

**Virginia Latino Advisory Board  
Agenda – Friday, June 19, 2015**

Virginia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
8300 Boone Boulevard  
Suite 450  
Vienna, VA 22181

I. Meeting was called to order 12:15 pm

II. Roll Call

a. VLAB members present:

Cecilia Barbosa

Mike Martinez

Aida Pacheco

Gloria Rockhold

Estuardo Rodriguez

Vivian Sanchez Jones

Theresa Speake

Zuraya Tapia-Hadley

Kris Tilley Lubbs

Cecilia Williams

Michel Zajur

John Villamil

Carolina Espinal

Chris J. Falcon

Lucero Soto-Wiley

Public present:

Leni Gonzalez

Ryan O'Toole

Nancy Rodrigues

Rosalia Fajardo

Daniel Cortes

III. Welcome – Estuardo Rodriguez

Discussion on our challenge: timetable for deliverables and recommendations to the Governor. We have 2 more meetings (September and November), but draft report is due for November meeting. We will decide what work will get done here and what work gets done in subcommittees.

Discussion of whether we are in fact limited to 4, is it a matter of wording or interpretation?

IV. Introductions of Board and public attendees

V. Reading of Board VA Statute

- a. Motion was made by Aida Pacheco to make a recommendation to amend VLAB statute to increase number of VLAB meetings from the current 4. We'll continue to discuss next meeting.
- VI. Approval of minutes
- a. John moved to approve, Mike second, Unanimously approved.
- VII. Guest Speakers presented in the following order:
- a. Leni Gonzalez – Enroll Virginia
    - i. Non partisan organization in Virginia to help eligible members of the community enroll in ACA.
    - ii. VA is a federal marketplace, not a State marketplace.
  - b. Delegate Richard Anderson – Veterans Affairs
    - i. Made invitation to VLAB Chairman or designee to attend Veterans Affairs Caucus meeting on Wednesdays during legislation.
  - c. Commissioner Edgardo Cortes – Presented on Department of Elections. Mentioned that in terms of outreach strategy, they often partner with local non profits that have existing relationships.
  - d. Dietra Trent – Deputy Secretary of Education
    - i. Planning Veterans Summit with College Admissions and 23 military institutions
    - ii. Her area of expertise is higher education. 16 4 year colleges and 22 2 year.
    - iii. Focusing on achievement gap – Norfolk, Petersburg, Richmond have least amount of accreditation, as well as completion rates.
    - iv. Pathways to workforce, they receive federal grants for this.
    - v. Looking at changing model to performance based funding (based on graduation rather than enrollment rates).
    - vi. In 2016 greater focus will be on higher ed.
    - vii. 4.5 million USD on programs for credentials-based jobs
    - viii. Questions focused on: what standard if any is there to provide training in diversity for teachers? What support is there for holistic student development (aside from SOLs)? SOL testing has been reduced. Are there any proactive programs to have teachers, staff, and administration more closely mirror the student populations they serve?
  - e. Craig Herndon – Workforce development services (mainly works with community colleges). Discussed the 1-2-7 problem: 1 and 2 being professional careers, which VA has, 7 we need (welders, computer technicians, etc.). In 1950s People with a high school degree escaped poverty, only 7% lived in poverty. Now that's up to 24% of high school grads live in poverty.
    - i. Credentials are fastest way out of poverty.
    - ii. 19 other states already invest in training that leads to credentials.
- VIII. New Business – Criminal Justice

Estuardo raised the importance of this issue, while it is not a specific committee issue it has important implications for the Latino community. Asked for Board's input on areas to discuss within this. Areas mentioned:

Data keeping (tracking Latinos)

Due process issues (timely access to counsel, language limitations,

Workforce development issues (discrimination post re-entry, etc)

Look at data on sentencing and immigration consequences

Voting rights for ex-felons

#### IX. Subcommittee work

##### a. Health Subcommittee topics discussed:

- i. How to get data on how many Latinos are uninsured?
- ii. How to get the # of Latinos who are eligible for ACA compared to overall state #s?
- iii. How to increase outreach?
- iv. What resources are available to do outreach?
- v. Recs to find out how to help individuals with high deductibles.
- vi. Other suggestions made, look at:
  1. Preventive care and health
  2. Reproductive health
  3. Children's health
  4. Agricultural worker's health

##### b. Education Subcommittee topics/recommendations:

- i. Shift workforce development component from Education to business (how to fill the skills gap)
- ii. Cultural competency training for all Ed employees (not just teachers)
- iii. Parental engagement training
- iv. Support system for transition at every education juncture
- v. Resource mapping – at-risk students, reporting protocols, etc.
- vi. Need to measure our progress.

##### c. Business

- i. Held small business forum in May
  1. Takeaways:
    - a. Business community need more info, more outreach.
    - b. Lending opportunities, contracting, etc.
    - c. Suggested Statewide seminars by MBE, etc.
  - ii. Track business data (who is a Latino business?) – Shall we encourage more SWAM certification?
  - iii. Create a network of support vendors for businesses
  - iv. Planning a trade mission to LatAm
  - v. Make ethnicity category to SWAM obligatory
  - vi. Think about discussing homeownership as well.

- d. Civic Engagement recommendations:
  - 1. Review of appointments to understand potential placements for Latinos.
  - 2. Coordinate with Edgardo to determine hot spots for registration efforts and ID program and match up with key Latino areas and host VLAB meetings and encourage engagement there (build local events in those areas); host registration drives at VLAB meetings
  - 3. Work with Latino liaison to stay close to administration updates, share, distribute information to Latino community via VLAB.
  - 4. Explore ways to engage at naturalization ceremonies
  - 5. How do we engage more with agencies?
  - 6. Be part of Governor's remarks at the Latino Summit.
  - 7. Engage more with Veterans for civic participation training and get them out to the communities.
  - 8. VLAB website, as a way to distribute info.
  - 9. Other suggestions:
    - a. Engagement and cultural competencies, for example, how to develop law enforcement and community relations, etc.
    - b. What's the infrastructure within agencies to address cultural issues (building a community infrastructure)
    - c. Let's also look at leadership development in civil society (board development, etc.) - a board development summit?
  
- X. Next steps – Timeline
  - a. Submit report in November
  - b. We meet week of Sept 13, need draft of report by then
  - c. Discussion of format of the report.
  
- XI. Announcements
  - a. Jaime Areizaga, Deputy Secretary for Veterans Affairs mentioned ways in which we can develop our engagement efforts and suggested that we review the Asian American Advisory board report.
  - b. Maribel announced the Governor's Latino Summit on August 5<sup>th</sup>, will focus on health, K-12 ed, SWAM, and economic development.
  
- XII. Public Participation
  - a. It was suggested that we have a scorecard mechanism on our recommendations.
  
- XIII. Adjourned