



**City of Bloomington
Commission on Hispanic and Latino Affairs**

**Wednesday, August 27th, 2025 @ 5:30-7:00 PM
Public Meeting Hooker Conference Room**

MINUTES

Attendance: Mariella Arredondo, Dinorah Sapp, Raquel Anderson, Claudia Lara.

Absent: Marlo Libel, Javier Rosales y José Fuentes.

Staff Liaison: Ximena Martinez

I. Call to order at 5:39 PM

II. Approval of May's meeting minutes: Approved

III. Guests/Public Comment

- **Esteban López** works with First Financial, and wants to work with the Latine community, as well as the bank with which he works; he has applied for the commission; he works with Latinos in his work

IV. LIAISON REPORT

A. Fiesta del Otoño: hosting table

- Commission registered, **Raquel, Jimena & Mariella** will (wo)man the table
- Discussion of having a flyer available (**Jimena** will get it up to date), the CHLA report (QR code)

B. CHLA tag names: recollect from Marlo and Javier

- No tag names for commission, came down from the city, Ximena needs to collect the tags from **Javier & Marlo**

C. IU La Casa: invitation to meet students in October

- Meet students at La Casa (was done last year); **Dinorah & Raquel** volunteered (date TBA – but will be in October)

D. ID Proposal: The Commission on Human Rights collected information from South Bend

- Discussed the project and some issues; discussed what has been done in South Bend

E. Next Meeting: September 24th

F. Holiday assistance program: Ximena described the program to the commission, explained reasons for not continuing the program, and explained why it is important

- Potential solution: collaboration between CHLA & CCL & Sherwood Oaks
- Claudia advocated at the last City Council meeting.
- CHLA presents a united front. **Claudia** will write the first draft of the letter to both the Mayor and City Council and upload it to the Google Drive so the Commissioners can edit it. **Ximena** will invite the Mayor to the next Meeting to learn about the City's guidelines and potential ways to assist the Latino community as CHLA.

G. Ireland Home-based services: Ximena described the agencies.

- One aspect discussed is the issue of car seats. Potentially to host a workshop to discuss this. Potentially group – Public Relations. **Ximena** will invite the Sheriff and the BPD to the next meeting to look for ideas for collaboration for the conference or workshops. Also, to have a hub with information, **Dinorah & Raquel** will do searches

V. CURRENT BUSINESS

A. Education: Raquel, Dinorah, Mariella

- Address counselor BHSS
- Organize informational sessions with high school students and parents regarding college
- The letter to the superintendent was signed as CHLA, mailed, and emailed. This has been answered. Due to the fact that it was sent during ICE raids, it was explained that the letter had been written before this. She spoke directly to the Mayor's Office. Suggestion – speak with her, **Ximena** will invite the Superintendent to the commission.
- **Raquel** will reconnect with Dr. Markay Winston's Communication Director. She also sent the letters via messages to the schools, but answers had not been received.
- **Mariella** drafted the response for the disaggregated data request.

B. Health Services: Marlo, Jimena, Claudia

- Interpretation and translation within the health care providers, especially IU Health
- Access to Medical Interpretation - survey
- The **Mental Health Forum** follow-up and workshops.

C. Public Relations: Javier, Mariella, Jimena

- **Foro Latino de Agencias** – Organize quarterly meetings with community agencies.
- **Informational/welcome sessions** twice a year covering transportation, safety, housing, health, and education. Potential locations include MCPL, CCL, churches, and Adult Educational Centers.
- Issue of sustainability – develop materials – informational
- Community Plan re: immigration realities

D. Fundraising: Marlo, Raquel, tabled

E. Updates from prior meetings: Information about Premios Latinos - tabled

VI. ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

VI. ADJOURNMENT at: 7:01 PM