



Chicano Latino Affairs Council
Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Nov. 22, 2010

Council Members: Mario Vargas, Nick Juarez

Staff: Hector Garcia, David Espinoza

Agenda Item	Discussion/Action Summary/Motions Adopted	Follow-Up/Timeline	Person(s) Responsible
Welcome & Review of Agenda	<p>Note: All Board members were invited to the committee meeting. All meetings open to the public.</p> <p>Committee members are responsible for printing out and prepping the documents sent to them. Unless specifically requested, try to not print out copies of documents.</p> <p>Discussion: Attorney General's Discussion with Mario Vargas in regards to all emails only going to one individual.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Committee Chair (CC) Nick Juarez believes that sending documents out should be all right, as long as official discussions are not held via email. He will check with Mario. - ED Hector Garcia notes that he needs to talk to BM Michael Rosario in regards to not being allowed to speak directly to committees until a meeting is held. - Post documents online in Board page to circumvent email issues 		
CLAC's Collaborative Program to Reduce Unemployment	<p>Fact sheet to accompany the bill is currently being developed</p> <p>Getting statistics from Latino OIC and Summit Academy. This information will be used to ballpark statistics for bill.</p> <p>Rep. Mullery and Sen. Torres-Ray cannot champion the bill. Necessary to find new Legislators to be authors of the bill.</p> <p>Find a way to clarify that "minorities" doesn't mean "undocumented immigrants" in the draft of the bill.</p>	ACTION ITEM: Complete fact sheet (next meeting)	

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	Get the committee schedules in the Legislature. This will assist in getting authors. Start drumming up support for the bill at forums and other outings.	ACTION ITEM: Get committee meeting dates (ASAP)	
Role of Legislative Committee	Role of committee has been changing lately to encompass all aspects of CLAC As it sits now, Legislative Committee will continue working on issues and making recommendations to the Board		
Upcoming Legislative Session	<p>We need to make sure to update State and Federal Tracking Charts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RA D. Espinoza suggests using the Board Log-In page to distribute these charts. Updates will be posted to that page, so Board members can just log in and view the documents. Once session begins, the tracking charts will be updated on a daily basis - If we see a bill we believe CLAC should support, especially if it falls in one of our 5 policy areas, create a fact sheet, and take it to February Board meeting for a vote on whether or not CLAC will support it. Even for bills that we don't take an official position on, if it affects the Latino community, we need to follow it. - Need to be careful that CLAC doesn't get used by individuals/organizations for their own agendas. CLAC should not be doing research for special interest groups. Whatever research needs to be done will be decided by the Board. - Legislative Committee will most likely be meeting more frequently with the start of the Legislative Session. - Tracking charts will become essential documents for CLAC as the session progresses. Council members will need to check the website regularly to be kept up-to-date. - Provide links to bill of text. - M. Vargas requests that any analysis be run either through the Legislative Committee or through Committee Chair Nick Juarez. Do not post analysis until approval. He goes on to note that ED. H. Garcia should do the analysis. - Present position statements and fact sheets to Legislators as you meet with them. - Focus on Economic Development right now. Education as well. Health 	ACTION ITEM: Keep both forms updated (daily, once session begins)	

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	and Housing are on the backburner. Health and Housing Fact Sheets are outdated, but will have to wait for summer for an update.		
CLAC Fact Sheet – Economic Development	<p>There is a need to make two separate fact sheets, Economic Development Fact Sheet and Workforce Development Fact Sheet, along with respective position statements</p> <p>There are issues with the Bruce Corrie study. It is too broad and misclassifies. We need to either work him out of the fact sheet or not put so much emphasis on his study.</p> <p>Focus fact sheets on Minnesota. Change perceptions of business owners and workforce.</p>	ACTION ITEM: Create Economic Development and Workforce Development Fact Sheets and Position Statements	
CLAC Position Statements	<p>Position Statement should look at the finances of Economic Development.</p> <p>Discussion: Microloans in Minnesota’s Latino Community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - M. Vargas notes that CLAC may eventually be responsible for creating an organization that will be political in the community. - Who is doing this micro lending in the Latino Community? - What’s the best way CLAC can increase cash flow to these businesses? <p>Economic Development/Community Development Position Statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify 3 or 4 points that CLAC can put down as its official position statement on this topic. <p>Work Force Development Position Statement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Who is doing workforce development in the community? - What would Gillaspay suggest? More likely than not, he would suggest having Minnesota return to what it used to be like. Perhaps we should push workforce centers to help workforce development. - M. Vargas believes that working through workforce centers is going to be critical. <p>For all position statements, we want to promote best practices. What’s the best way that we can channel state/federal money to train Latinos in the state of Minnesota?</p> <p>Broaden idea of what a “Latino-owned business” means.</p>		
Addressing Education	<p>Education needs to be tied to Economic Development.</p> <p>Minnesota needs an educated workforce. How are graduates integrated into the labor market.</p> <p>Tackling the low graduation rate could take up all of our agenda. If we’re going to</p>		

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	<p>propose a strategy, support the strategy that better ties to our Economic Development agenda.</p> <p>Education models differ by area, difficult to mandate a single state system. Different school districts require different models. How can the State increase Latino graduation rate? Is there something the State itself can do?</p> <p>Education is historically a local issue, not a State issue. Schools, school districts, and principals are ultimately accountable.</p> <p>CLAC doesn't do pilot projects, nor does it connect people who do them. CLAC takes those pilot projects, upon completion, and analyzes them to propose something to the State.</p> <p>If a focus on Education is furthered, it may be necessary to write up a report, similar to the Economic Development report.</p> <p>CLAC has had a bad reputation of not delivering, and only using the community as research experiments. If we are going to work on education, we need to have action items attached, something we can work towards to deliver.</p> <p>Whatever program is designed has to have a lot of local participation and successful background. That is something that could be brought to the committee to see what the State can do.</p> <p>Education is too large of a topic, but there are aspects of it that we can support. As a State agency, we could support increasing accountability at the local level on school issues.</p>		
Adjourn	<p>Next Meeting: Dec. 13, 2010. 10:00 am – 11:30 am</p> <p>For next meeting, have the following prepared:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Economic Development and work force development fact sheets and position statements - Updated Bill - Tracking Charts (State Tracking Chart will most likely not include any bills, but start checking if anything is being introduced). 		