs Commission**

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**Vice Chair**

*Elena Trueworthy, M.S.*

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*Emanuela Palmares-Leaf*

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**Former Chairman**

*Isaías T. Díaz, Esq.*

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*Ana Gonzalez*

*Jay Gonzalez*

*George Hernández*

*Dr. Agnes Quiñones*

*Dr. Eugene M. Salorio*

*Pablo Soto*

*Feny Taylor*

*Danny Torres*

**Executive Director**

*Werner Oyanadel*

**Special Projects Director**

*Lucia Goicoechea-Hernández*

**Associate Legislative Analyst**

*Orlando Rodríguez*

**Senior Legislative Secretary**

*Clarisa Cardone*

**MINUTES**  
**LPRAC Regular Commission Meeting**  
**September 17, 2014**  
**Legislative Office Building Room 2D**  
**Hartford, CT**  
**5:30 p.m.**

Commissioners Present:	Ramón L. Arroyo, Yolanda Castillo, Richard A. Cruz, Roberto Fernández, Ana González, Dr. Agnes Quiñones, Dr. Eugene Salorio, Pablo Soto, Elena Trueworthy, M.S.
Commissioner on the phone:	Jay González, George Hernández and Danny Torres
Commissioners Absent:	Francisco Borres, Migdalia Castro, Isaías T. Díaz, Esq., Emanuela Palmares Leaf and Fenny Taylor
Staff:	Werner Oyanadel, Executive Director, Lucia Goicoechea Hernández, Special Projects Director, Orlando Rodríguez, Associate Legislative Analyst and Clarisa Cardone, Sr. Legislative Secretary

**Tape 1 A**

**Chairman Cruz** asked **Board Treasurer Commissioner Yolanda Castillo** to do roll call as Commissioner Emanuela Palmares Leaf was absent. Quorum was established. He then announced our first speaker for public participation.

**Public Participation:**

**Nora Duncan, State Director of AARP CT.** She discussed with members of the board her vision to conduct mutual outreach efforts with LPRAC in the near future. She is particularly interested on increasing the Latino recruitment efforts of high level volunteers, AARP Executive Council, Board and Advisory Council. She will work with LPRAC staff and leaders from LPRAC on a document that will highlight our mutual efforts at no cost to LPRAC.

**Chairman Cruz** also gave her a big thank you for her support.

**Cheri Quickmire, Executive Director of Common Cause in Connecticut** was not available.

**Erin Boggs, Executive Director of Open Communities Alliance** which is a new Civil Rights Nonprofit Advocacy Agency spoke about affordable housing and regarding how state housing regulations in Connecticut are not in compliance with current fair housing laws. The CT Constitution stipulates that the State shall not promote segregation and therefore she would love to work closely with LPRAC on potential legislation in the near future to correct this problem.

**Commissioner Soto** asked to make sure they get a copy of the report.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion made to approve the minutes of July 16, 2014 by Commissioner Quiñones and seconded by Commissioner Fernández. Motion was adopted by voice vote with one abstention.**

**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

**Chairman Cruz** reported the following:

1. Commended each Commissioner and Staff for attending the Retreat. We have a second working draft of our 2015 Legislative Agenda. Also, there is a summary in your packets that was put together by Mrs. Goicoechea Hernández. He also commended all the speakers and would like to invite Ms. Morales on how to best conduct our commission meetings. He apologized to Commissioner Dr. Salorio for bumping him off the agenda and his willingness to yield his time. He will be providing us his training on RBA 101 today.
2. I have asked Commissioner Fernandez to speak about a concern in the Windham area.

3. We are currently celebrating National Hispanic Heritage month and in your package there is a Presidential message on observing this month. We have several outreach efforts to respond to his call.
4. We have La Feria de la Familia this Sunday and he would like to see some of the Board members there.
5. He would like to thank Mr. Rodriguez who was the Keynote Speaker at the Hispanic Heritage event at CCSU last week.
6. He also would like to thank Mr. Oyanadel who will be the Keynote Speaker at a Public Hispanic Month Celebration at the DCF in the month of October. The commission normally celebrates Hispanic Heritage month by having an exhibit at the LOB but unfortunately, this year it is postponed due to nonrelated problems with the policy for exhibits at the LOB with Legislative Leadership and Legislative Management. Once it is fixed we shall continue our celebration at the LOB.
7. There is an issue brought to our attention by Univision and Entravision. The General Manager would like to find our position regarding the merger between Time Warner and Comcast. Our television station is against it, is there a way that the competition may impact negatively the Latino market.

**Motion made to accept Chairperson's report by Commissioner Arroyo and seconded by Commissioner Trueworthy. Motion was adopted by voice vote.**

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- LPRAC staff is working with our financial administrators preparing our agency budget submittal for the FY16 FY17 Biennium.
- Governor Malloy met with (LPRAC) – as a result of the motion that LPRAC adopted requesting such meeting in July 2014 – to discuss the refugee crisis affecting Latino children crossing the border. During this meeting, the Governor made clear that his first and foremost concern was the appropriate placement for the children, including reuniting them with family members. During this meeting, LPRAC Commissioners and partners highly recommended the need for Connecticut to be proactive in its stance and efforts to ensure that all the children who have family members in Connecticut or who can have an appropriate placement in our state, are supported by the Administration. The dialogue between LPRAC and Governor Malloy resulted in several action steps that will be implemented to improve the communication and collaboration between the Commission and the Governor's office. These action steps include:
  1. Quarterly meetings with LPRAC to discuss current issues affecting the Latino community, and where in agreement, proactively collaborate to align strategic policy and practice efforts that will result in better outcomes for Latino residents of Connecticut;
  2. Improved communication with both LPRAC, the Latino media outlets, and the Latino community - LPRAC will work more closely with the Governor's media staff to improve the channel of communication with critical Latino media sources in an accurate and linguistically appropriate manner.
- As you are probably aware, (LPRAC) is an official member of the Racial Profiling Advisory Board as a result of legislation that made enhancements to the Alvin W. Penn Racial Profiling Prohibition Act in 2012. This law requires the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) in consultation with the Advisory Board and the Institute for Municipal & Regional Policy to design a system to implement this new law and submit an annual report to the Governor and CT General Assembly reviewing the prevalence, disposition of traffic stops and complaints in our state. This report was released last week and covers the period from October 1, 2013 through May 31, 2014. As such it provides the first statewide reporting of traffic stop data in more than two decades. It is important to note that this partial-year data, although informative, does "not" provide a complete picture of agency performance. A supplemental report will be released in January 2015 with a full year of traffic stop data, which is excellent news to LPRAC because we have significant concerns about the accuracy of one of several tools we, are creating to provide a more stringent analysis of this information. It is our hope to work with members of the advisory board and project staff on ways to improve what is known as the Estimated Driving Population (EDP) system in order to avoid values that in our opinion have the potential of mask racial profiling.
- I received a request from Sulma Avenancio, Senior Vice President of Integrated Marketing Solutions/General Manager of Entravision regarding the recently proposed merger of Comcast and Time Warner Cable under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Mrs. Avencio would like to find out if LPRAC has taken a position about this merger which she is currently opposed to on behalf of Entravision. She specifically asked if the Commission opposed the merger that we send a letter to the FCC asking them to reject the merger.
- The "Drive Only" Train the Trainer Program has been scheduled by the CT DMV and LPRAC for Friday, September 26th at Goodwin College. The purpose of this program is to prepare immigrant community leaders/organizers of the new Connecticut DMV "Drive Only" License program so they can assist immigrant families in applying for the "Drive Only" driver's license through DMV. The Program will provide an overview of the program as well as explain the basics of the required documents, applying online through the DMV website, studying the driver's manual, taking the written knowledge test and the

road test. Thus far we have 60 community leaders registered but we need more help from the commission identifying more leaders. Seating is limited to 150 so pre sign-up is required not later than September 22nd.

- LPRAC is sponsoring Telemundo's "La Feria de La Familia" scheduled for Sunday, September 21, 2014 from 12:00pm to 5:00pm. For the record, La Feria de la Familia is community event designed to deliver information, services in a festive family atmosphere. LPRAC staff is planning to be there all day or portions thereof in order to publicize our upcoming scholarship awards ceremony and sell tickets as much as humanly possible. We would greatly appreciate the assistance from the board in order to help us expand our outreach in this important event.
- LPRAC received confirmation from the Mayor's Office from the City of Meriden that our request to host our Commission meeting in their city has been confirmed for Wednesday, October 15 2014. The meeting will be held in the city chambers with a capacity for 30 to 40 community leaders. LPRAC staff will be coordinating the food and outreach efforts for this meeting in order to successfully respond to our Commission's motion in regards to this outreach event.
- LPRAC Board/Staff retreat was accomplished successfully last Saturday, September 13, 2014 at the Water's Edge Resort as measured by the number of attendees, achieving consensus for our agency's 2015 Legislative Agenda, and the quality of the program put together for the day's activities. For a summary the retreat notes please see the attachment submitted by Lucia Goicoechea-Hernandez for further information.

**Motion made to accept the Executive Director's report by Commissioner Castillo and seconded by Commissioner Ana González. Motion was adopted by voice vote.**

#### **PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Commissioner Ana González, Chair for this Committee** reported the following:

1. This Sunday, there is the Feria de la Familia hosted by Telemundo from 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm, your support is needed.
2. She spoke about the "Drive Only" Train the Trainer;
3. Also, about October 3<sup>rd</sup> where Mr. Rodríguez is partnering with CBIA on Promoting Careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) in Connecticut's *Latino* Communities.

**Commissioner Fernández** said that CALAHE is having a big event on the same day at CCSU.

**Motion made to accept the Public Information Committee report by Commissioner Castillo and seconded by Commissioner Quiñones. Motion was adopted by voice vote.**

#### **Tape 1 B**

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

**Commissioner Fernández, Chair of this committee** reported that he will be working with Mr. Oyanadel and Mr. Rodriguez for the dates and times and will have them in October. The legislative agenda in draft mode will be sent to all commissioners for the Commission meeting of October.

**Motion made to accept the Priorities and Legislation Committee report by Commissioner Quiñones and seconded by Commissioner Trueworthy. Motion was adopted by voice vote.**

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

**Commissioner Torres, Chair for this Committee** is absent, Mrs. Goicoechea Hernández spoke about the funding that was voted for the scholars. The Office of Legislative Management asked to get an approval by the Board to bring the money given to them from \$2,000 to \$1,000.

**Motion made to accept the Special Projects Committee report by Commissioner Quiñones and seconded by Commissioner Castillo. Motion was adopted by voice vote.**

#### **RBA COMMITTEE**

**Commissioner Salorio, Chair for this Committee** announced that the first RBA on Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Teenage Pregnancy. We already have 23 confirmed attendees. After giving it some thought and asking for some input from Commissioners Soto and Díaz, Esq., we agreed to invite Planned Parenthood and representatives from the faith based communities as well.

**Motion made to accept the RBA Committee report by Commissioner Fernández and seconded by Commissioner Quiñones.**

**Tape 1 B**

**Motion was adopted by voice vote.**

**AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON BY-LAWS**

As Commissioner Díaz, Esq., Chair of this Committee was absent, report was tabled.

**OLD & NEW BUSINESS**

Chairman Cruz spoke asked if anyone have any comments on the Univision merger.

Commissioner Ana González recommended that we abstain from taking a position on this issue.

Chairman Cruz asked Commissioner Fernández to talk about the issue in the schools in Willimantic.

Commissioner Fernández recused himself from the Commission for this discussion. He then spoke about the abrupt cancelation by the President of Quinebaug Valley Community College of the successful P-Tech Model Program in Windham Public Schools. He then left the room.

**Tape 2 A**

**A lengthy discussion took place by the board regarding LPRAC's strategy dealing with the issue of access to quality education and the cancelation of the P-Tech Model Program in Windham, CT.**

**Motion made that we seek a meeting with the President of Quinebaug Valley Community College and at that meeting we ask for:**

- A. An explanation;
- B. We regard it is imperative that the classes be rescheduled;
- C. We will be asking for a meeting 4 weeks from the date of our first meeting to find out what has been done, that we schedule a Press Conference immediately following the meeting including the families and children who are involved and that we seek an audit by Commissioner Dr. Salorio, and amended that we also seek a meeting with the Board of Regents made by Commissioner Ana González and was accepted by Commissioner Salorio and seconded by Commissioner Quiñones.

**Motion was adopted by voice vote (Commissioner Fernandez was not present for this voice vote).**

**Commissioner Fernández returned to meeting.**

**Motion made concerning scholarship awards to our students to decrease from \$2,000 to \$1,000 by Commissioner Soto and seconded by Commissioner Quiñones. Motion was adopted by voice vote.**

**Motion made to postpone the RBA training by Commissioner Salorio and seconded by Commissioner Quiñones. Motion was adopted by voice vote.**

**Motion made to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. by Commissioner Salorio and seconded by Commissioner Castillo. Motion was adopted by voice vote.**

Respectfully submitted by,

Emanuela Palmares Leaf  
Secretary  
LPRAC Board

EPL:cjc