



Meeting Minutes

Regular Hybrid Meeting in-person at 51 Inman St. and via Zoom Tuesday, January 23, 2024, at 6:00 P.M.

Present: Chair Abhishek Raman, Commissioners Vanessa Ruget, Maximus De Medici, Karin Lin, Shubhan Nagendra, Felipe Lobo Koerich

CIRC Staff: Executive Director Carolina Almonte, Language Access Manager Crystal Rosa, Immigrant Services Liaison Tagesech Wabeto, and Director of Operations Sarah

Binney

OEI Staff: Chief of Equity and Inclusion, Deidre Travis Brown and Employee Engagement Manager, Saffana Anwar

Absent: Commissioners Debbie Klein, Karim Razzaz, Vanessa Sarmiento, Ana Mejia, and Tsamchoe Dolma

1. Call to order

- Chair Raman called the meeting to order at 6:10pm.

2. Public comment

- No public was present at the start of the virtual meeting. There was no public comment.

3. Review and approval of December 2023 minutes

- Commissioner Ruget moved to approve the December 2023 minutes; Commissioner De Medici seconded.

4. Welcome new Commissioner Felipe Lobo Koerich

- Commissioners introduced themselves and shared why they joined CIRC.

5. Presentation – Chief of Equity and Inclusion, Deidre Travis Brown and Employee Engagement Manager, Saffana Anwar

- CEI Brown and EEM Anwar presented to the Commission about the Department of Equity and Inclusion. They discussed the restructuring of City departments, including Human Rights, LGBTQ+, CIRC, and Women's Commission, which are now under of the Department of Equity and Inclusion, the mission of the Department of Equity and Inclusion, and the ongoing work and goals for the Department of Equity and Inclusion. Commissioners asked questions about racial inequities in city staff, metrics of success for working with the public, and pay inequities in the city.

6. Staff reports

- LAM Rosa report
 - o LAM Rosa printed information cards for the Multilingual Helpline. They are being distributed to many different city departments. If Commissioners would like Multilingual Helpline cards to pass on to the community, they can request specific languages. LAM Rosa used data from the interpreter lines used by the Multiservice Center (MSC) and the Community Learning Center (CLC) to determine the 20 most frequently used languages. Cards have been printed in all 20 of these languages, and more languages can be printed in the future.
- ISL Wabeto report
 - o ISL Wabeto is connecting families with the updated flyers for the 2024 De Novo Immigration Legal Clinics and upcoming CLC classes. ISL Wabeto tabled at the recent Center for Families event. ISL Wabeto is working with outreach workers to distribute Multilingual Helpline cards.

7. New Business

- Welcome Event 2024 Brainstorm
 - Commissioners brainstormed ideas for the May 2024 Welcome Event. Commissioners brainstormed ideas for food, activities, performers, decorations, giveaways, accessibility, outreach, and atmosphere.
- Co-chair election
 - Former co-chair Jenn Sparks has stepped down from the Commission. During the February Commission meeting, Commissioners will vote on a new Commission co-chair.
- Recruitment for New Volunteer Attorneys
 - ED Almonte shared that new volunteer attorneys are needed for the De Novo Immigration Legal Clinic.
- Political Asylum/ Immigration Representation Project (PAIR)
 - PAIR has offered a Know Your Rights presentation. Commissioners expressed interest in being provided a training at the next Commission meeting.

Adjournment

- Commissioner Lin moved for meeting to adjourn. Commissioner De Medici seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.