



**Chicano Latino Affairs Council**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Meeting Minutes**  
 March 26, 2011

**Board Members:** BM Mario Vargas, Chairman; BM Adriana O'Meara, Treasurer; BM Edgardo Rodriguez; BM Francisco Morales; BM Gerardo Bonilla; BM Margaret Villanueva; BM Jesus Villaseñor; BM Luisa Pierce Gutierrez; BM Rebeca Sedarski, Secretary (Via Conference Call)

**Staff:** Hector Garcia, Gladys Rodriguez, David Espinoza, Astrid Ollerenshaw

**Guests:** Pablo Murillo, MN Latino Caucus; Arturo López, Consulate of Mexico; Patrick Prose, Dept. of Administration; Matt Brandt, MN Humanities Center; Casey DeMarais, MN Humanities Center; Mario Hernandez, Latino Data Project Group; Barbara Ronningen, Latino Data Project Group; Monica Garcia-Perez, Latino Data Project Group, SCSU; Emma Corrie, MNDOT

Agenda Item	Discussion/Action Summary/Motions Adopted	Follow-Up/ Timeline	Person(s) Responsible
<b>Welcome &amp; Review of Agenda</b>	<p>The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. by Council Chairman Vargas with Quorum established.</p> <p>Introductions made by Board Members and staff.</p> <p>The agenda was presented with the purpose and outcomes. Changes requested by Chair Vargas to the New Business section to delete discussion on ED disciplinary process because the AG's office expressed that there is no need for one.</p> <p>ED Garcia shares that there is a proposal on the table from the MN Humanities Center for the continuation of programs and recommends adding item to the agenda. Chair Vargas states that before board approval on any proposal, ED needs to work with the committee to submit a plan on how staff will execute the proposal. BM E. Rodriguez suggests having a Legacy Committee meeting to go over the proposal submitted by the MN Humanities Center.</p> <p>BM E. Rodriguez makes a Motion to accept the agenda with the changes; BM G. Bonilla seconded the Motion, All in favor. Motion carried unanimously. The agenda was adopted.</p>	<p>← <b>Motion</b> carried to approve agenda</p>	
<b>Council Meeting Minutes: November 6, 2010 and January 15, 2011</b>	<p>In the absence of Board Secretary Rebeca Sedarski, Chair Vargas presents the Board meeting minutes.</p> <p>BM E. Rodriguez makes a recommendation to postpone the approval of the minutes until they are condensed. Minutes do not need to be verbatim, but should only reflect the importance of the discussion, outcomes, motions and voting.</p>		

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	BM E. Rodriguez makes a Motion to postpone the approval on the November 6, 2010 and January 15, 2011 Board Meeting minutes until they are condensed. Motion seconded by BM A. O'Meara. All in favor Vote. Motion carries unanimously.	← <b>Motion</b> carried to postpone approval of Minutes	
<b>Overall Review of CLAC Statute and Charter, Strategic Plan</b>	Chair Vargas gave an overview to new Board Members on CLAC's Statute/ Charter and the history behind the creation of the Biennium Calendar and Action Plan. As part of that, he also described the control book which is a comprehensive book that has information about the Council operations.		
<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	<p>Treasurer O'Meara presented the YTD Financial overview for FY 2011 as of February 2011. The Council is currently operating under a budget of \$309,893; and as of the end of February 2011, CLAC has available funds of \$2,694.24</p> <p>For the next Biennium (FY 12-13), the House of Representatives has recommended a 15% budget reduction; the Senate has recommended a 20% reduction to CLAC's budget.</p> <p>In both scenarios, the Council will have to operate with 3 employees, cutting back one position, and reduce staff hours. In a 15% reduction, CLAC would have to operate with 2 FTE's and 1 Part-Time staff working 60 hours per pay- period; and in a 20% reduction, CLAC would have to operate with 2 Full-Time Employees: working 80 hours per pay- period.</p> <p>The worst case scenario is for CLAC to be eliminated or consolidated with the other Councils.</p> <p>BMs discussed the possibilities of possible partnerships or other grants. The reality is that the Council will need outside funding. Currently CLAC counts with the Otto Bremer Grant and the possibility of Humanities Center contracting. CLAC needs to be focused and see how to execute these plans. BMs express that an easier way to get funding from corporations is for community outreach but an attractive package needs to be presented.</p> <p>By the May Board meeting, the staff will have a better understanding of how much money there is available to spend until the end of the Fiscal Year. The staff might also know by then the decision from the Legislature on CLAC's budget and BMs will have to vote on scenarios for continuing operations.</p> <p>A suggestion to reduce expenses is for BMs to participate in committee/Council meetings via phone conference instead of in person.</p>		

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<b>Personnel Committee Report</b>	<p>Chair Vargas shares that there has been a personnel committee in existence for the last 6-8 months in reference to the executive director's performance plan. The committee met once, but there was no quorum established. Since then, two of the committee members (A. Garay-Lehn and T. Dawson) have been replaced; therefore new members need to be recruited to be part of the committee and continue the work. This is an ad-hoc committee that will disappear once the work has been completed.</p> <p>BM A. O'Meara makes a Motion to open the floor for nominations; Motion seconded by BM E. Rodriguez. BM Jesus Villaseñor and BM Luisa Pierce Gutierrez volunteer to join the Personnel committee. Motion carries with an All in favor vote.</p> <p>Chair Vargas states that the committee will need to appoint a Chair.</p> <p>Patrick Prose, Personnel Representative for the MN Dept. of Human Resources, provided each BM a template/copy of the standard performance improvement plan used by Human Resources.</p>	<p>← <b>Motion</b> carried to appoint new members to the Personnel Committee: J. Villaseñor &amp; L. Pierce</p>	<p><b>M. Vargas/ H. Garcia</b> Schedule committee meeting</p>
<b>Legislative Report</b>	<p>David Espinoza, CLAC's Legislative Research Analyst, provided a review of the current legislative bills that will impact CLAC and the Latino community. There are a few Omnibus Bills and Sunset Legislation that pertain to CLAC.</p> <p><b>Omnibus Bills:</b>  <b>HF577:</b> State Government Finance (House) Omnibus bill. Calls for a 15% budget cut for CLAC. Also includes the Sunset language of HF2.</p> <p><b>SF1047:</b> State Government Innovation and Veterans (Senate) Omnibus bill. Calls for a 20% budget cut for CLAC. CLAC appropriation would go to the Humanities Commission. Also includes the Sunset language of SF146.</p> <p><b>Sunset Legislation:</b>  <b>HF173:</b> Re-referred to State Government Finance on 01/31/2011. Hearing held 02/08/2011. Aside from the inclusion of additional authors (14 total), no further actions have been taken.</p> <p><b>SF359:</b> Referred to State Government Innovation and Veterans on 02/17/2011. To date, this bill has not had a hearing. 3 authors were listed when the bill was introduced; no new authors have been added.</p> <p>A Sunset Review is an assessment of an agency to determine whether there is a continued public need for the agency to exist. Agencies under review are also judged by their level of efficiency and by three potential outcomes for an agency that undergoes sunset review.</p>		

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	<p>Some members question the Job training bill, HF 645, and express their dissatisfaction on how it was handled as it was never approved by the Legislative committee or the Board.</p> <p>ED Garcia states that the text of the job-training bill was provided to the Board on 3/10 and knew it had been presented along with the other Councils, CAPM and CBM to Rep. Mullery. Rep. Mullery decided to introduce HF645 this session in the House of Representatives and it was referred to the Jobs and Economic Development Finance committee. The Executive Directors of CLAC, CAPM and CBM, along with Rep. Mullery and Emma Corrie testified on the bill. HF645 was laid over for possible inclusion in Jobs and Economic Development Finance committee. Just recently, Sen. Tomassoni introduced SF947 in the Senate (companion bill to HF645), referred to Jobs and Economic Growth (co-authors: Sen. Torres Ray, Sen. Harrington and Sen. Pappas). The Jobs and Economic Development Finance committee's omnibus bill was introduced, but HF645 not included. However, the bill is still alive in the Senate.</p> <p>Chairman M. Vargas states that new members need to be appointed to the Legislative Committee given that BM N. Juarez resigned as Chair and as a member of the committee; and former member Garay-Lehn was replaced.</p> <p>BM A. O'Meara makes a Motion to open the floor for nominations for the Legislative Committee; Motion seconded by BM E. Rodriguez. Nominees are BM Gerardo Bonilla, BM Margaret Villanueva and BM Jesus Villaseñor. Motion carries with an All in favor vote.</p> <p>The new tentative date for the Latino legislative Day @ the Capitol is April 27<sup>th</sup>. The areas of focus are Economic Development and Education. Board members discuss the ultimate goals proposed by the staff, which is to promote HF645/SF947, show positive Latino influence on economic development in Minnesota, and stress the importance of improving the Latino education achievement gap.</p> <p>BM Rodriguez and Vargas feel that they have not been involved in the process of HF645/SF947 bill and they do not feel confident advocating for it. Chair Vargas points out to change from "improving" to "reducing" the Latino education achievement gap.</p> <p>The program includes activities in the Rotunda to present Economic Development videos, 2 keynote speakers (one on economic development, one on education) or a panel of 4 people linking economic development and education. The idea is to have a strong presence at the Capitol.</p> <p>BM M. Villanueva makes a Motion to approve the continuation of involvement with the other State Councils to push HF645/SF947 forward; Motion not Seconded. Motion fails.</p>	<p>← <b>Motion</b> carried to appoint new members to the Legislative Committee: G. Bonilla, M. Villanueva &amp; J. Villaseñor</p> <p>← <b>Action item</b></p> <p>← <b>Motion</b> fails</p>	

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	<p>BM A. O'Meara makes a Motion to move this item to committee level and make formal recommendation to the Board; Motion seconded by BM M. Villanueva. Motion carries with an All in favor vote.</p> <p>BM E. Rodriguez makes a Motion to move forward with the Latino Legislative Day at the Capitol for April 27, 2011, but to adjust ultimate goals; Motion seconded by BM A. O'Meara. Motion carries with an All in favor vote.</p> <p>Ultimate goals should be adjusted to reflect less support to the Job training bill, but talk about job training in general. The Legislative Committee needs to work with staff on the planning of this event.</p>	<p>← <b>Motion</b> carried</p> <p>← <b>Motion</b> carried to approve the LLDC event</p> <p>← <b>Action item</b></p>	
Executive Director's Report and update on 2010-11 Biennium Calendar & Action Plan	<p>ED Garcia shares with BM that the Council is up to date with the Biennium Calendar/ Action plan. Garcia continues to share specific activities that the staff has been working on for the last months.</p> <p>ED Garcia has been spending time at the Capitol and St. Off. Bldg. meeting with legislators and attending hearings. Garcia testified to the House and Senate Finance committee on CLAC's budget. Other activities include the completion of interviews of Latino Business Executives; attended the Rochester Forum and its follow up meeting. CLAC and MHC worked in partnership to bring together the Latino American Consulates to have a discussion about the Latino community connecting Minnesota to the world.</p> <p>ED Garcia recognizes and thanks BM R. Sedarski for helping with the Rochester Forum and the follow up meeting.</p>		
CLAC Community Forum Update	<p>Astrid Ollerenshaw, Community Relations Manager, shared with BM that the Community Engagement plan was followed to organize the forum in Rochester.</p> <p>The focus of the forums was to provide information about CLAC, its charter and mission, and to discuss Economic Development &amp; Education.</p> <p>During the forum, the staff collected information about Education and Economic Development through a survey. CLAC listened to the community leaders and heard their voice on what is happening to Latinos in Rochester and identified 4 individuals (community leaders) that will provide testimony when it is needed.</p> <p>The Rochester community shared that they need a Latino community resource center. People do not know where they can find help to address issues such as health, education and employment. Currently, there is nothing available like this in Rochester. Many community members tend to keep to themselves, rarely venture out of their comfort zones and worry that they may put themselves at</p>		

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	<p>risk. As a result, many do not know that there are different programs available for them. 9% of the population in the school district is Latino, and they represent about 25% of the disciplinary issues, suspensions and expulsions. There is a lack of leadership and no representation of the Latino community in important groups.</p> <p>The staff presented the 2011 Community Engagement Schedule and asked for Board approval. The cities are chosen according to the Latino cluster map. The Northfield and Mankato forums will be done with CLAC's funding; and the St Cloud, Marshall, Willmar, Richfield, and West St. Paul forums will be done with the Otto Bremer Grant funding.</p> <p>BM E. Rodriguez makes a Motion to approve the schedule for community outreach, Motion seconded by BM M. Villanueva. Motion carries with an all in favor vote.</p> <p>ED Garcia states that the Otto Bremer grant contract will be sent to new BMs.</p>	<p>← <b>Motion</b> carried to approve outreach schedule</p>	
Humanities Center Presentation	<p>Chairman M. Vargas welcomes Matt Brandt, Vice President, and Casey A. DeMarais, Director of Programs of the MN Humanities Center.</p> <p>Matt Brandt introduces himself and proceeds to provide background information on the partnership between the MN Humanities Center and CLAC.</p> <p>The State Legislature allocated \$125,000 for each of the two years in the current biennium which ends this coming June 30, 2011, to each of the 4 Councils, including CLAC. The MN Humanities Center is the fiscal agent.</p> <p>The initial phase of this partnership which focuses on capturing stories about the cultural and economic impact of the Latino community in Minnesota is currently being completed. Activities related to this initial program plan include: Absent Narratives of St. Paul's West Side; the <i>tpt</i> Documentary <i>Latino Arts: A Community Vision</i>; the SPNN documentary <i>Latinos, Business and the Arts</i> that documenting more directly how the Latino community is contributing to the economic vitality and economic innovation in the State of Minnesota through interviews of Latino executives.</p> <p>A second phase of this initial joint programming involves creating educational trainings and resources for Minnesota teachers so that teachers can: 1) teach more authentically and accurately about Latino contributions to Minnesota's culture and economy; and 2) engage Latino students in the classrooms at a higher level by including more culturally relevant and engaging content for students.</p> <p>The next step to complete this programming is to complete SPNN production, and host previewing</p>		

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	<p>party on April 13, 2011. Modify all resources for use by classroom teachers and for use in the classroom.</p> <p>These steps will be taken in coordination and partnership with the CLAC. A review and involvement process must be developed and implemented in order to complete these activities in a timely fashion.</p> <p>The MHC has submitted a proposal to CLAC and its Board of Directors based on conversations on November 10, 2010 with Council Chair M. Vargas, BM E. Rodriguez, and ED Garcia. Discussion on proposal was tabled until Arts &amp; Cultural Committee meets and review proposal.</p> <p>On the financial aspects of the collaboration, the MHC and CLAC discussed \$30,000 of the project budget will support CLAC's staff time on the project. As soon as the contract is signed, Humanities Center will immediately issue a check in the amount of \$10,000. CLAC will provide Humanities Center documentation for the time spent on project activities. Once CLAC documents the first \$10,000 worth of staff time on the project, Humanities Center will issue a second \$10,000 check to CLAC. Once CLAC documents a second \$10,000 worth of time spent on project related activities, Humanities Center will issue the last installment of the \$10,000.</p> <p>BM E. Rodriguez provides background information to the new members on the Committee perspective on this collaboration with the MHC.</p> <p>Chair M. Vargas thanks Matt Brandt for presenting to the Council and delegates proposal to the Arts &amp; Cultural committee.</p> <p>BM A. O'Meara questions the collaboration, but expresses the importance of making a decision as time is running out, and if proposal is approved by the committee and the Board then staff need to move forward with it.</p>		
Census 2010 Databank Presentation	<p>Chairman M. Vargas welcomes Mario Hernandez who works for the Human Rights Dept. and also worked with the Latino Data Project Team as well as Barbara Ronningen and Monica Garcia-Perez, Professor of Economics at SCSU are also part of the Latino Data Project Team. Mario Hernandez includes that Rodolfo Gutierrez, HACER, is also part of the group but could not attend the meeting.</p> <p>The Latino Data Project Team presented a proposal requesting the Council's partnership and participation in collaborating with the project by helping disseminate information about the project to the community, including opportunities to participate in identifying data needs, disseminating notice of the availability of completed data products, and opportunities for census-related trainings. The collaboration includes hosting completed data products on council's web site.</p>		

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	<p>The team hopes that the Council can provide this as an in-kind contribution, however they are willing to assist financially.</p> <p>BM's express that they like the idea, but need to consider how much time the staff will need to devote to this project and because of the budget challenge that we face next fiscal year, the Council might not have the staff to do this. A solution to that would be to apply for grants to cover the additional cost beyond normal operations. Staff is tasked with putting together a budget and present it to the Board.</p> <p>BM E. Rodriguez makes a Motion to approve collaboration with Latino Data Project Team and get involved in the project and look for ways to finance if it needed; Motion seconded by BM A. O'Meara. Motion carries with an All in Favor vote.</p>	<p>← Action Item</p> <p>← Motion carries to collaborate with Latino Data Project Team</p>	
MnDOT Presentation	<p>Chair M. Vargas presents Emma Corrie, Workforce and Business Development Project Manager for MnDOT.</p> <p>Emma Corrie welcomes the invitation to present to CLAC on the opportunities for minorities within MnDOT. MnDOT is a global leader in transportation committed to upholding public needs and collaboration with internal and external partners. Corrie adds that CLAC's ED Garcia has made a real mark on Commissioner Sorel and describes some of the collaborative work done with CLAC and others on promoting employment for Latinos and other minorities through direct hiring and DBE contracts. MnDOT would welcome a proposal on an issue to partner with CLAC.</p> <p>Chair Vargas thanks Emma Corrie for her presentation.</p> <p>BM E. Rodriguez makes a Motion to extend the meeting agenda past 2:00 p.m.; Motion seconded by BM A. O'Meara. Motion carries with an All in Favor vote.</p>	<p>← Motion carries to extend board meeting</p>	
New Business	<p>Chair Vargas shares that since Alma Garay-Lehn term ended, a new Vice-Chair needs to be appointed.</p> <p>BM A. O'Meara makes a Motion to elect a new Vice-Chair; Motion seconded by BM E. Rodriguez. Motion carries with an All in Favor vote.</p> <p>BM A. O'Meara nominates BM G. Bonilla; Nomination seconded by BM E. Rodriguez. BM Bonilla accepts nomination. BM R. Sedarski nominates BM J. Villaseñor. Villaseñor declines nomination. BM G. Bonilla is Voted Vice-Chair by default.</p> <p>Two additional board members are needed for the Arts &amp; Cultural committee. BM A. O'Meara</p>	<p>← Motion made to elect a new Vice Chair</p> <p>← Motion made</p>	



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	<p>makes a Motion to open the floor for nominations; Motion seconded by BM E. Rodriguez. BM L. Pierce and BM M. Villanueva volunteer to join the committee.</p> <p>Treasurer A. O'Meara makes a request for staff to submit by the end of the week a plan on how to spend \$30,000 from the MHC.</p> <p>Chair Vargas comments that the staff titles have changed from the original titles. The Community Liaison is now Community Relations; ED Garcia explains the reason behind changing the title. Members concur on the title change and suggest changing it to Community Relations Manager; staff needs to update website to reflect new title changes.</p>	to add new members to Arts & Cultural Committee	
Items for next Board meeting	The items for discussion during the next Board Meeting: Officer Elections, Vote on 2012 Budget, Legislative Update, Update 2011 Summer Community Engagement Plan/Community Forums, August Retreat		
Board Meeting Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 2:20		
Meeting reconvened	BM A. O'Meara makes a Motion to reconvene the Board meeting; Motion seconded by BM E. Rodriguez. Motion carries with an All in Favor vote.	← <b>Motion</b> carries to reopen mtng	
	BM A. O'Meara makes a Motion to move forward with whatever decision is made by the Arts & Cultural committee in regards to the proposal from the Minnesota Humanities Center and proceed with amending the contract currently in place. Motion seconded by BM E. Rodriguez. Motion carries with an All in Favor vote.	← <b>Motion</b> carries to proceed with MHC proposal	