



## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

**Date:** October 18, 2014

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

**Present:** BM Suyapa Miranda, Vice-Chairwoman (Acting as Chair); BM Kandace Creel-Falcon, Treasurer; BM Gerardo Bonilla, Secretary; BM Jesus Villaseñor; BM Cynthia Campos; BM Margaret Villanueva; BM Michael Muñoz; BM Uriel Perez Espinoza.

**Staff:** Hector Garcia, Executive Director; Rebeca Sedarski, Regional Community Liaison and Project Coordinator; Gladys Rodriguez, Office Manager; Anna Acevedo, PR & Communications Fellow.

**Visitors:** Alberto Monserrate, Latino Communications Network; Linda Miller, Civil Society; Kimberley Woods Vanselow, Attorney at Law Mellott Law Office

Agenda Item	Discussion/Action Summary/Motions Adopted	Follow-Up/Timeline	Person(s) Responsible
<b>Welcome</b>	Meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairwoman Suyapa Miranda.  BM Gerardo Bonilla makes the motion to approve agenda, BM Cynthia Campos seconds. All in favor.	← Motion passed	
<b>Presentation on federal grant to provide free comprehensive legal services</b>	Linda Miller discussed the new federal grant to provide free comprehensive legal services. Kimberly Woods Vanselow, attorney, provides direct legal services to clients and states that she was hired to help with legal services for the clients. She also highlighted that bilingual services are available to the community. BM Bonilla asked several questions regarding the full extent of the services offered by the organization. CLAC will get information and will forward to community and post on website.	← Action item	
<b>Council Meeting Minutes, 08/23/14</b>	BM Gerardo Bonilla highlighted a minor change to the previous board meeting's minutes. He asks to amend the minutes to reflect Katie Troyer's position within the Governor's office.  BM Cynthia Campos makes the motion to approve the Council Meeting Minutes, 08/23/14 as amended. BM Uriel Perez Espinoza seconds. All in favor.	← Action item  ← Motion passed	G. Rodriguez (Revise Minutes)
<b>Executive Director's Report</b>	ED Garcia highlighted the current projects and activities, and provided a brief overview of the Legislative Work, including the 2015 Legislative Priorities. These priorities include: Driver's Licenses Bill, Learning for English Academic Proficiency and Success (LEAPS) Act, CLAC Status Bill. ED Garcia noted that several projects made traction while some did not. He highlighted the research CLAC did for the Driver's License for coalitions.  ED Garcia highlighted an upcoming event on October 30 - in conjunction with the		

	<p>Partnership for a New American Economy and Council of the Americas—with an immigration focus. BM Miranda outlined that more women should be a part of these events; ED Garcia stated he discussed this concern/need with the President of the Council of Americas.</p> <p>ED Garcia discussed pervious community events and the upcoming event on Sunday, October 19 at Sagrado Corazon that will focus on voting and voting engagement, in conjunction with the Secretary of State’s office. ED Garcia brought up that other Latino-centric organizations have attempted to boycott and sabotage CLAC community events. BM Espinoza stated that he would utilize his relationship with local organizations and leaders to reduce the friction between organizations to move forward together. BM Miranda asked if maybe Board Members should be more active in conversations with local organizations. BM Villasenor highlighted that tension exists among organizations and that there is a lack of trust between the groups. BM Espinoza stated that he is more interested in learning why local organizations are opposed to partnership. BM Muñoz stated that it might be more strategic to have individual meetings with local organization to further the conversation. BM Villasenor stated that we need to all challenge ourselves to think and move as a coalition. Unanimous agreement on this point. BM Uriel Perez Espinoza will make initial meetings then will call upon board members to attend a small gathering.</p> <p>Staff Rebeca Sedarski highlighted the work in southern Minnesota with local leaders and businesses. Sedarski also discussed the Alliance of Chicano Hispanics and Latin Americans (ACHLA) and the partnership with the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs. She stated that the Latino Summit Planning Committee is interested in exploring the idea of creating a Minnesota Latino Association. This member driven association might be able to provide many of the collaborative ingredients we identified during the Summit. Senator Nelson had a question on whether the Rochester Plan has a website. PR/Communications Fellow Anna Acevedo said she has not been working on it but could start working on moving forward. Senator Nelson also stated she looks forward to the development of the Rochester Plan.</p> <p>ED Garcia highlighted the options available to cover for Elyse’s departure: Latino Communications Network to assist with communications and HACER to do research. Guest Alberto Monserrate highlighted how New Publica could assist in clarifying CLAC’s role in government to the community. He also stated the opportunities that can come from the rebranding/reintroduction of CLAC to the Latino community. Further, he highlighted the high amount of Latinos that are online, mainly through mobile devices versus traditional platforms. He stated that CLAC might benefit from doing less community events and focus on improving quality. BM Gerardo Bonilla asked how New Publica</p>	<p>← Action item</p>	<p>BM Uriel Perez Espinoza (Schedule conversation with Mesa Latina)</p>
--	--	----------------------	---

	<p>would implement a social media strategy. What do you see the role of the board/Do you need input/direction from our board to guide it? Monserrate stated that the board input and guidance is needed. BM Jesus Villanueva asked how we relay the information/community concerns from community events to shape our policy/priorities. BM Gerardo Bonilla also asked how New Publica would operate within CLAC's calendar year, i.e. legislative session and then community members. Guest Monserrate stated that there would be a large need for planning beforehand; he also stated the need to partner and be effective with different organizations and leaders to move our priorities. BM Creel Falcon asked the duration of the contract and the number of hours required. Guest Monserrate stated that it would be a yearlong contract that it would be budget neutral. He stated that it would depend on the variety of work and time of the year but that 7 full-time staff will be available to work on the issues.</p> <p>BM Kandace Creel Falcon asked if board members are able to provide feedback to the report. Guest Monserrate stated that the final date for submitting edits/suggestions is October 22/23. The board will review and approve during the November 1 Board Meeting.</p>		
<b>CLAC's Annual Report Discussion</b>	<p>Staffer Gladys Rodriguez highlighted the quick turnaround needed from BMs to provide feedback on Annual Report. Consensus plan is that BM Kandace Creel Falcon will collect all feedback from BMs. BMs will provide feedback by 6pm on Monday, October 20. BM Kandace Creel Falcon will then send the edits to staffer Gladys Rodriguez, and she in turn will send to the Board and to LCN.</p> <p>BM Gerardo Bonilla makes the motion to extend the board meeting by 20 minutes. BM Jesus Villaseñor seconds. All in favor. Meeting time extended.</p>	<p>← Action Item</p> <p>← Motion passed</p>	BM K. Creel Falcon & Board Members
<b>2015 Legislative Recommendations</b>	<p>ED Garcia highlighted CLAC priorities as we enter into the 2015 session. He cautioned about being preemptive, preferring to see the results of the election before crafting a plan. Further, he outlined a request to increase CLAC's funding for an additional \$150,000 to cover contracts with HACER and New Publica, a full time staffer to cover Legislative and Community Engagement, additional resources for our Rochester Plan, and to have a (full or part time) staff in Worthington, MN. BM Kandace Creel Falcon asked when the deadline for a request is. Discussion around how the funds ensued.</p> <p>BM Michael Muñoz motions that we move forward with the request to increase funding from the state legislature. Vice-Chairwoman Suyapa Miranda seconds. All in favor.</p>	<p>← Action Item</p> <p>← Motion passed</p>	G. Rodriguez
<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	BM Kandace Creel Falcon provided an overview of CLAC's financials for FY 2014. Staffer Gladys Rodriguez mentions that she has been preparing next Biennium budget proposals to submit to the State. With the uncertainty of who will replace Elyse, salaries have been budgeted a little higher to reflect a full time staffer with family insurance benefits. CLAC would be able to cover the current salaries for FY 2016, but will not be able to fund 4		

	<p>staffers for FY 2017.</p> <p>BM Jesus Villaseñor suggests that a 3-month contract with the contractors would be a good option to consider. BM Kandace Creel Falcon highlighted the pitfalls of a 3-month contract. BMs discussed the pros and cons of hiring a full time staffer and/or contracts.</p> <p>BM Michael Muñoz motions that we request an additional \$150,000 from the state legislature, Vice-Chairwoman Suyapa Miranda seconds. All in favor.</p> <p>BM Muñoz made the motion to contract New Publica for 6 month and they would have to revise their proposal/cost to reflect this change. Repost a position for a part time Legislative and Community Engagement position. BM Kandace Creel Falcon seconds. All in favor.</p> <p>Note: this would require the individuals to reapply for the position. Further, we are not moving forward with the HACER contract.</p>	<p>← Motion passed</p> <p>← Motion passed</p>	
<b>New Business</b>	BM Michael Munoz highlighted education work in Rochester.		
<b>Wrap-up and adjournment</b>	<p>BM Gerardo Bonilla motions to adjourn. BM Jesus Villaseñor seconds. All in favor.</p> <p>Reminder that Board retreat is scheduled for Saturday November 1<sup>st</sup> starting at 9:30 am</p>	← Motion passed	

*Prepared by Gerardo Bonilla, Board Secretary*

*Revised and edited by Anna Acevedo, PR/Communications Fellow; Gladys Rodriguez, Office Manager; and Rebeca Sedarski, Regional Community Liaison and Project Coordinator*