



## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

**Date:** March 15, 2014

**Location:** 60 Empire Dr, Suite 203  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55103

**Present:** BM Krystell Escobar, Chairwoman; BM Suyapa Miranda, Vice-Chairwoman; Secretary Gerardo Bonilla; BM Kandace Creel-Falcon; BM Luisa Pierce; BM Cynthia Campos; Mr. Peter Reyes (official Board Member starting 3/17/14).

**Staff:** Hector Garcia, Executive Director; Elyse Ruiz, Legislative and Community Relations Manager; Rebeca Sedarski, Regional Community Liaison and Project Coordinator; Justin Lane, Intern, and Gladys Rodriguez, Office Manager.

**Guests:** Maria de la Paz, MIA; Muriel Gubasta, Office of Ombusperson for Families; Lydia Hinojosa, Cultural Connection.

Agenda Item	Discussion/Action Summary/Motions Adopted	Follow-Up/Timeline	Person(s) Responsible
Welcome & Review of Agenda	<p>Meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Krystell Escobar. All in attendance introduced themselves.</p> <p>BM Kandace Creel-Falcon makes the motion to add the election of the treasurer position into new business. BM Cynthia Campos seconded. All in favor vote.</p> <p>BM Cynthia Campos makes the motion to approve the agenda. BM Gerardo Bonilla seconds the motion. All in favor vote.</p>	<p>← Motion passed</p> <p>← Motion passed</p>	
Review and approve 02/25/14 Minutes	<p>BM Kandace Creel-Falcon ask for clarification for the following part of the minutes: "ED Hector García said that it is very exciting that the Phillips Family Foundation called them back after CLAC sent a letter of intent for the Humboldt project because it has been on hold. We lost the Legacy Funding so now we are going to meet with them on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of February and hopefully we can get some money to implement that project." on page two for clarification.</p> <p>BM Kandace Creel-Falcon made a motion to make the change in the minutes to state that instead of saying that "we lost the legacy fund" we will clarify that the state no longer appropriated the money to CLAC as "the legacy funding" but instead another committee appropriated \$100,000 to CLAC funding. BM Kandace Creel-Falcon makes the motion to approve the agenda as amended. BM Cynthia Campos seconded the motion. All in favor vote.</p>	<p>← Motion passed</p>	
Executive Director's Report	<p>ED Garcia states that the staff has been focused on the OLA report that was made public recently. ED Garcia mentioned that the report shows that CLAC is the best performing Council but still needs improvement, especially in regards to the changes to statute, better connected to the executive and the legislative branch. ED Garcia highlights that CLAC needs to show the legislature that we are contributing (i.e. involving and collaborating with other Councils, highlighting our contributions on a more public matter, and continue our Rochester Plan).</p> <p>ED Garcia mentioned that his attendance to the USHLI was successful and he felt motivated with over 3,000 students in High School and College from all over the country.</p>		

	<p>BM Reyes wanted to highlight some observations of the hearing; stated that there is no clear legislative directive and it is something CLAC has brought up on several occasions.</p> <p>There was discussion about what we are legally bound to share (in regards to the OLA report) and that we need to be more strategic about it.</p> <p>BM Kandace Creel-Falcon mentioned that we should have a larger conversation about what the Board’s response should be and how we move forward. Chairwoman Krystell Escobar agreed, suggesting that we should collaborate more with external partners.</p> <p>BM Gerardo Bonilla suggested that we need to start discussing how to address the question of how do we become more strategic. BM Cynthia Campos suggested bringing in Marcia Avner to discuss our priorities and clarify our mission. BM Kandace Creel-Falcon mentioned that CLAC has some strategic planning but what we don’t have is measurable outcomes associated to the work that we are doing and if we are successful doing that work. BM Peter Reyes mentioned that he can help in the strategic planning process, like messaging, reviewing, etc.</p> <p>BM Peter Reyes asked ED Hector Garcia “there is not a clear legislative directive, would a clear directive help the councils?” ED Hector Garcia stated that some directives would be beneficial to CLAC.</p> <p>Muriel Gubasta asked if there are other organizations that we could partner with to address the issues. ED Hector García stated that Option 4 is self-destructive and being under the control of the Human Rights Commissioner would limit our power to leverage the legislature.</p> <p>Chairwoman Krystell Escobar suggests that: 1. We control the conversation and our response to the report; we respond to report is that we support change to promote effectiveness and developing our ability to work strategically and to create measureable outcomes and to be more effective. 2. Suggest a message to move forward.</p> <p>BM Kandace Creel-Falcon stated that she would help re-frame the conversation about the OLA report with a Press Release and Interview. BM Kandace Creel-Falcon suggested that we should first set up targets and goals to achieve.</p> <p>BM Peter Reyes clarified the plan moving forward: 1. Sending a press release in response to the current media dialogue as soon as possible 2. Document previous work with metrics assigned 3. Setting uniform standards for the future with measurable outcomes.</p> <p>BM Kandace Creel-Falcon commented that we should plan for our next meeting to extend the time by 2 hours to work on the strategic planning.</p> <p>BM Kandace Creel-Falcon motioned that we delegate ED Hector Garcia, BM Peter Reyes, and herself to</p>		
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← Motion

	<p>create a draft press release to be sent to the board for final approval &amp; to extend a near future board meeting, where we discuss strategy with an external consultant, by the necessary time given budgetary constraints. BM Suyapa Miranda seconded. All in favor vote.</p> <p>BM Cynthia Campos motioned that we move forward the Rochester Plan ahead of the Treasurer's Report. BM Gerardo Bonilla seconded. All in favor vote.</p>	<p><b>passed</b></p> <p><b>← Motion passed</b></p>	
Treasurer Report	<p>Office Manager Gladys Rodríguez outlined our current budget and recent changes, stating that we currently have a surplus of \$2,438. BM Kandace Creel-Falcon asked staff if we should hold off on a budgeting for a consultant. Office Manager Gladys Rodríguez stated that it would be best to hold off on a consultant until the next fiscal year. No changes to the budget were proposed.</p> <p>BM Gerardo Bonilla motions that we extend the board meeting until 1:00 PM. BM Cynthia Campos seconds. All in favor.</p>	<p><b>← Motion passed</b></p>	
2014 Legislative Session Update	<p>Legislative and Community Relations Manager Elyse Ruiz provided an update on current legislative session, and outlined our partnerships for Legislative Day at the Capitol 2014. Policy Summit was cancelled due to the weather but many emails showing interest in having this conversation. CLAC will be having a debrief policy summit following the end of session.</p> <p>Bills to keep an eye on: HR 274: strengthens world language proficiency certificates. ED Garcia has testified on numerous bills that CLAC supports, including education, economic development, and Cesar Chavez Bills. Try to get the Governor to sign the Cesar Chavez Bill and have a ceremony. E. Ruiz outlined the vast, large legislative effort being taken on by CLAC like Legislative Recommendations, driver's license, ELL, immigration, etc.</p>		
Rochester Project Update	<p>Sen. Carla Nelson called in to discuss the Rochester Project. Sen. Nelson outlined that we, in collaboration with BM Michael Muñoz, get the business plan that shows what we are going to do, goals, the cost and how we are going to pay for it. Sen. Nelson suggested working with the Rochester business community and the Mayo Clinic along with government grants.</p> <p>Sen. Nelson answered ED Garcia's question about how to tap into government funds "1. Tap into 1.2 billion state surplus 2. Wait until 2015 budget year to suggest a pilot project "</p> <p>Sen. Nelson suggested a timeline and a concrete plan for moving forward: set up business plan in next 60 days, work with state to secure funds, then work with business owners.</p> <p>Regional Community Liaison and Project Coordinator Rebeca Sedarski outlined current plans in Rochester, highlighting several groups and current goals being achieved.</p> <p>BM Gerardo Bonilla motions that we extend the board meeting by 20 minutes. BM Suyapa Miranda seconds the motion. All in favor vote.</p>	<p><b>← Motion passed</b></p>	

Discussion of committees and subcommittees	BM Cynthia Campos motions to nominate BM Kandace Creel-Falcon for the Interim Treasurer position and Finance Committee Chair. BM Suyapa Miranda seconds the motion. All in favor vote. BM Kandace Creel-Falcon accepts the position. BM Kandace Creel-Falcon requests that the meetings be scheduled according to her time available. BM Kandace Creel-Falcon will continue as the Legislative Committee Chair. Economic Development Committee Chair has been tabled.	← Motion passed	
New Business	<p>Chairwoman Krystell Escobar suggested bringing the Community Advisory Committee discussion to the next Executive Committee meeting.</p> <p>BM Suyapa Miranda would like to have a timeline for the Press Release. Timeline: the staff will send out a draft by close of business on Monday, March 17, 2014, all board members reply to draft by Tuesday at 9am, to be sent out by noon on Tuesday.</p>		
Wrap-up and adjournment	BM Gerardo Bonilla motions to adjourn. BM Cynthia Campos seconds. All in favor.	← Motion passed	

*Written by BM Gerardo Bonilla, Secretary, and revised by Rebeca Sedarski, Regional Community Liaison and Project Coordinator and Gladys Rodriguez, Office Manager.*