



**Virginia Latino Advisory Board**  
**June 10, 2016**  
**Minutes**

**Present:** Juan Espnoza, Lucero Wiley, Gloria Rockhold, Aida Pacheco, Zuraya Tapia-Hadley, Julio Cesar Idrobo, Cecilia Williams, Cecilia Barbosa, Sergio Rimola, Keisha Graziadei-Shup, Mike Martinez, Chris Falcon, Juan Espinoza, Diana Vall-Ilobera **On call:** Estuardo Rodriguez, Gonzalo Aida, Louisa Meruvia **Absent:** Alex Rodriguez, Carolina Espinal, John Villamil-Casanova, and Vivian Sanchez-Jones

### **I Working Lunch: Meet and Greet**

Beatriz Amberman, former Chair of the Latino Advisory Board and Community Advocate, welcomed the Board on behalf of the Mayor of Norfolk. The Board was also greeted by staff from Senator Mark Warner and Tim Kaine's office and read their respective letters reinforcing their commitment to the Latino community.

Chair, Aida Pacheco, introduced Jaime Areizaga-Soto, Deputy Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs who inspired the Board with his positive energy and message about the value of our work and the importance of teamwork.

### **II Welcome Remarks**

Chair called the meeting to order and announced that Ryan O'Toole, staff to the Board is getting married this weekend and, therefore, is not able to join us. Following roll call, Chair welcomed new Board members, Juan Espinoza, Keisha, Sergio, and Louisa. Deputy Secretary Jaime Areizaga on behalf of the Governor, presented the official appointment letter and pin. Ms. Meruvia is in Bolivia, but joined us via conference call, and will receive her pin and letter at the next Board meeting. Chair then announced the resignation of Kris who was an active member on the Board for many years. She faithfully attended meetings and drafted some of the annual reports from previous years. She will be missed.

The minutes of the February Board meeting were inadvertently omitted; approval of the minutes will be deferred to the September Meeting.

### **III Health Presentations**

Chair introduced presenters Linda Nablo and Rebecca Mendoza with the Department of Medicaid Assistance Services who shared information on Medicaid, FAMIS and the GAP program; and Dr. Demetria Lindsay with the Virginia Department of Health on the Zika virus. Power point presentations will be forwarded to the Board members electronically and posted on the VLAB website. Chair made a specific request to Ms. Mendoza to provide outreach materials electronically in order to also post on the website.

#### **IV Education System Reforms**

Chair acknowledged Dr. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction, who requested a few minutes to address the Board on the proposed education system reforms on SOLs, accreditation, student profile, report cards, and HS requirements. There will be several public hearings this summer to enlist feedback on the reforms. The Chair invited Dr. Staples to the September meeting to provide the Board with an overview of the reforms and an opportunity to discuss relevancy to Latino students.

#### **V Feedback from the Governor's Office**

Lisette Carbajal wasn't able to make the meeting, but she provided a written document on the 2016 legislative and policy update. Board was asked to review and channel any questions or concerns to Ms. Carbajal.

The Latino Summit is scheduled on October 20, and it was agreed that the Board will be represented on the planning steering committee to be convened sometime in the summer. VLAB didn't have access to the registration list from last year's Summit to build the network of Latino leadership and share information on a regular basis. The recommendation to ask registrants for this year's Summit, if they want to be part of VLAB's distribution list for information sharing, was approved.

Chair provided an update on behalf of the Communication's Workgroup. A handout on recommendations made was distributed. The main focus was on improving VLAB's website. Steve Valdez who serves on the Governor's Board of Volunteerism and Community Service, volunteered his services to help manage the project. Steve prepared a power point that provided a structured framework to help the Communication's Workgroup focus discussion in key areas. The Board was asked to take time to review and provide feedback. Aaron Puritz from the Governor's office was enlisted to incorporate the changes. Concern was raised relative to keeping content current and maintenance beyond this administration. Mike suggested that we have a hybrid, a site created by VLAB joined to the government one. Another recommendation was to explore feasibility of a bilingual website. Communications Workgroup will schedule another meeting and work with Aaron Puritz who committed to make time to have a draft of the revised website in September for Board feedback.

#### **VI Board Governance**

An orientation will be scheduled for new Board members. Ryan prepared notebooks for each Board member that included the by-laws, statute, matrix of Board members, committee meeting guidelines, and staff roles (Board Liaison and Latino Outreach). The contents were not organized by section, so Chair will collect notebooks at the end of the meeting, and will request that subject dividers be included by the next meeting.

Written summaries of staff roles were distributed. The handouts will be included in the notebooks. Results of the Board survey were distributed. The main areas to improve were meeting frequency, Board communication and attendance at committee meetings. Justin (attorney) committed to look into the possibility of holding more meetings.

A point was raised as to how to enlist broader board participation in work – increasing participation by assigning specific tasks and through improved logistics and support from a staff perspective.

The version of the bylaws with the recommended changes wasn't provided. Discussion of the proposed changes will be postponed until the September or December Board meeting. .

## **VII Strategic Plan**

Chair referred to the committee guidelines and reminded Board members that we are required to post meeting dates and agenda on our website in advance and meeting notes within a certain timeframe following the meeting.

Chair distributed copies of strategic plan, which charted all the recommendations and strategies cited in the annual report. She identified common themes across the committees and categorized them under four main categories: 1) Research or Data Gathering 2) Outreach and Education 3) Cultural Competency and Language Access and 4) Training and Workshops

Next steps for committees: 1. Review strategic plan and prioritize work 2. Meet with designated agency staff to provide subject-matter resources and 3) set action plans accordingly.

## **VIII Public Comment**

No public comments were made

## **XI Adjournment**

Chair thanked Board members for their work and patience, as this was her first meeting and the first time Board was without staff support; Diana and Gloria for rearranging the room, Beatriz for getting the beautiful Library and Library staff for accommodating our logistical needs and for their excellent service, Lucero for selecting the hotel and negotiating a block of rooms for the Board at the government rate. It was truly a team effort.

The next meeting will depend on when the Governor will schedule his reception in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Chair reminded Board members to return to the facility by 6:00 p.m. for the Hampton Roads Community Forum

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.