



# GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR OFFICE ON LATINO AFFAIRS



*Muriel Bowser*  
*Mayor*

*Jackie Reyes*  
*Director*

Latino Community Development  
Commission Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, September 8, 2016  
6:30pm-8:00 pm

The meeting took place at the Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs (MOLA). The Interim Chair of the Commission, Johnny Garcia, called the order at 6:47pm. Commissioners and members of MOLA in attendance were Johnny Garcia, Catalina Talero, Gunther Sanabria, Jonas Minino, Ricardo Villalba, Angelique Sina, Ana Reyes, Dr. Angelo Gomez. Preliminary conversations took place around the fact that Anne Garcia is no longer serving as Chair of the Commission because her term has been completed. The Commissioners discussed that it was time to vote for a new Chair or Co-Chairs. It was highlighted that Johnny Garcia was previously assigned as Interim Chair.

The Interim Chair, Johnny Garcia welcomes the participants and made a few announcements. He also highlighted a few activities taking place in the context of the Hispanic Heritage Month. These activities included the State of Latinos organized by MOLA. The Commissioners highlighted a few concerns from previous meetings, including making a voting decision when all the members of the Commission are not present. As a result, it was decided that people were going to meet this time to take a vote on naming the new Chair as well as approve any outstanding pending items.

Commissioners took the opportunity to revisit the current schedule of meetings. It was proposed that the Commission meet on the third Thursday of each month. It was expressed that Commissioner any who missed more than 2 or 3 meetings should be something to be addressed more seriously. They also highlighted that there was a communication issue. Issues of communication were related to the fact that some Commissioners do not have current working emails on file. Therefore, it was proposed that all Commissioners provide active emails and phone numbers to improve communications with MOLA. Commissioner Johnny Garcia expressed that he would like to utilize the meeting in a productive, so that Commissioners can add real value to the community.

Some Commissioners explained that during the last meeting of the Commission Johnny requested that everyone provide an active email address. Johnny also committed himself to send to the entire Commissions an email, so that the communication between members of the commission can be better. Additionally, he recommended that the Commission discard the other google group account.

Commissioners also discussed the potential for another group team building retreat. The objective of the retreat will be to further developed the work the Commission started earlier in the year. Commissioner agreed to continue this conversation during the next meeting.

Commissioners discussed about the role of the Commission during the Noche cultural organized by MOLA in the context of the Hispanic Heritage Month. It was confirmed that the location of the event is the Gala Theater. Members of MOLA also explained that the Program of the meeting was being drafted. It was also confirmed the participation of the Mayor Muriel Bowser. Johnny Garcia requested to send the flyer of the event to all Commissioners. In addition, he indicated that it will be good if MOLA can provide details of the program.

Regarding the Hispanic Heritage Month Noche Cultural event, Commissioners expressed willingness to allow MOLA staff to take the lead and proposed potential engagement opportunities for member of the Commission. It was also required that members of the all members attend the event.

Some members of the Commission also expressed their desire to conduct more outreach activities. Commissioner expressed that when Jessie Hernandez sends the meeting minutes, they will forward it to the entire group for approval. Commissioners moved to close the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:17pm.

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