



COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: 3/16/13

PRESENT: BM Krystell Escobar, Chairwoman, BM Cynthia Campos, Vice Chairwoman, BM Francisco Gonzalez, Treasurer, BM Luisa Pierce, Secretary, BM Jesús Villaseñor, BM Gerardo Bonilla.

Via Phone: Senator Branden Petersen, Representative Ron Kresha, and David Martinez

STAFF: Hector García, Executive Director; Sarah Goodspeed, Legislative and Community Relations Manager; Gladys Rodríguez, Office Manager; Rebeca Sedarski, Regional Community Liaison, Elyse Ruiz, Community Outreach Specialist, Rosario Plascencia, Policy Research Intern

Guests: Monica Cruz, Pablo Segovia, members of general public

Agenda Item	Discussion/Action Summary/Motions Adopted	Follow-Up/Timeline	Person(s) Responsible
Welcome & Review of Agenda	<p>Meeting called to order by Chair Krystell Escobar. Introductions by Board Members and visitors.</p> <p>Motion made by BM Gerardo Bonilla to approve the 3/16/13 agenda; BM Cynthia Campos Seconded. Agenda adopted with an all in favor vote.</p> <p>BM Cynthia Campos moves to add 15 minutes to the agenda so that Representative Ron Kresha could give legislative update; BM Gerardo Bonilla seconded. All in favor.</p> <p>Representative Ron Kresha discussed H.F 15, a jobs and economic development finance policy, and answered questions on the bill.</p>	<p>← Motion passed</p> <p>← Motion passed</p>	
Meeting Minutes approval	BM Luisa Pierce presented the Minutes for the 01.19.13 Council meeting. Motion made by BM Cynthia Campos to approve the minutes from the previous Board meeting 01/19/13; BM Gerardo Bonilla Seconded. Minutes approved with an All in favor vote.	← Minutes approved	
Treasurer's Report & Finance Committee Report	<p>BM Francisco Gonzalez presented the year to date financials. To date, CLAC has spent \$156,529.78 of its \$286,508.39 budget. There is still \$114,022.86 encumbered for salaries and general office expenditures such as space rent, supplies, phones, etc. There is a surplus in the general budget of \$15,955.75; in addition there is a cushion in salaries of \$14,485.26. The staff recommended using the surplus to increase the staff hours, re-design the website, LLDC costs and increase the community forums this summer.</p> <p>The staff presented budget projections for FY 2014-2015 based on the current appropriation of \$275,000, which allows for 3-full time employees and other operational costs such as the rent (\$21,200), Board expenses (\$12,000), and other.</p> <p>BM Cynthia Campos made the Motion to follow recommendations from the Finance Committee to spend the money on increased staff hours. Motion Amended to include the website overhaul, LLDC, increase Community Forums and let the Finance Committee, the Board Chair and the Executive Director talk to reach final decision. The Board authorizes the Board Chair and the Executive Director to sign website contract. Seconded by BM Gerardo Bonilla. All in favor.</p>	← Motion passed	
Executive Director's Report	ED Hector Garcia discussed the two main bills CLAC has been working on. These bills are H.F1592 and HF 15. HF 1592, an early education bill that CLAC has been working on was introduced by Representative		Hector Garcia, Executive Director

<p>Murray. HF 15, which is a job-training bill that CLAC had introduced in the previous legislative session. Now Representatives Gunther and Kresha will be adding an amendment to it to channel funding for economic development in the St. James area for Latino owned processing plant. ED Hector Garcia also mentioned the bi-literacy seal bill CLAC had been working on, but was not able to introduce in this session. This would have given an added value to individuals speaking a second language.</p> <p>ED Hector Garcia then moved on to give an update on Humboldt High School. He briefly explained how the HACER project came about. He explained the research and discussions on academic disparities that led to the contract with HACER. HACER was contracted to research the best practices to eliminate these disparities. HACER has produced a report, which is now public and has been sent to the Governor, Legislature, and many others. The project is now on the 2nd phase, which is to apply the findings of the report mainly the elements of success found in the best practices on two high schools one is Humboldt and the other is in Northfield. He then went on to explain the 3 stages of the project: 1.) discussion phase, 2.) planning stage, and 3.) the training of teachers, staff, parents and students.</p> <p>ED Hector Garcia also discussed the follow-up work CLAC has been doing in Duluth after the community forum took place. BM Luisa Pierce shared that having CLAC’s support at the forum allowed the Duluth School district to see how important education services were for the parents. She reported that through the Duluth School District she is coordinating a training program that teaches parents to navigate the school system. The classes for these parents are in Spanish and a total of 21 parents are participating in the classes.</p> <p>ED Hector Garcia reported that CLAC has been attracting attention from all over. He recently made a presentation at the University of Wisconsin on CLAC’s objectives and activities and was pleased to see many students wanting to replicate in Wisconsin what CLAC is doing in Minnesota. ED Hector Garcia also reported on a presentation CLAC did for Met Council at CLUES. The presentation was on the disparity of contracting, its affects on the Latino community, and its incongruence with growth of Latino population. Chairwomen Krystell Escobar attended the meeting and said she saw great representation of leadership there and that those conversations should be happening continuously.</p> <p>BM Cynthia Campos made a Motion to extend the Executive Director's presentation for 15 more minutes. BM Francisco Gonzalez seconded. All in favor.</p> <p>ED Hector Garcia reported on the Immigration Roundtable Meeting, which took place February 22, 2012. He said a very important outcome of this meeting was that the Violent Crime Coordinating Council were observers and liked the meeting. After the meeting ED Garcia met with Violent Crime Coordinating Council and they informed him that they were willing to propose to test a crime community roundtable. An additional action group that resulted from the Immigration Roundtable Meeting was a group on the accreditation of foreign degrees. A third action group was one that agreed to make better use of the media. A fourth group was one that proposes to have the private sector in collaboration with federal efforts for immigration reform.</p>	<p>← Motion to extend time for ED report</p>	
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	<p>ED Hector Garcia invited the Board to attend the March 18 Critical Conversation Meeting at IIM the purpose is to bring about a more objective direct conversation between the majority and minorities communities. He then went on to discuss the March 19 event for the high level Executives at Cargill's headquarters. This meeting's purpose is to convince the high level executives that the reimagining of the Latino community is essential and for them to consider ways in which they can contribute to improving the economy of Minnesota through their very significant contacts in other countries.</p> <p>ED Hector Garcia also spoke about an important meeting in Rochester with the MAYO Clinic where Mayor Brede, Chamber of Commerce, Rochester Area Economic Development and Senator Carla Nelson want to continue conversations and collaborations between Minnesota and Mexico. Garcia concluded with informed on the numerous partnerships and collaborations CLAC has had. Chairwomen Krystell Escobar said the Board could see how hard CLAC has been working establishing and maintaining the collaborations. She also highlighted that all this work justified the need of additional staff hours.</p>		
MHC Grant work plan, Approval of Year 2 agreement, and future policy recommendations	<p>ED Hector Garcia said now the project was using funds from the 2nd year disbursement of \$112,000. The challenge was raising the money for the implementation of all this work in September of 2013. At this time there aren't any funds sources, but he envisioned seeking financial support from corporate executives.</p> <p>BM Gerardo Bonilla made a Motion to approve the Amendment to the Year 1 contract agreement with MHC to modify the budget lines, and authorize the Boar Chair and the Executive Director to sign off. BM Cynthia Campos seconded. All in favor.</p> <p>ED Hector Garcia said that so far both schools satisfied with amount of money each school will receive, which is capped at \$15,000 each, to carry out the work needed to complete before implementation phase in September.</p>	← Motion passed to sign Amendment to modify budget lines in Year 1	
2013 Legislative Session, and Latino Day at the Capitol	<p>S. Goodspeed gave legislative updates. She discussed HF 1058 in addition to HF 1592. HF1058 was the early learning scholarship program developed by MinneMinds. S. Goodspeed then proceeded to answer questions regarding the parent aware ranking system, which will allow further funding to go to higher-ranking programs. ED Hector Garcia emphasized why this ranking was so important, especially since many programs are said to receive lots of funding but with limited results. He said that for CLAC the collaboration with this program allows CLAC to have an influence on what is happening rather than being alone.</p> <p>BM Francisco Gonzalez addressed the concern surrounding whether or not these alliances will prove beneficial. CLAC needs to be working with other groups that have similar interests. ED Hector Garcia made clear to the board that these coalitions are very strategic. CLAC is not only addressing the achievement gap and graduation rates at the high school level but also at the early education level.</p> <p>ED Hector Garcia said he found very exciting of the Finnish model was the deep philosophical conviction that you can have both equity and excellence. BM Jesús Villaseñor cautioned CLAC to be careful to how it approaches the Finnish model. CLAC shouldn't be seen as an organization that endorses this model. ED Hector Garcia responded that obviously CLAC is not composed of educators and therefore it cannot say</p>		

	<p>the elements of Finnish model should be applied here, but the philosophy of equity and excellence are something all agree on. What CLAC is saying is that the model should be studied more, with special emphasis on these two components. Chairwomen Krystell Escobar said that the literature she has seen on the Finnish model highlighted the equity and excellence component. She acknowledges the entire model itself may not be replicated, but the philosophy of equity and excellence can.</p> <p>BM Jesús Villaseñor noted to be careful on presentations to not say that CLAC endorses the Finnish model in its entirety. BM Luisa Pierce added that many schools are already aware of this model. ED Hector Garcia clarified that CLAC is not recommending any models. Models do not work in other mediums, so they are presenting elements of success and each school should decide which elements of success are best for them.</p> <p>ED Hector Garcia requested the Board approve the collaboration with MinneMinds. MB Francisco Gonzalez said that if CLAC was going to be working with MinneMinds or other organizations, CLAC should be full partners on these projects. He did not want to have CLAC go halfway because that might not be as effective. BM Jesús Villaseñor expressed concern about being full partners on all coalitions. He said CLAC should clearly know the expectations of each coalition. ED Hector Garcia said CLAC wouldn't buy in with everything being done, but will try to influence decisions.</p> <p>BM Cynthia Campos made the Motion to extend the Legislative Session briefing until 12:15pm and without break. BM Gerardo Bonilla seconded. All in favor.</p> <p>S. Goodspeed continued with legislative updates. She discussed HF 247 on integration revenue for schools; HF 393 on compensatory revenue; HF 860 funding for ELL. In addition to these bills CLAC has also drafted language to remove the 4 Councils for Sunset expiration and language to recognize every March 31 as Cesar Chavez Day. She also informed the Board that CLAC has been actively supporting HF 875, the Prosperity Act. Other Bills CLAC has been involved in are HF 348 for drivers license and HF 246 for an ethnic communities leadership council for DHS. She also briefly mentioned four additional bills CLAC is closely following: HF 34 - teacher licensure (related to HACER study - recently rejected unlikely to continue in either chamber); HF 704 - Family reunification act; HF 485 - Combating sexual exploitation of youth; and HF 92 - raising the minimum wage.</p> <p>S. Goodspeed then proceeded to discuss the details of the Legislative Day at the Capital scheduled for April 2, 2013. ED Hector Garcia invited the Board and guests to be leaders for the legislative meetings at this event. Sarah Goodspeed then answered questions regarding the logistics for the event.</p> <p>BM Francisco Gonzales made the motion to sign the statement of support joining the MinneMinds coalition. BM Cynthia Campos seconded. All in favor</p> <p>BM Francisco Gonzalez expressed his concerned about the comprehensive immigration reform. If approved, overnight there will be thousands of individuals eager to take English classes, to satisfy</p>	<p>← Motion passed</p> <p>← Motion passed</p> <p>← Motion passed</p> <p>← Action item</p> <p>← Motion passed</p>	
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	<p>language component of the reform. CLAC should be prepared to discuss how to expand language learning classes. BM Jesús Villaseñor said that CLAC should be involved in developing the language standards for this. The Board had a discussion on this point and concluded additional research was needed and assigned the Legislative committee with this task.</p> <p>BM Gerardo Bonilla moves to authorize the Legislative Committee to look into funding sources related to English learning classes for adults with limited English and provide recommendations to the Board. BM Jesús Villaseñor seconded. All in favor.</p>	← Motion passed	Legislative Committee
Polices & Procedures Manual edits	<p>BM Cynthia Campos makes the motion to extend our meeting for 30 more minutes (to 1:20pm). BM Jesús Villaseñor seconded. All in favor.</p> <p>BM Francisco Gonzalez reported that after last board meeting he did research looking into whether there was a statue or rule that bars board members from applying for Executive Director position. He didn't think that a statute would be sustained. BM Jesús Villaseñor added that the purpose behind a proposal was to deter temptation to have board members seek executive director's role. The Board had a discussion around this topic of concern and concluded to table this item until more research is done on the matter, specifically with the Attorney General's Office to ensure a rule passed by the Board wouldn't incur litigation later.</p>	← Motion passed	
Latino Directory Update	<p>Chairwomen Krystell Escobar showed the Board the new edition of El Directorio. She asked BM Cynthia Campos to present to the board what she had been working on regarding a Latino Directory. BM Cynthia Campos said she would continue making calls to organizations.</p> <p>BM Cynthia Campos encouraged Board to reach out in the similar way to various organizations. She would coordinate these efforts. Chairwomen Krystell Escobar encouraged Board to take part in this especially since it was such a small amount of commitment.</p>		
New Business	<p>Chairwomen Krystell Escobar informed the board about a farewell reception for the Mexican Consul Ana Luisa Fajer. The Board discussed possible items to present her with in appreciation of her support. The Board agreed to get her a plaque. ED Hector Garcia and the Board discussed the status of the open board positions. ED Hector Garcia pointed out that BM Adriana needed to submit a letter or resignation. The Board members then discussed how to identify possible candidates and current candidates who have already applied.</p> <p>The Board then discussed possible ways to engage the Latino community. BM Jesús Villaseñor noted that resource fairs, are no the best approaches to engage the Latino community. All were asked to think of ways to engage the Latino community, especially since ED Hector Garcia noted that CLAC has not been effectively engaging the Latino community as was seen with the low turnout in the events hosted.</p>		
Board Meeting Adjournment	BM Gerardo Bonilla makes the motion to adjourn. BM Cynthia Campos seconded. All in favor.	← Motion passed	