



Meeting Minutes – March 19, 2019
Time: 10 am – 12 pm
Location: Legislative Hall
411 Legislative Ave., Dover DE 19903

In attendance:

Javier G. Torrijos
Rosanna Mena
Jose Irizarry
Laura Gendreau
Pedro Viera
Givvel Marrero
Maria Matos
Charito Calvachi-Mateyko

Absent:

Brian Legum
Rosa M. Colon-Kolacko
Carlos de los Ramos
Patricia Rivera
Mary Dupont
Jack Sanders

Via Phone:

Neil Kirschling

Public:

Maria Freudenthal - StandbyMe Negocios
Janet Wurtzel – DE Division of Libraries
Rossana Arteaga-Lopenza – Casa de Venezuela, DE
Henry Gardner - Casa de Venezuela, DE
Karen Lantz – ACLU -DE

I. A motion was made to approve the Dec. 4, 2018 meeting minutes. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously. Givvel Marrero was unable to provide the meeting minutes for Jan. 22, 2019 for approval by the Commission members. It will be submitted at the next DHC meeting.

II. Maria Matos, DHC Treasurer, reported the following DHC financials:

- A. No financial report was provided to Maria by the DHSS.
- B. Javier requested monthly updates. Javier will follow up with the DHSS
- B. United Way of Delaware funds were submitted to Maria Matos.
- C. LACC funds are also being held at the LACC
- D. Maria will compile a list of all the funds held at the LACC, UWD, and DHSS and provide a report to the DHC.
- E. Maria asked Javier to speak with the LACC Board to see if they can administer the funds of the DHC, specifically for the Latino Summit.
- F. Charito submitted her invoices for the job fair. Javier will review and send to Maria Matos for processing.

III. Old Business

2018 Latino Summit

- A. Members had previously approved to hold the Summit in April/May of 2020. The timeframe doesn't conflicts with any other events and is in line with the election year whereby issues impacting the community can be brought to the forefront.
- B. Bi-weekly conference calls are held and the leads have been assigned. Still looking for a lead for the volunteers.
- C. The preferred Venue location is Dover Downs. DHC members will visit the Venue and report back to the planning committee.
- D.A survey will be developed and sent out to all the attendees thanking them for participating in the Summit and getting input for the next Summit.

IV. New Business

Education Subcommittee

- A. Neil is working on putting together a lunch and learn to meet at LegHall. Maria Matos will work on getting the box lunches. The DHC members approved the box lunches for up to \$500.
- B. Neil also asked that the Marketing committee have a media breakfast to get the word out about the EL Fact sheets and how best to message the need for EL funding.

Delaware for Puerto Rico

- A. The UWD sent money form the DE for Puerto Rico funds to Pastor Figueroa of Wilmington who has been the main organizer of goods being sent to PR. Javier will provide Maria Matos with the backup documents he provided for the cost associate with PR.

Economic Development

- A. Negocios will be tabled for the next meeting. Carlos expressed concern that DHC was focused primarily on Negocios and not the broader needs of the community.
- B. Economic Development is looking at putting together resources in a centralized virtual location that is accessible to all businesses.
- C. Carlos stated that we need to connect with the Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce.
- D. Patricia asked what the goal of the economic development committee is. Jose said that it should advocate to the Division of Small Business to help Latino businesses grow. Patricia said we need to have a strategy session going forward.

Marketing/Public Relations

Jose Irizarry will work on the media breakfast event and also work closely on marketing the Latino Summit. Javier will reach out to Jose to discuss.

V. Motions:

- A. Dec. 4, 2018 Meeting minutes were approved.
- B. Approved the lunch and learn box lunches for legislators. Not to exceed \$500.

VI. Action Items:

1. Send thank you letter to Margie Rivera for students attending Latino Summit
2. Maria to reimburse Patricia with LACC for outstanding invoices submitted for Latino Summit and website.
3. Send DHC financial report to members.
4. Javier to send “Yo Soy Latino” to members.
5. Hold Strategy meeting on Jan. 9, 2019 at Buena Vista

VII. Public Comment – Rosanna from Casa de Venezuela presented on her organization and how Venezuela is currently being impacted by the current regime and the humanitarian crisis that exists. She asked if we could provide support or guidance. DHC members recommended she contact the Congressional Delegation, Senator Carper, Coons, and Rep. Blunt-Rochester. She provided a handout to the DHC.

Karen Lantz from ACLU-DE presented on the lawsuit that was filed against the State of Delaware and the Department of Education. She explained how Delaware has not met the educational needs of their students

specifically children of color and English Learners. She provided a handout regarding the organization Delaware for Educational Opportunity as well as their membership form.

Janet Wurtzel introduced herself and briefly mentioned her goal to work with the Commission to help small businesses.

Maria Freudenthal gave a very quick update of Negocios and also Mary Dupont who is very ill.

VIII.Meeting was adjourned

IX.Next scheduled meeting will be on May 19, 2019 at LegHall from 10am to 12pm