



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LANSING

POPPY HERNANDEZ
GLOBAL MICHIGAN
DIRECTOR

**Hispanic/Latino Commission of Michigan, Commission Meeting
Landmark Building, 105 W. Allegan, Lansing, MI 48933
January 13, 2023
Meeting Minutes No. 344**

Commissioners Present

Dr. Jesse M Bernal, Chair	Consuela Barber-Lopez	Aurora Saucedo
Sonya Hernandez, Vice Chair (virtual)	Jesus Hernandez	Abril Valdes Siewert
Floren시오 Hernandez, Treasurer	Anthony Rubio (virtual)	
Monica Reyes, Secretary	Jose Sanchez	

Commissioner Celeste Sanchez Lloyd participated virtually but did not count towards quorum nor did she vote.

Staff Present:

Poppy Hernandez, Director, Office of Global Michigan
Karen Phillippi, Director, New American Integration, Office of Global Michigan (virtual)
Tonya Jeter, Assistant Attorney General (virtual)

1) Call to Order:

Chair Dr. Jesse Bernal calls the meeting to order at 6:07 PM.

3) Roll Call:

Commissioners Jesse Bernal, Floren시오 Hernandez, Monica Reyes, Consuela Barber-Lopez, Jesus Hernandez, Jose Sanchez, Aurora Saucedo, and Abril Valdes Siewert were present in-person. Commissioners Sonya Hernandez and Anthony Rubio participated virtually, and were approved to do so. Commissioner Celeste Sanchez Lloyd participated virtually but did not count towards quorum nor allowed to vote.

4) Acknowledgement of Commissioner Absences:

Commissioners Montez Morales and Angelita Valdez were absent due to deaths in the family.

5) Approval of Agenda:

Meeting agenda was reviewed and approved, unanimously, without objection.

6) Approval of Minutes from September 16, 2022:

Minutes from the September 16, 2022 meeting were reviewed and approved, unanimously, without objection.

7) Chair's Report:

Chair Bernal provided a brief report and began by offering a moment of silence for those commissioners and staff who have experienced the recent loss of close family members. Bernal reviewed the plan for the meeting to include an abbreviated business meeting and a primary focus on operationalizing priorities that began in the September retreat. Bernal reminded the commission of its charge and stressed the role the Commission plays in advising and making recommendations on matters that impact the Latino community to the Governor and legislature. Bernal shared that the terms for several Commissioners were ending, pending appointments and potentially re-appointments. Commissioners Reyes, Barber-Lopez, Valdes Siewert, and Morales will continue to serve until their seats are filled through re-appointment or appointment. The Commission expressed its gratitude to Commissioner Cantu for six years of service.

Dr. Jesse M. Bernal, Chair
Consuela Barber-Lopez, Vice Chair
Floren시오 Hernandez, Treasurer
Abril Valdes Siewert, Secretary

Jesus Hernandez
Sonya Hernandez
Montez Morales
Monica Reyes
Anthony Rubio

Jose Sanchez, III
Celeste Sanchez Lloyd
Aurora Saucedo
Angelita Valdez

ACTION: Unanimous decision to request the Executive Director provide a tribute to Commissioner Cantu, on behalf of the Commission, for her service.

Bernal requested the addition of the past chair to the executive committee particularly given the historical knowledge held by Commissioner Reyes.

MOTION: Commissioner Valdes Siewert moved to include the most recent past chair, Commissioner Reyes, as a member of the executive committee. Commissioner Barber-Lopez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Bernal requested commissioners volunteer for several committees and made appointments (see attached). Commissioners were encouraged to identify community members who could be added to committees as well and share with the executive director and chair.

8) Election of Officers:

Ad Hoc Elections Committee Chair Reyes presented the slate of candidates for 2023-2024 executive committee.

Chair: Jesse M. Bernal
Vice Chair: Consuela Barber-Lopez
Treasurer: Floren시오 Hernandez
Secretary: Abril Valdes Siewert

Reyes confirmed that there were no other nominations and that those nominated accepted the nomination.

ACTION: The executive committee was elected unanimously without objection. The new officers through 2024 are Chair Bernal, Vice Chair Barber-Lopez, Treasurer F. Hernandez, and Secretary Valdes Siewert. Past Chair Reyes will also serve on the executive committee.

9) Approval of 2023 Meeting Schedule and Locations:

The Commission reviewed the proposed list of meeting dates and locations. Commissioners Bernal and F. Hernandez reiterated the importance of attendance at all meetings. Commissioner Barber-Lopez recommended that attendance be captured through a Google doc for each meeting. All Commissioners present confirmed their current availability to attend all meetings on the proposed meeting schedule.

MOTION: Commissioner Saucedo moved to approve the following dates and locations for meetings, which was seconded by Commissioner F. Hernandez. The motion was approved unanimously.

January 13 in Lansing
March 10 in Lansing
April 14 in Flint
August 11 and 12 in Detroit
September 8 in Adrian
October 27 in Detroit

The Commission also approved the creation of an ad hoc committee on events and delegated authority to the committee and executive committee to determine the date and specific locations of the following events. The dates and locations should be shared with the full commission by the end of February.

March: joint commission activities in Lansing
April/May: Latino Graduation Celebration in Kalamazoo
September: Hispanic Heritage Celebration and Awards in Saginaw

10) Finance Report:

Treasurer F. Hernandez presented the finance report. The budget is the same as the previous fiscal year. LEO/RMS charges are locked into one flat rate now. It was decided that the ad hoc events committee would determine the number of scholarships to award.

MOTION: Commissioner Sanchez moved to approve the finance report. Commissioner Reyes seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Community Sponsorship Process

Treasurer F. Hernandez presented a revised Community Sponsorship Process (see attached). Commissioner Valdes Siewert recommended a range be included on the website to be transparent on the maximum award.

MOTION: Commissioner Reyes moved to approve the Community Sponsorship Process as presented (see attached), delegating authority to the finance and executive committee on sponsorship decisions. Commissioner Valdes Siewert seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

11) Public Committee:

Chair Bernal recited the Public Comment Protocol: Today’s meeting is being recorded. All speakers must identify themselves by name and organization before speaking. The Commission will only be accepting verbal public comments during public comment portion of the agenda. They will follow-up with responses to question or concerns via email or a phone call within 2-3 business days. I will call on speakers in the order in which they are signed in. The public comment timeframe for speaking is 3 minutes. The timekeeper will verbally remind each speaker when 1 minute remains.

a) Theresa Rosado, Casa de Rosado Galeria and Cultural Center

Thanked the commission for its sponsorship and invited the community to upcoming events.

6) Adjournment:

MOTION: To suspend parliamentary procedure/by-laws for the purpose of going into retreat and adjourn the general business meeting made by Commissioner Bernal and supported by Commissioner Reyes. Motion was passed and the meeting is adjourned at 6:53pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Jesse M. Bernal, Chairperson Date

Abril Valdes Siewert, Secretary Date