

**Virginia Latino Advisory Board
Draft Minutes
Friday, July 30, 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Virginia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
10700 Midlothian Turnpike
Richmond, Virginia 23235-4704**

Action Items

- Members present at meeting will contact absent members who did not notify the Chair regarding their absence for today to verify their intention to continue as VLAB members.
- Send Omar report on calls to verify who plans to continue with VLAB by Friday, August 6.
- Send evite regarding date for next meeting: Fridays, August 13 or September 10.
- Duane, Gabe, Rosaura, Omar will send biographies and pictures to Kris.
- Rosaura will check Pew Foundation, Kris will check Weldon-Cooper for Hispanic business contributions by next meeting.
- Duane will check on
 - Sending press releases regarding Latino issues from Governor's Office to disseminate to community;
 - Having the Hispanic/Latino Heritage Month proclamation in Spanish as well as English;
 - Having Governor present to formally reconvene VLAB and move forward officially;
 - Having new lapel pins presented at the Hispanic Heritage Month event on October 5;
 - Inviting person in charge of Small Business Association in the administration to speak at a future meeting;
 - The official dates of the Board—January to January or October to October;
 - The official attendance policy for state boards.

Members Present: Omar Rashid, Peter Loach, Gabriel Rojas, Kris Tilley-Lubbs, Beatriz Amberman, Charlotte Fritts, Eddie Reyes Michel Zajur called and spoke to the group via speaker phone.

Members Absent: Mario Alfaro, Soraya Buckner, Renee Cabral-Daniels, Elin Doval, Fred Sánchez, Debbie Santiago, Zuraya Tapia-Alfaro

Liaison: Duane Stafford, Statewide Credentialing Coordinator, Office of Commonwealth Preparedness, Liaison with Governor's Office.

Meeting called to order at 1:25 p.m.

Introduction of VLAB members and liaison.

Concern: Lack of quorum at meetings. Decision made that members in attendance will contact absent members who did not contact the Chair regarding absence at today's meeting to verify whether they

Member to be contacted	Member who will contact
Mario Alfaro	Eddie Reyes
Soraya Buckner	Kris Tilley-Lubbs
Renee Cabral Daniels	Charlotte Fritts
Elin Doval	Omar Rashid
Fred Sánchez	Eddie Reyes
Debbie Santiago	Omar Rashid
Zuraya Tapia-Alfaro	Omar Rashid

intend to continue with VLAB. We will let them know that the next meeting will be the official convening of the Board for this year.

Report from Duane:

- Notified the Board that those members whose terms have expired can continue to serve as long as their seats are not replaced.
- Will check to find out how appointments are made so interested community members can apply for the vacant seats on VLAB..
- **Virginia Hispanic Heritage Month:** Event at Governor’s Mansion. By August 5, send list of invitees to Omar, who will submit to Duane, who will submit to Governor to choose invitees. Invitations will be sent on September 5. Reception will be held on October 5, 6:30-8:00. Governor’s office is preparing a proclamation. It’s in draft and requires 45 days to be approved.
- Checking on lapel pins.
- Conveyed VLAB positive comments to First Lady McDonnell at an event.
- Checking on Ex-Officio members with the intention of finding ex-officio members from each department. Hopes to have them in place by September or October meeting.
- Contacted webmaster. Updates will be done and webpage will be redesigned to be consistent with other webpages of new administration.

Discussion of further ways VLAB can serve and inform Governor:

- Responsibility of VLAB to inform Governor of Latino perspective on pertinent bills.
- Focus on responding to issues brought from Governor, especially economic development and outreach.
- Need to frame all concerns in terms of economy and outreach in Virginia.
- Obligation to let Governor know the truth about the impact of concerns on community—address issues in economic terms.
- Communicate to break down stereotypes regarding Latino population in VA.

Kris, Charlotte, Omar, Peter, Eddie, Gabe, Beatriz, and Rosaura will provide past reports for the Governor reflecting the community concerns that arose from the Town Hall meetings held in 2009. All issues will be framed in terms of the economy and outreach to reflect the Governor's emphasis: "We are presenting these as issues that have been bubbling in the community for the last four years in terms of their impact on the economy in the Commonwealth of Virginia."

Report from Michel on Task Force:

- Luncheon with Governor on August 26 with Hispanic business leaders. VA 9th in US with Hispanic business. Fortune 500 list of Hispanic businesses.
- Importance of demonstrating to Governor the ways the Hispanic community is contributing to the economy in Virginia:
 - Workforce in industries
 - Hispanic businesses
- Need to find hard statistics in disparity studies regarding Hispanic contributions to document to Governor and legislators the economic contributions of Hispanic community. Can take national figures and break down to reflect VA.
 - Pew Hispanic Foundation
 - Weldon-Cooper at UVA

Adjournment: Rosaura made the motion to adjourn at 3:05 p.m.. Beatriz seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Tilley-Lubbs