

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY  
OFFICE OF THE CHAIR  
HISPANIC AFFAIRS ADVISORY BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
FEBRUARY 12, 2013

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Magali Abad  
Abbie B. Cuellar  
Lyse Cuellar-Vidal  
Jorge N. Iglesias  
Edilfa E. Perez  
Vivian Rosado  
Felipe Villaraus

EXCUSED:

Xiomara Casado  
Christina Gomez-Pina  
Yvelice Gonzalez

Board Chairwoman Lyse Cuellar-Vidal opened the meeting at 6:15 p.m. She welcomed and thanked the members for attending the meeting. The meeting was held at Cubaocho Art and Research Center 1465 SW 8 St., Miami, Florida

She asked HAAB Members to review the Meeting Agenda and the Board Meeting Minutes of January 8, 2013 and to make a motion to approve them.

Board Member Abbie B. Cuellar moved to approve the meeting agenda. Board Member Magali Abad seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Board Member Vivian Rosado moved to approve the January 8, 2013 Board Meeting Minutes. Board Member Edilfa E. Perez seconded the motion and the motion passed.

**BOARD ELECTIONS:**

Board Chairwoman Lyse Cuellar-Vidal opened the floor for the HAAB Elections.

**Board Chairperson Position:**

Board Member Magali Abad nominated Board Member Lyse Cuellar-Vidal to serve a second term in the capacity of Board Chairperson. All HAAB Members approved the nomination and voted unanimously.

Board Member Lyse Cuellar-Vidal accepted the appointment. She will serve a second term in the capacity of Board Chairperson. Her term will expire on February 2014.

**Board Vice-Chairperson Position:**

Board Member Edilfa E. Perez nominated Board Member Vivian Rosado to serve a second term in the capacity of Board Vice-Chairperson. All HAAB Members approved the nomination and voted unanimously.

Board Member Vivian Rosado accepted the appointment. She will serve a second term in the capacity of Board Vice Chairperson.

**Board Secretary Position:**

Board Member Magali Abad nominated Board Member Edilfa E, Perez to serve a second term in the capacity of Board Secretary. All HAAB Members approved the nomination and voted unanimously.

Board Member Edilfa E. Perez accepted the appointment. She will serve a second term in the capacity of Board Secretary.

**HAAB 2013 Executive Committee:**

Lyse Cuellar-Vidal, Chairwoman  
Vivian Rosado, Vice Chairwoman  
Edilfa E. Perez, Secretary

HAAB Members congratulated the 2013 Executive Committee.

HAAB Chairwoman Lyse Cuellar-Vidal thanked HAAB Members for trusting her to serve in the capacity of Board Chair a second term. She promised them that she will take the board to the highest level possible and that she will get involved in all the projects that the board presents this year.

She asked all members to please follow the meeting agenda. Therefore, she asked all members to participate in the revamping of the board's committees. She would like to see all HAAB Members participating in a committee. As it stands, the board has two committees; the Outreach Committee and the Signature Events Committee. She asked members, if there was a need to create another committee or if the programs could be develop under the existing committees.

The Outreach Committee currently takes the following projects:

- Radio/T.V. Appearances
- Health Fairs
- Summits/Forums
- Workshops

The Signature Events Committee currently takes the following projects:

- Hispanic Art Expressions Exhibits (a Yearly event celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month)
- Other Signature Event or Special Project

HAAB Members sustained a discussion on the possibility of changing the committees or creating a new committee and agreed to stay with the current committees. Through the two committees the board can handle any program or project that it considers beneficial to the community.

Board Member Magali Abad requested to be place on the Signature Events Committee also. Board Member Felipe Villaraus requested to be place on the Outreach Committee.

See attached copy of the HAAB Committees 2013.

Old Business:

Board Chairwoman Lyse Cuellar-Vidal asked HAAB Members if they had any old business that they would like to discuss.

HAAB Members reported all the projects completed in 2012 and no old business pending.

New Business:

Board Member Magali Abad expressed an interest on bringing a person to provide training to all the members on how to conduct and behave at an advisory board meeting.

Board Member Felipe Villaraus asked what is the total membership of the Hispanic Affairs Advisory Board? Who are the commissioners that have a vacancy on the board? What needs to be done so those commissioners make an appointment to HAAB?

Board Director Maria Lazo explained to Board Member Felipe Villaraus that the total membership of the Hispanic Affairs Advisory Board is thirteen (13) members. Each Commissioner makes an appointment to the board. Currently, the commissioners that have vacancies on the board are Commissioner Jean Monestime (District 2), Commissioner Bruno A. Barreiro (District 5) and Commissioner Esteban Bovo, Jr. (District 13). HAAB Members should contact the three commissioners and ask them to appoint their representative to HAAB. As a HAAB Member you could send a letter and the resume of a person that you could recommend to fill the vacancies on the board.

Board Chairwoman Lyse Cuellar-Vidal explained to HAAB Members that she is concerned with the Board Director replacement. As you know the Board Director Maria Lazo will retire on July 31, 2013. It will be difficult to find someone to replace her, someone that could be passionate about the job and that will love to work with the constituents. Maria has excelled on her duties and she is a courteous and professional individual that convinces people to partner with HAAB to carry out excellent programs that educate the community. She is very charming and goes out of her way to help the constituents of Miami-Dade County solve their problems. She is confident that the Director of the Office of Community Advocacy will try to find a qualify person to replace Maria. The new director will need time to adjust and learn the tasks at hand, so it will be a difficult transition. She recommended that HAAB Members talk to Rene Diaz to request that Maria's replacement be chosen or identify by June 2013. The person could come by the office and start working with Maria on the ongoing projects, so when Maria leaves the person is familiar with the programs and could take them to the end with minor problems.

She informed HAAB Members that she will be calling Rene Diaz to make an appointment to meet with him to discuss the Board's Director Position. She will also be contacting the commissioners that have a vacancy on the board to encourage them to appoint a representative.

All HAAB Members agreed with HAAB Chairwoman Lyse Cuellar Vidal and expressed concern with transitional period to replace the Board Director. They agreed with the chair that the person should be chosen/identify or hire in June so that Ms. Lazo could fill the person on all the projects that are pending.

Announcements:

Board Chairwoman Lyse Cuellar-Vidal informed HAAB Members that the Board Retreat will take place on Tuesday, March 12, 2013, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., at La Portena Restaurant 8520 SW 8 Street. The attendance to the meeting is mandatory. She asked members to list the meeting on their calendars so they won't forget it and make another commitment the same day and time.

She asked Board Director to contact Ms. Betty Prieto, Stenographer, Dynamic Reporting to take the minutes of the Board Retreat Meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Maria Lazo  
Recorder