



State of Connecticut
Latino and Puerto Rican
Affairs Commission

18-20 Trinity Street
Hartford, CT 06106
Tel. (860) 240-8330
Fax (860) 240-0315
E-Mail: lprac@cga.ct.gov
Web Site: www.cga.ct.gov/lprac

Chairperson

Isaías T. Díaz, Esq.

Vice Chair

Richard A. Cruz

Secretary

Yolanda Castillo

Treasurer

Dr. Eugene M. Salorio

Commissioners:

Ramón L. Arroyo

Carlos E. Candal, Esq.

Hon. Migdalia Castro

Francisco O. Cuin

Dr. Sonia B. Mañjon

Enrique Marciano, Sr.

Lourdes E. Montalvo

Juan M. Pérez

Ed Rodríguez

Norma Rodríguez-Reyes

Maritza Tirú

Danny Torres

Acting Executive Director

Werner Oyanadel

**Special Projects Director/
Grants Writer**

Lucía Goicoechea-Hernández

Senior Legislative Secretary

Clarisa Cardone

MINUTES
LPRAC Regular Commission Meeting
February 15, 2012
Legislative Office Building, Hartford, Connecticut
5:35 p.m.

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

Tape 1 A

Chairman Díaz, Esq. asked Commissioner Yolanda Castillo to do roll call. Quorum was established.

Public Participation: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made to approve the minutes of January 18, 2012 by Commissioner Montalvo and seconded by Commissioner Rodríguez.

Motion approved as follows:

10 Yeas: Commissioners Candal, Esq., Castillo, Hon. Castro, Cruz, Cuin, Montalvo, Rodríguez, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Torres

1 Abstention: Commissioner Arroyo

4 Absent: Commissioners Dr. Mañjon, Marciano, Sr., Pérez and Tirú

CHAIRPERSON'S/ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Please see attachment A for a copy of the written Chairperson's & Acting Executive Director's Report

Motion made to approve the Chairperson's/Executive Director's report by Commissioner Rodríguez and seconded by Commissioner Montalvo. Motion approved as follows:

11 Yeas: Commissioners Arroyo, Candal, Esq., Castillo, Hon. Castro, Cruz, Cuin, Montalvo, Rodríguez, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Torres

4 Absent: Commissioners Dr. Mañjon, Marciano, Sr., Pérez and Tirú

PUBLIC INFORMATION/TALENT BANK COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Rodríguez Reyes, Chair for this committee presented a verbal report on the following information:

1. The only two members on this committee are Commissioner Cruz and herself and she hopes to motivate other commissioners to participate in her committee so that they work together on a new marketing plan for our agency for the upcoming year. She proposed meeting 4 times a year with the objective of conducting a comprehensive outreach campaign to get people in our community to know who we are and what we do in the legislature. She intends to utilize traditional media and some of the innovative media, radio, tv, and newspaper to get our message out to our community. She would like LPRAC to buy text messaging, data, radio and written media to move with this aggressive marketing plan. Finally, she will work with the committee updating our agency's talent bank.

Motion made to approve the Public Information/Talent Bank Committee report by Commissioner Rodríguez, and seconded by Commissioners Montalvo and Hon. Castro.

Chairman Díaz, Esq. suggested that we also do a Twitter account; they have Twitter blasts as well.

Tape 1 B

Mr. Oyanadel said that we have two databases at LPRAC, one that contains about 20,000 names of people that are interested in the issues of LPRAC and then we have a smaller database for people who are interested in being appointed to a commission/board. The last time he checked there were only 200 names in that database but unfortunately the data is outdated;

Commissioner Montalvo made recommended to utilize interns from Eastern Connecticut State University to help update our talent bank database;

Motion approved as follows:

11 Yeas: Commissioners Arroyo, Candal, Esq., Castillo, Hon. Castro, Cruz, Cuin, Montalvo, Rodríguez, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Torres

4 Absent: Commissioners Dr. Mañon, Marcano, Sr., Pérez and Tirú

PRIORITIES & LEGISLATION COMMITTEE VERBAL REPORT

Commissioner Candal, Esq., Chair of this committee informed LPRAC that the committee held a fact finding hearing on Driver's Licenses for immigrants during the month and received input as to different aspects of the real id act and the benefits of the immigrants to obtain their driver's licenses in our state regardless of their immigration status. He also stated that the committee released our agency priorities for the upcoming year which include education reform, racial profiling and help to Latino entrepreneurs. And since the Governor's proposal revokes the appropriation for a pending disparities study of \$500,000 in FY2012 and \$500,000 FY2013, the Latino businesses desperately need to have their economic well being protected and that Latino owned businesses are drastically underrepresented in the existing set-aside program. We are confident a disparities study will confirm this belief and would result in a dramatic increase in the percentage of work the Latino businesses will receive from those state contracts. We also want to recommend that LPRAC write a strong letter to the Appropriations Committee urging them to support the funding for the disparities study and/or increase the percentage immediately and write a letter to the Appropriations Committee to fully fund the Latino non-profits.

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

11 Yeas: Commissioners Arroyo, Candal, Esq., Castillo, Hon. Castro, Cruz, Cuin, Montalvo, Rodríguez, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Torres

4 Absent: Commissioners Dr. Mañon, Marcano, Sr., Pérez and Tirú

SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Montalvo reported on behalf of Commissioner Pérez, Committee Chair who is not present.

She said that the committee met last week and talked about the 15th annual scholarship award ceremony scheduled for Saturday, August 25th. The committee reached out to Verizon Wireless regarding the payment that we should be receiving from them this year and were told that they will pay in 2013 which means that we are going to have to do more fundraising; We continue seeking nominations for the scholarships and we need to get out there and make a stronger effort to increase the participation this year. Furthermore, the committee staff reached out to 4 courses as requested by OLM and at least 3 of them have agreed to consider our proposal and OLM has mailed out the paperwork to each and had asked for two weeks response. The Special Projects Sub-Committee moved the golf tournament date from May 31st to June 28th, 2012 in order to accommodate the lack of facilities responding to the RFP. The Socio-Economic Study RFP was awarded to the Center of Research and Public Policy and the Tribute to Hispanic Veterans will be Friday, May 18th, 2012 at the Atrium at the LOB at 6:00 pm. We are still waiting for an official response regarding our request to host our scholarship reception at the Casino. We have received the last payments from the two walk-ins on our event on October 22nd, 2011 and therefore it is all finalized. Finally, on the RBA training, Commissioner Pérez asked that in the March Commission meeting, we take time to have Ana Maria García train our Commissioners on RBA 101.

Motion made to approve the Special Projects Committee report by Commissioners Castillo and Rodríguez Reyes, and seconded by Commissioner Torres.

Discussion:

Commissioner Rodríguez spoke in reference to Verizon Wireless withholding payment until 2013 instead of what they had originally committed to and then soliciting a meeting to request ways where they can drive potential applicants to the sites and all the perks of our agreement. He cautions that when we put things like this in writing that it is in the right context so that it doesn't come out the wrong way.

Commissioner Montalvo mentioned that they would like to know if LPRAC can have a link or any other way where they can post their jobs on our website.

Commissioner Torres asked why can't we do the link to the Facebook page.

Mr. Oyanadel said that we can not post any company/business logos on our official state webpage but the Commission may consider putting it on our informal agency Facebook page.

Motion approved as follows:

11 Yeas: Commissioners Arroyo, Candal, Esq., Castillo, Hon. Castro, Cruz, Cuin, Montalvo, Rodríguez, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Torres

4 Absent: Commissioners Dr. Mañjon, Marcano, Sr., Pérez and Tirú

RESULTS BASED ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Cuin, Co-Chair of this Committee reported on their RBA Turn the Curve on issues regarding Education. They met on February 8, 2012 and were scheduled to have a Turn the Curve Session on February 22 from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. There is an issue with the public hearing on education reform happening the same day so the committee decided to postpone it until further notice.

Commissioner Montalvo reported on their RBA Turn the Curve Session for small businesses. They had a teleconference on February 3rd with Commissioner Rodríguez and they have a theme "Latino Business Access to Opportunities in the State of CT". He said that we should go with the topics of AAA, Access to Opportunities, Access to Decision Making and Access to Capital. They also need to develop and create a Business Advisory Committee with the Governor. The Discrimination RBA committee met on February 9th and the Commissioners present were: Myself, Commissioner Hon. Migdalia Castro, Chairman Díaz, Commissioners Pérez and Candal, Esq., all on the phone. The topic is Racial Profiling and the tentative date is Monday, March 12, 2012 between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. at the LOB. Commissioners Marcano, Sr. and Torres are looking to do some work in their RBA which is in Safety.

Motion made to approve the RBA Committee report by Commissioners Castillo and Rodríguez and seconded by Commissioner Dr. Salorio.

Discussion:

Mr. Oyanadel said that he heard the RBA Committee finished their Turn the Curve report on issues dealing with Obesity and Diabetes and asked if they've seen the final report, he didn't see it in the packets.

Commissioner Montalvo said that the final report was not in the packets but Mrs. Goicoechea Hernández sent it out by email she copied everyone. She then said that perhaps it can be forwarded at the next meeting.

Commissioner Castillo said that it is very important that LPRAC to have the RBA training and at our next commission meeting, we have our RBA training with Ana Maria García.

Mr. Oyanadel said he agrees with Commissioner Castillo's commentary. He also said that Commissioner Dr. Mañjon did very well when she was organizing the education one. When she met with people from ConnCam, she asked them if they have the indicators A, B & C. They responded yes and when she asked if they have the same indicators the 3 years past and if they have any projections for the future and they said yes they do and they were able to capture the data she was looking for. Having this information collected and the training are key components to make sure that we are going to be successful conducting these Turn the Curve events in the future.

Motion approved as follows:

11 Yeas: Commissioners Arroyo, Candal, Esq., Castillo, Hon. Castro, Cruz, Cuin, Montalvo, Rodríguez, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Torres

4 Absent: Commissioners Dr. Mañjon, Marcano, Sr., Pérez and Tirú

Commissioner Arroyo left at 7:00 p.m.

OLD & NEW BUSINESS

Motion made to schedule Ana Maria García to come to our meeting next month to give RBA training by Commissioner Castillo and seconded by Commissioners Hon. Castro and Rodríguez Reyes. Motion approved as follows:

10 Yeas: Commissioners Candal, Esq., Castillo, Hon. Castro, Cruz, Cuin, Montalvo, Rodríguez, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Torres

5 Absent: Commissioners Arroyo, Dr. Mañjon, Marcano, Sr., Pérez and Tirú

Motion made authorizing the LPRAC Chairman to write a letter to the Governor's Administration in opposition of his proposed budgetary cut for the disparities study with a friendly amendment to send it to the Appropriations Committee and copy the Governor by Commissioner Castillo and seconded by Commissioners Torres, Dr. Salorio and Hon. Castro. Motion approved as follows:

10 Yeas: Commissioners Candal, Esq., Castillo, Hon. Castro, Cruz, Cuin, Montalvo, Rodríguez, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Torres

5 Absent: Commissioners Arroyo, Dr. Mañjon, Marcano, Sr., Pérez and Tirú

Motion made authorizing the Chairman of LPRAC to send a correspondence in opposition to the cuts to all the Latino Non-Profit Agencies to the Appropriations Committee copying the Governor and the Commissioner of DSS by Commissioners Montalvo and Hon. Castro and seconded by Commissioner Dr. Salorio. Motion approved as follows:

10 Yeas: Commissioners Candal, Esq., Castillo, Hon. Castro, Cruz, Cuin, Montalvo, Rodríguez, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Torres
5 Absent: Commissioners Arroyo, Dr. Mañjon, Marcano, Sr., Pérez and Tirú

Motion made to authorize our staff to agree to cosponsor the 2012 Legislative Informational Forum along with AAAC, Permanent Commission on the Status of Women and Dr. Vivian Cross on March 7, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Room 2C by Commissioner Castillo and seconded by Commissioner Rodríguez. Approved as follows:

10 Yeas: Commissioners Candal, Esq., Castillo, Hon. Castro, Cruz, Cuin, Montalvo, Rodríguez, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Torres
5 Absent: Commissioners Arroyo, Dr. Mañjon, Marcano, Sr., Pérez and Tirú

Tape 2A

Commissioner Dr. Salorio said that his appointment has expired on January 31, 2012 and he wrote to his appointing authority some time ago and asked for reappointment and heard back from some assistant but didn't say much. In looking at the expiration dates, there are 9 of us have appointments that have already expired. I would like to know if there is a reason why they are not reappointing people.

Commissioner Rodríguez Reyes said that when she spoke to her appointing authority about reappointing her once again, he said for her to talk to his aide. The aide said that there was no reason why we needed to be reappointed, we were just in until they reappoint somebody else. It's not until now that Commissioner Salorio brings it up that many of us have not been reappointed. We really need to speak to them whether they are going to reappoint us or not and do they have to continue doing this every two years or three years when our term is up.

Chairman Díaz, Esq. suggested that they address all the expired appointments on the LPRAC Appointment list.

Commissioner Castillo said she went through her process and received her letter on Friday, February 10, 2012. We just need to be persistent.

Commissioner Montalvo spoke about drafting a letter to go to the Governor on the Barbers Bill and then we go meet with him.

Chairman Díaz, Esq. asked if the Governor has the authority to prevent the Mayor from enforcing the ordinance.

Mr. Oyanadel said no, the Governor will not be able to make a change to a local ordinance.

Motion made to adjourn at 7:24 p.m. by Commissioner Montalvo and seconded by Commissioner Rodríguez. Motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by,

Yolanda Castillo
Secretary
LPRAC Board

YC:cjc