**Commission Committee on Latino Community Development**

**February 11, 2019**

**Attendees:**

Johnny S. Garcia

Margarita Dilone

Gustavo Viteri

Camilo Manjarres

Jackie Reyes

Miozotis Florez Ruiz

Angelica Mercado

Nelson Cruz

Robin Imperial (DCPL)

**Notetaker and Commissioner:** Angelica Mercado

**Welcome:**

* Recap or follow up for anything not covered during the retreat
* Introduction from new members
  + **Nelson Cruz:** works at the Congressional Hispanic Cuacus Institute (D.C. native). Topics of interests are Afro-latinidad and youth development. He is the co-founder of Latino voices and communication professional. Here to hold the office accountable.
  + **Alexis Vigil:** has10 years of experience working with youth (immigrants and native). Right now working for the capital bike share where he has worked in the labor union. Excited to see what we can do.
  + **Margarita Dione:** d.c. native with Dominican and Puerto Rican parents. Very involved with Greater Washington Hispanic of commerce and provided housing services, and involved in the health sector. Wants to work on the census by providing town halls and encouraging people to register to vote. 35 tears as an insurance business office. She is also contributing to El Tiempo Latino.
* **Community member intro:**
  + **Alex** is a member of congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton. He is the Latino community liaison for the office. Happy to be here. And HR 51 will go to the senate and very excited as it will turn the D.C. of Columbia into a new state (this is a stand-alone bill).
  + **Carina Lora:** faculty in the department of exercise and nutrition at GW. Learn more about what the commission is doing.

**Thank you:**

* Thank you to the community attendee for attending.

**Reflections from Re-treat:**

* **Miozotis:** Retreat was good to meet everyone and have a clear vision of the agenda we will have for agenda in the upcoming years
* **Johnny:** Make sure to keep the momentum going so we can continue to find value in the commission. Learned more about others and different work styles. This is an opportunity to step back and be more inclusive of the Latino communities in the holistic part.

**MOLA Director’s Report**

**Upcoming events:**

* Oversight hearing Thursday at 10:00 am
* Budget engagement forums:
  + Tuesday, 2/18/2020- Edgewood recreation center
  + Thursday, 2/20/2020- UDC Student Center
  + Saturday, 2/22/2020- Kenilworth Recreation Center

**Census:**

* Weekly meetings at 3:00 PM on Mondays. We need to have a more sense of urgency for the census.
* Doing maps and having Tuesday census chats. Please follow D.C. Census 2020 social media (Twitter and Facebook). Social media, radio, TV (information have been uploaded in the SOMOS chat and commission.
* All members of the commission are part of the Census ambassador group
* Jackie has reached out to grantees to report on their work and their reach
* We have a goal of 2000 ambassadors by march. Ambassadors will be doing a big push on March 16th so everyone can fill out the census online.
* Social Media outreach will happen on Tuesday along with the Carecen, Mary Center, Casa Rubi, Consulate of Mexico
* The library has sent information, but there is no coordinated effort to aim for the same goal. Robin asked Melissa Byrd to come to the library, and she came to the office to answer questions. However, individual staff still have some questions regarding language support or access as they will not be able to assist others to fill out the census. There will not be U.S. Census professionals onsight at the library, but there is internal information for library staff to review. If you have a library card, you will be able to use the computer to fill out the census for 70 minutes. But if you do not have a library card, the person will only have 15 minutes to complete the census. The library is a great location for people who do not trust the government.

**Budget Engagement Forum strategy**

* Concerning topics
  + More money for the Immigrant Justice Legal Fund (funded once)
  + Citizenship Fund fees will go up (for application fees and fingerprints)
  + Commissioner will listen and advocate
* Attendees (all commissioners will wear Census shirts):
  + Connecticut Avenue (Pamela, Margarita, Dora, Johnny, Miozotis)
  + Edgewood: Alexis

**Action Items:**

* Meeting minutes will be provided electronically to get approval from commission electronically
* Pamela and Dora will re-share document they are working on regarding the census and grantees
* Information will be shared in google group instead of the group chat
* Members at the table will provide census information for Maryland and Virginia
* Pamela and Dora will come up with talking points that the commission can share
  + Highlight the current levels for each category and advocate and inform people that DACA and TPS are under attack.
* Jackie will testify at the performance hearing at 10:00 AM on Thursday (Location- 13th, 1350 Pennsylvania Ave NW.) Room 123.
* Upload mission statement: We advocate for advice on the needs and interests of Latino communities in D.C. to improve our quality of life.