



Latino Advisory Council

May 9th, 2019

DCFS

406 E Monroe St
Springfield, IL 62701

Chair-Person:

Nancy Rodriguez

Past

Chair-Person:

Juanita Calderon

Chair-Elect:

Julia Monzon

Scribe:

Patricia Boscan

DCFS Members:

Vanessa Castro

Yvonne Cordero

Jose Garcia

Maria Hernandez

Sydney Juarez

Evelyn Martinez

Azalea Mejia

Beatriz Ramirez

Yeni Rojas

Liliana Romero

POS Members:

Patricia Aguilar

Jennifer Contreras

Lisa Marie Perez

Ex Officio

Members:

Jose J. Lopez, OLS

Daniel Fitzgerald

Committees:

Child Safety and
Permanency

Community Risk
Reduction and
Staffing

Data validity and
Disproportionality

Strategic
Communications

Latino Family
Institute

Ad Hoc: POS

Amended Minutes

Present: Nancy Rodriguez; Juanita Calderon; Patricia Boscan; Jennifer Contreras; Jose Garcia; Sydney Juarez; Azalea Mejia; Beatriz Ramirez; Daniel Fitzgerald; Jose Lopez

By Phone: Patricia Aguilar; Vanessa Castro; Maria Hernandez; Yeni Rojas; Liliana Romero

Excused: Yvonne Cordero; Evelyn Martinez; Julia Monzon; Lisa M. Perez

Guests: Taylor Pierson; Rodrigo Remolina; Coty Corcoles; Daizy Salgado

Meeting called to order at 9:05 a.m.

Welcome/Reminders/Values/Team Building Exercise

Nancy Rodriguez opened the meeting and welcomed all. Daniel Fitzgerald led a yoga exercise and the LAC Statement of Values was read by each member and guest.

Retention Voting

The Council voted for retention of Julia Monzon and Yvonne Cordero. Jose Lopez and Daniel Fitzgerald counted votes. Both members were retained.

Review & Approval of February and March Minutes

Jose Garcia motioned to pass February Minutes. Nancy seconded the motion. Two abstentions, one opposed. Motion passed as amended. Beatriz motioned to pass March Minutes as amended, Sydney seconded, two abstentions, none opposed. Minutes passed.

Committee Reports

Child Safety & Permanency

Yeni reported the committee was not able to meet. Yeni initiated contact with the Burgos Coordinator regarding non-compliant Burgos homes.

Community Risk Reduction & Staffing

Jose G. reported the committee developed questions for SurveyMonkey to be disseminated to ACR reviewers. The committee met with Daniel and Jose L. to finalize questions. Jose L. added the questions will be reviewed with Marjorie Moore from Asian Services. The purpose is to collect

information on resources for Spanish-speaking families.

Data Validity & Disproportionality

Nancy reported that her research concluded recruitment efforts on the north side to be scarce. Jose L. said the report used to draw this conclusion is of recruitment efforts planned (proposed) to be done. Jose will ask OAS to provide a copy of what has actually been done. Jose L. And Nancy will review reports together. Beatriz asked we provide name of report where information was found and identify source.

Strategic Communications

Patricia B. reported committee was unable to meet. Patricia led Council in reviewing suggested changes to bylaws by the committee. Most correction were approved. Discussion on the wording and determining factors of termination was tabled.

POS

Jennifer reported the continual emphasis on expanding POS membership. Regarding bilingual differential pay, the Burgos Coordinator directed Jennifer to affirmative action. Cynthia Valentin, Daisy Salgado and Patricia Aguilar worked to acquire CEO contact information from POS agencies with bilingual workers for a meet-and-greet.

Office of Latino Services Report

Jose L. reported Robert Blackwell, from the Director's Office, requested the Council send a representative to a racial inequality meeting. Jose L. reported continual work meeting with consulate generals and collecting contact information. He clarified Puerto Rico may be contacted through federal affairs. Jose L. stated going through the final process for the newest version of the Memorandum of Understanding. Jose L. added his continual involvement with most committees.

Burgos Coordinator Report

Daniel presented the newest report and stated looking to improve Spanish-speaking supervisor numbers. DCP has 4 Spanish-speaking supervisors. Juanita requested number of Spanish-speaking placement supervisors. Daniel will add placement to report.

Old Business

Director's Meeting

Meeting will be with Executive Committee and Chairs. Sydnie reiterated setting a fixed date for continual meetings. Nancy confirmed Director's Meeting June 5th at 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Joliet. Juanita recommended a special meeting to identify an agenda. A special meeting was set for May 15th, 2019 at 1911 S Indiana Ave at 11:00 a.m. in Daniel's Office.

LAC Historical Document

Juanita suggested tabling item.

Special Meetings

Beatriz asked those involved in last special meeting to provide a summary regarding a new co-chair. Juanita stated a nomination was made by a non-member in the February meeting. Last special meeting, council voted on new co-chair. Daniel and Jose L. overlooked voting.

New Business

Director's Office Seeks LAC Representative for Racial Inequality Meeting

Bob described committee as focusing on disproportionality and disparities. He stated children of color share a common experience in this system.

The committee recently proposed the Director agree to piloting a "race informed" practice model (integrating values that have to do with implicit bias) to overlay current model. Bob asks for representative from the Council. He would like to see more clinical and policy-oriented ideas at the table.

Next LAC meeting at DCFS (6/19/19) tentative at 1911 S Indiana Ave

Meeting remains as scheduled.

Joint Advisory Council meeting / tentative date of 8/14/19

Asian American Council will be hosting.

Open Forum for Members

Jose G. suggested developing more bilingual homes in response to our guest, Taylor Pierson's concern.

Open Forum for Guests

Taylor Pierson voiced concern in the lack of focus on central and southern Illinois placement of children. She is interested in joining phone meetings in the future.

Juanita motioned to adjourn meeting, Beatriz seconded.

Meeting adjourned 3:25 p.m

Scribe: Patricia Boscan