



**Seattle Immigrant and Refugee Commission
June 5th, 2012, 6:00-8:00 PM
City Hall, Boards and Commissions Room-L280**

Meeting Minutes

- Commissioners Present:** Jesus Rodriguez, Devon Abdallah, Leno Rose-Avila, Andrea Caupain, Ashraf Alazadi, Shree Ram Dahal, Mohamed Hassan
- Commissioners Absent:** Cherry Cayabyab, Bincy Jacob
- Commissioners by Phone:** None
- SOCR Staff Present:** Julie Nelson, Ron Ramp
- Guests:** Angelica Chazaro Northwest Immigrant Rights Project
- Call to Order:** Call to order at 6:00 PM

SOCR Report; Julie Nelson, Director

Julie recapped the accomplishments and activates of SOCR. Julie gave the rest of her time to Magdaleno Rose-Avila the director of new Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs office (OIR).

This is the first commission meeting since the city announced Magdaleno Rose-Avila as director of OIR. Leno spoke about the new office and it's relation with the commission. Leno introduced Evone a volunteer for the office.

Presentation – Caring Across Generation

This presentation addressed the growing need for home care workers, and how it relates to the immigrant and refugee community. The campaign will focus on the five areas below. They would like the I&R commission to endorse a city council resolution. It will be heard June 13th at 2:00. **The I & R Commission voted to endorse the Caring Across Generations resolution.**

Job creation: Create 2 million new jobs in home care, and explore new funding streams for job creation.

Job quality: Establish stronger labor standards to protect workers and recipients of care. Improve job quality, wages and access to health insurance.

Training and career ladder: Build a career ladder and improved job training and certification programs.

Path to legalization: Create a new visa category to create a path to citizenship for participants in training and certificate programs.

Support for individuals and families: Preserve and expand Medicaid, Medicare, Social Security and the Affordable Care Act. Support unpaid family caregivers who are taking time from employment with Social Security

Erika Berg of Refugee Youth Empowered gave a presentation to the commission.

Erika presented a slide show of art done by immigrant and refugee youth. It was centered around why they fled, and their journey to safety. Many in the room found the art very profound and moving.

Angelica Chazaro of the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project gave a presentation regarding secure communities

Angelica discussed this issue with the commission. **Angelica** reminded the commission this proposal would result in fingerprints send to ICE on every arrest. This would have a significant negative impact on immigrant and refugee communities. It was mentioned that 98% of those picked up by ICE are eventually deported. This is despite appeals and legal representation. The commission discussed an ordinance providing guidelines for arrests and information sharing with ICE.

Action Item: Jesus will follow up on this.

It was mentioned that the I&R commission sent two letters on this issue to King County Council, Seattle City Council, and the Mayor of Seattle.

Motion: May minutes approved

Committee Reports

Creating Protocols

A system for tracking attendance has been developed. Guest speaker protocol is underdevelopment. Workgroup ground rules are also being developed.

Tracking & Responding to Key issues that affect the Immigrant and Refugee Communities

This group is working on an excel spreadsheet for tracking critical issues

Elevate visibility of Immigrant and Refugee Commission

SOCR provided a general e-mail list. An updated and narrowly targeted e-mail list needs to be developed

Police Accountability

Jesus is continuing the commission work with SPD and the 20/20 plan

Announcements

It was felt an assessment of commissioner skills would be beneficial. **Action Item:** A skills survey will be sent to the commissioners.

The Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 PM