



**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
OFFICE ON LATINO AFFAIRS**

Executive Office of Mayor Muriel Bowser | Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs (MOLA)
Commission on Latino Community Development Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 13, 2018 - 6:30pm-8:00 pm
Frank D. Reeves Center-2000-14th St N.W. | Washington, DC 20009

6:35 – Commissioner Johnny Garcia opens the meeting. Participants includes: Commissioners Johnny Garcia, Anthony Musa (note taker), Eduardo Guilty, Jonas Minino, Gustavo Viteri, Jessie Hernandez, Angelique Sina, Margarita Varela, James Devlin-Braswell, Marjhorys Ibarguen Mosquera, Jill Byrd and David Aguelo. MOLA Staff includes Language Access Monitor, Roger Sanchez; Language Access Coordinator Ronal Avila, Director Jackie Reyes-Yanes and Deputy Director Julio Guity-Guevara.

6:38- Commissioner Garcia moves to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Hernandez. The minutes are approved. Director Reyes begins with her opening remarks. Director Reyes notes that MOLA is searching for a Public Information Officer. Additionally, she explains that the office is being renovated to add more computers and increase visibility. Director Reyes informs that the Executive Committee will be voted on next year; Commissioner Garcia's Term ends on September 2019. There are currently three positions open on the Commission for Commissioners, the links to apply are on the agenda of this meeting. MOLA's Deputy Director requests and encourages Commissioners join EOM staff at the Glover Park Holiday Party (Friday, December 14 at 6:00pm), Mayor Bowers Fit DC Fresh Start 5K (Tuesday, January 1, 2019 9:00am), Ward 5 Food Distribution (Tuesdays and Thursdays next year), the MLK Day of Service (Monday, January 21, 2019 time TBD), etc.

6:46 – Commissioner Margarita Dilone arrives for the meeting. Commissioner Angelo Gomez joins the meeting via telephone and Roger Sanchez informed the Commissioners about Mayor Bowser's DC2Me, the shared vision plan for Mayor Bowser's plan for her next term. The purpose is to illustrate what DC residents envision for their future in the next four years.

6:52 – Commissioner Garcia requests more information on if Director Reyes requires any assistance from the Commission on the visit of San Salvador Mayor Nayib Bukele. Director Reyes will be asking for the Commission to meet with Mayor Bowser and Mayor Bukele. Mayor Bukele will be attending Mayor Bowser's inauguration. Time of this proposed meeting is to be determined.

6:56 – Ronal Avila, MOLA's Language Coordinator access explains that MOLA is working on several different programs, including: police outreach, video webinars, fire department outreach, and a bilingual hiring fair. Commissioner Varela asked how many vacancies are on the commission. There are three vacancies. Commissioners Marjhorys Ibarguen Mosquera and James Devlin-Braswell joined the meeting. Commissioner Varela also thanks MOLA for its support provided during the Puerto Rican Diaspora Summit. She also acknowledges the participation of MOLA's Deputy Director Mr. Guity-Guevara and Roger Sanchez.

7:05 – Commissioner Dilone informs the Commission that there will be several different events by Kaiser Foundation will have several open enrollment events for the Affordable Care Act Open Enrollment session. This is an event through DC Health Link. This will occur on Wednesday, January 9th, 2019 from 9:00 am to 12:00 at 2000 14th Street NW. Dilone invites Director Reyes-Yanes to provide remarks and Deputy Director Guity Guevara to moderate a panel during the event.

7:15 – Director Reyes informs the Commission that Attorney General Racine will be opposing a proposed rule by the Trump Administration to redefine "public charge" under federal immigration law. She says that according to Attorney General Racine, the "Public Charge Rule, would significantly change a federal policy that has existed for nearly 20 years. The current policy allows the federal government to deny entry or permanent residency to immigrants who are likely to become "primarily dependent" on public assistance—what federal immigration law has referred to as being a "public charge." The Trump administration's proposal would upend decades of established practice by vastly expanding the definition of "public charge." Once a lawful immigrant has been labeled a "public charge," he or she may be unable to successfully apply for a green card or change their immigration status."



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7:21 – Commissioner Garcia is seeking the identification of three Commissioners for the following events: The Glover Park Holiday Party, Mayor Bowser’s Fit DC Fresh Start 5k, Ward 5 Food Distribution, Three Kings, and the MLK Day of Service. The dates are noted on the draft agenda as well as a link to sign up. The tasks include: greeting guests, signing story tellers in, and helping them write their story on a board. Commissioner Garcia noted that there would be a vote for leadership coming up: At present, Commissioner Garcia is Chair, Vice Chair is Commissioner Dilone and Commissioner Hernandez is Secretary.

7:25 – Commissioner Garcia requests a status report from the Committee on the MOLA promotional video. Currently, there needs to be a promotional video for the Mayor’s Office on Latino Affairs and how we are impacting the D.C. Community. The video will be 30 seconds per Commissioner. This should be a combination of Mayor Bowser’s priorities and interests of the Commission. The deadline for the draft of this video is January 15th, 2019. Commissioners Eduardo Guity, James Devlin-Braswell, Margarita Dilone and Jesse Hernandez are responsible for this and will lead this committee.

7:30 – Deputy Director Guilty-Guevara brought up the solar panel initiative currently being promoted by the D.C. government. The government will pay for free solar panels for individuals making a certain amount of money via the Department of Energy and Environment. He also highlights the need to engage Commissioners in helping the Latino Community to address issues related to students’ loans. The Bowser Administration is committed to ensuring that the District student loan borrowers are informed of their rights and responsibilities. He explains that information available to MOLA suggests that, according to the Department of Education, over 90% African American and 72% Latino students leave college with student loan debt compared to 66% of their white counter parts. Commissioner Dilone suggests that this should be a subject for a deeper conversation within the Commission and made herself available for follow-up activities.

7:35- Commissioner Garcia notes that the next Commission meeting has been scheduled to take place on January 17th, 2019. He would like to know if we would like to change our meeting day or meeting time to ensure close to 100% participation. The goal is to have Commissioners meet in the office. Commissioner Varela will be circulating a Google Doodle form where Commissioners will indicate what dates are best for the Commission to meet to meet 100% engagement. Commissioner Valera would also like to thank MOLA for hosting the Puerto Rican Diaspora summit.

7:40 – Commissioner Garcia adjourned the meeting