



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

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**Chairperson**

*Isaías T. Díaz, Esq.*

**Vice Chair**

*Enrique Marciano, Sr.*

**Secretary**

*Maritza Tirú*

**Treasurer**

*Ed Rodríguez*

**Commissioners:**

*Ramón L. Arroyo*

*Carlos E. Candal, Esq.*

*Yolanda Castillo*

*Hon. Migdalia Castro*

*Richard A. Cruz*

*Francisco O. Cuin*

*Dr. Sonia B. Mañjon*

*Lourdes E. Montalvo*

*Juan M. Pérez*

*Norma Rodríguez-Reyes*

*Dr. Eugene M. Salorio*

*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**  
**November 16, 2011**  
**Legislative Office Building, Hartford, Connecticut**  
**6:09 p.m.**

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

**Tape 1A**

**Chairman Díaz, Esq.** asked Mrs. Cardone to do roll call as Commissioner Maritza Tirú, Secretary of the Board was on the phone. Quorum was not established.

**Public Participation:** None

**Commissioner Candal, Esq.** came in at 6:15 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion made to approve the minutes of October 19, 2011 by Commissioner Cuin and seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Motion approved as follows:**

**11 Yeas: Commissioners Candal, Esq., Cruz, Cuin, Marciano, Sr., Dr. Mañjon, Montalvo, Pérez, Rodríguez, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Tirú**

**0 Abstentions**

**4 Absent: Commissioners Arroyo, Castillo, Honorable Castro and Torres**

**Motion to suspend the meeting by Commissioner Montalvo and seconded by Commissioner Marciano, Sr. Motion approved unanimously.**

**11 Yeas: Commissioners Candal, Esq., Cruz, Cuin, Marciano, Sr., Dr. Mañjon, Montalvo, Pérez, Rodríguez, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Tirú**

**0 Abstentions**

**4 Absent: Commissioners Arroyo, Castillo, Honorable Castro and Torres**

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Commissioner Rodríguez Reyes** stated that it is indeed an honor and a privilege to have been chosen to be the Chair of the Nomination Committee. She spoke to all the members of the Nominating Committee and they decided to follow the same process used two years ago. She received a nomination from Isaías T. Díaz, Esq. for the position of Chairman. She asked if there was anyone else interested in the Chair's position but there was no response.

**Chairman:** Commissioner **Isaías T. Díaz, Esq., Voted unanimously**

She then said that she received a nomination from Richard A. Cruz for the position of Vice Chair. She asked if there was anyone else interested in the position of Vice Chair three times. There was no-one.

**Vice Chair:** Commissioner **Richard A. Cruz, Voted unanimously**

She then stated that she received a nomination from Yolanda Castillo for the position of Secretary. She asked if there was anyone else interested in the position of Secretary three times. There was no-one.

**Secretary:** Commissioner **Yolanda Castillo, Voted unanimously**

She then said that she received a nomination from Dr. Eugene Salorio for the position of Treasurer. She asked if there was anyone else interested in the position of Treasurer three times. There was no-one.

**Treasurer:** Commissioner **Dr. Eugene Salorio, Voted unanimously**

**Motion to restore the meeting by Commissioner Rodríguez Reyes and seconded by Commissioner Montalvo. Motion approved unanimously.**

**11 Yeas: Commissioners Candal, Esq., Cruz, Cuin, Marcano, Sr., Dr. Mañjon, Montalvo, Pérez, Rodríguez, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Tirú**

**0 Abstentions**

**4 Absent: Commissioners Arroyo, Castillo, Honorable Castro and Torres**

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

**Chairman Díaz, Esq.** updated the LPRAC as follows:

1. That the LPRAC 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony was a total success and he will have Commissioner Juan Pérez address it.
2. Acting Executive Director, Werner Oyanadel spoke at a press conference organized by the Secretary of the State of Connecticut on October 26, 2011 regarding the official release of the first-ever Index of Connecticut's Civic Health – Commissioner Cruz was also in attendance and Ms. Lourdes Montalvo was also there in her capacity as a representative of the Secretary of the State;
3. Chairman Díaz also indicated that Mr. Oyanadel provided training to students with disabilities about legislative advocacy and empowerment at the Hispanic Health Council on Friday, October 28, 2011;
4. Chairman Díaz also informed the board that there was a Turn the Curve Session on Obesity and Diabetes and that he participated on Tuesday, November 8, 2011;

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

**11 Yeas: Commissioners Candal, Esq., Cruz, Cuin, Marcano, Sr., Dr. Mañjon, Montalvo, Pérez, Rodríguez, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Tirú**

**0 Abstentions**

**4 Absent: Commissioners Arroyo, Castillo, Honorable Castro and Torres**

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

**Commissioner Cruz, Chairman of this committee** said that both the LPRAC staff and this committee worked this past month on the translation of the LPRAC brochure into Spanish. They are contemplating printing 2,500 in English and 2,500 in Spanish. Commissioner Cruz also asked for more volunteers for this committee to work on the LPRAC website and other public information functions.

**Motion made to approve the Public Information/Talent Bank Committee report by Commissioner Rodríguez-Reyes, and seconded by Commissioner Candal, Esq. Motion approved as follows:**

**11 Yeas: Commissioners Candal, Esq., Cruz, Cuin, Marcano, Sr., Dr. Mañjon, Montalvo, Pérez, Rodríguez, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Tirú**

**0 Abstentions**

**4 Absent: Commissioners Arroyo, Castillo, Honorable Castro and Torres**

#### **PRIORITIES AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Commissioner Candal, Esq., Chairman of this committee** recommended adopting the approach of using the five priority areas as set forth by our new mandate to guide legislative action. We'll track and monitor bills relating to these areas. The Committee, he added, will continue to work on the implementations of improvements to the Alvin Penn Anti-Profilng Act as well as the contract compliance/small contractor reform set-aside for Latino businesses. Their plan is to continue their work with the Commission on Health Equity work on six health priority areas including HIV AIDS, infant mortality, low birth rate, diabetes, asthma and cancer. We will also support the work of the RBA Committee, particularly the research on diabetes and obesity and support funding for medical interpreters. We'll continue informing political leaders and the general public about the economic benefits of having culturally diverse state boards and commissions and continue supporting our Election Day registration legislation, legislation that allows immigrants to vote in local elections. Last but not least, they are trying to hold a fact finding hearing in January on the driver's license issue.

**Motion made to approve the Priorities and Legislation Committee report by Commissioner Montalvo, and seconded by Commissioner Rodríguez Reyes.**

**Discussion:**

**Commissioner Pérez** announced that the Governor just approved a jobs bill, moneys to be lent to small businesses but the money has been given to banks but the banks do not lend the money. What good does this do? We should have the lady that is talking about the greatness of this bill come and talk to us about this.

**Mr. Oyanadel** commended Commissioner Candal, Esq. for his leadership in the Priorities and Legislation Committee. In particular for synchronizing our legislative agenda with our priority areas listed in our mandate (i.e., Achieving Educational Success, economic self-sufficiency, end-discrimination, improve public safety, and achieve health equity in Connecticut).

**Motion approved as follows:**

**11 Yeas: Commissioners Candal, Esq., Cruz, Cuin, Marcano, Sr., Dr. Mañjon, Montalvo, Pérez, Rodríguez, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Tirú**

**0 Abstentions**

**4 Absent: Commissioners Arroyo, Castillo, Honorable Castro and Torres**

**SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Commissioner Juan M. Pérez, Chairman of this committee** informed the board of Commissioners that he received a lot of positive feedback about our scholarship awards ceremony. He also asked Commissioner Montalvo to report on the work of the committee since he was absent last meeting.

**Commissioner Montalvo** stated that the committee recommends that the 15<sup>th</sup> LPRAC Scholarship Ceremony be changed to the month of August instead of October 2012 and recommends hosting the event at Amarante's Sea Cliff again. She also spoke about the LPRAC retreat saying that the committee recommends the dates of January 27 & 28, 2012 or February 24 & 25, 2012. Please let Lucia Goicoechea Hernández know which dates are good for you. This event will probably be at the Waters Edge in Westbrook, CT. Also, the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Tribute to Hispanic Veterans to be held on Friday, May 18, 2012. It was also recommended to send the package as it is written to the Office of Legislative Management (OLM) for the golf tournament of Wednesday, May 23, 2012.

**Motion made to approve the Special Projects Committee Report made by Commissioner Rodríguez Reyes and seconded by Commissioners Salorio.**

**Discussion:**

**Chairman Díaz, Esq.** suggested doing a secret Santa.

**Commissioner Pérez** suggested a toy for a local charity.

**Motion approved as follows:**

**11 Yeas: Commissioners Candal, Esq., Cruz, Cuin, Marcano, Sr., Dr. Mañjon, Montalvo, Pérez, Rodríguez, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Tirú**

**0 Abstentions**

**4 Absent: Commissioners Arroyo, Castillo, Honorable Castro and Torres**

**Honorable Commissioner Castro** came in at 7:39 p.m.

**RESULTS BASED ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Commissioner Salorio, Co-Chair for this Committee** reported that the committee had a tremendous success on the RBA Turn the Curve session on obesity and diabetes.

**Commissioner Montalvo** said that she reached back to one of the doctor's Family Practitioners from Willimantic, CT and she would like to start a committee in Willimantic to address the issues of obesity and diabetes in the Latino community. The few other speakers that attended the RBA session also told her that they were not aware of the difference in the cultures when it comes to diabetes and obesity. They requested to review these issues again in a few months and have continuous meetings throughout the year.

**Commissioner Dr. Salorio** said that at the September 2011 commission meeting, Commissioner Castillo requested the participation of other members of the commission on various subcommittees of the RBA Committee and they presented a list with their suggestions for each individual member of the board.

**Motion made to approve the RBA Committee report by Commissioners Cruz and Pérez and seconded by Commissioner Candal, Esq.**

**Discussion:**

**Mr. Oyanadel** pointed out the importance of having the LPRAC work under Outcomes-based Accountability. A process used by the State of Connecticut to measurably improve the well-being of all our citizens. The annual report, Mr. Oyanadel pointed out, has to be submitted at the end of the year in just two pages. Mr. Oyanadel mentioned that Mrs. Goicoechea-Hernández did an excellent job last year putting this document together and informed the LPRAC that she will be working again on it this year.

**Motion approved as follows:**

**12 Yeas: Commissioners Candal, Esq., Castro, Cruz, Cuin, Marcano, Sr., Dr. Mañjon, Montalvo, Pérez, Rodríguez, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Tirú**

**0 Abstentions**

**3 Absent: Commissioners Arroyo, Castillo and Torres**

**OLD & NEW BUSINESS**

**Motion made to approve expenditure of \$500.00 for the December 21, 2011 LPRAC Commission meeting by Commissioner Rodríguez-Reyes and seconded by Commissioners Montalvo and Marcano, Sr.**

**Motion approved as follows:**

**12 Yeas: Commissioners Candal, Esq., Castro, Cruz, Cuin, Marcano, Sr., Dr. Mañjon, Montalvo, Pérez, Rodríguez, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Tirú**

**0 Abstentions**

**3 Absent: Commissioners Arroyo, Castillo and Torres**

**Motion made to have the 15<sup>th</sup> LPRAC Annual Scholarship Ceremony at Amarante's Sea Cliff in New Haven, CT from October to August 2012 by Commissioner Montalvo and seconded by Commissioner Cruz.**

**Motion approved as follows:**

**12 Yeas: Commissioners Candal, Esq., Castro, Cruz, Cuin, Marcano, Sr., Dr. Mañjon, Montalvo, Pérez, Rodríguez, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Tirú**

**0 Abstentions**

**3 Absent: Commissioners Arroyo, Castillo and Torres**

**Commissioner Pérez** requested that the LPRAC Chair change the sub-committee Chairs of all the Committees. He also requested that the Chairman consider opening the By-Laws Ad Hoc Committee to review the By-Laws as it's been two years since they were updated last time.

**Mr. Oyanadel** reminded Commissioner Perez, for the record, that the LPRAC By-Laws clearly state in Article V, Section II, Letter C that it is the job of the Chairperson and the Executive Committee to recommend the appointments of all the Co-Chairs of the LPRAC board of Commissioners.

**Motion made to send a request to the Office of Legislative Management to have the LPRAC Retreat at the Waters Edge by Commissioner Montalvo and seconded by Commissioner Cruz.**

**Motion approved as follows:**

**12 Yeas: Commissioners Candal, Esq., Castro, Cruz, Cuin, Marcano, Sr., Dr. Mañjon, Montalvo, Pérez, Rodríguez, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Tirú**

**0 Abstentions**

**3 Absent: Commissioners Arroyo, Castillo and Torres**

**Motion made to have the Golf Tournament on Wednesday, May 23, 2012 for 124 players to send the RFP to OLM with no changes at this point by Commissioner Montalvo and seconded by Commissioner Cruz.**

**Motion approved as follows:**

**12 Yeas: Commissioners Candal, Esq., Castro, Cruz, Cuin, Marcano, Sr., Dr. Mañjon, Montalvo, Pérez, Rodríguez, Rodríguez-Reyes, Dr. Salorio and Tirú**

**0 Abstentions**

**4 Absent: Commissioners Arroyo, Castillo and Torres**

**Commissioner Salorio** said that a new Chair or Co-Chairs for the RBA Committee will be needed as both Commissioner Castillo and himself are now officers on the Executive Board. He also spoke about the Latino Socio Economic Report and informed the LPRAC board that he will work with the LPRAC staff on this project particularly as it relates to issues involved our RBA sub-committee.

**Commissioner Castro** apologized for being late to the meeting due her public responsibilities in New Haven. She asked for the LPRAC to get involved in a statewide campaign against the implementation of the Secure Communities initiative. She stated that the way this federal/state program is currently administered is seriously affecting our immigrant Latino families living in Connecticut.

**Chairman Díaz, Esq.** suggested that she bring this up at the subcommittee level of the Priorities & Legislation Committee. He attends a lot of these meetings via teleconference.

**Commissioner Pérez** said that there is a document in the packets that can help with what she has brought forward.

**Commissioner Rodríguez Reyes left at 7:55 p.m.**

**Commissioner Candal, Esq. left at 7:55 p.m.**

**Commissioner Cruz** spoke of the Annual Parranda party being held in the City of Bridgeport. It's a toy drive and it will be at the German Club on Friday, December 9, 2011 from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. The cost is \$15.00 and everyone should bring a toy. There will be lots of food and prizes, contests, etc.

**Motion made to adjourn at 7:59 p.m. by Commissioner Marcano, Sr. and seconded by Commissioner Salorio. Motion approved unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted by,

Maritza Tirú  
Secretary  
LPRAC Board

MT:cjc