

TOWN OF SILER CITY

The Siler City Immigrant Community Advisory Committee met on **Tuesday, October 11, 2022**, at 6:00pm at Wren Memorial Library located at 500 North Second Avenue with Chairperson Hannia Benitez presiding.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Hannia Benitez, Victoria Navarro, Jisselle Perdomo, Carlos Simpson, Danubio Vazquez Rodriguez, and Shirley Villatoro

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT: Norma Hernandez

TOWN STAFF PRESENT: Town Manager Hank Raper and Town Clerk Jenifer Johnson

Chair Hannia Benitez called the meeting of the Immigrant Community Advisory Committee to order.

AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Victoria Navarro, seconded by Shirley Villatoro, and unanimously approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion to approve the consent agenda, which included the August 9, 2022 was made by Victoria Navarro, seconded by Shirley Villatoro, and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Sub-Committee Reports

Communication and Leadership

Hannia Benitez, Danubio Vazquez Rodriguez, and Carlos Simpson
Nothing to report at this time.

Business & Entrepreneurship

Norma Hernandez and Jisselle Perdomo
Nothing to report at this time.

Parks & Recreation and Youth Mental Health

Norma Hernandez, Victoria Navarro, and Shirley Villatoro
Nothing to report at this time.

Housing and Public Transportation

Hannia Benitez and Victoria Navarro
Nothing to report at this time.

Public Safety & Law Enforcement

Jisselle Perdomo, Danubio Vazquez Rodriguez, and Shirley Villatoro
Met with Faith House concerning the Faith ID. Faith House suggested that the committee reach out to other organizations including schools, health, county, sheriff, then have a drive and give out the ID's which would be \$10 each.

NEW BUSINESS

Prepared by Jenifer K Johnson, Town Clerk

New Roots/ Latino Migration Oral History Project Presentation

Daniel Velasquez, the Community Documentarian at the Institute for the Study of the Americas at UNC-Chapel Hill presenting the following on the New Roots Program

New Roots / Nuevas Raíces is a bilingual digital archive that houses first-hand stories from Latin American migrants in North Carolina. And stories from other people who have helped migrants integrate in communities across the state. The program began in 2006 and is directed by Hannah Gil. And we use this online portal for sharing the over 200 oral history interviews that have been recorded over the years.

If you visit the site, and you can see the web address here, you will find that the oral histories are catalogued and easy to browse, and they explore a wide range of themes like identity, migratory experiences, family stories, challenges in integrating into new communities, etc. But a new focus that we have going forward this year is to collect narratives from North Carolina leaders with Latin American ancestry, and that's why I'm speaking to you all today.

We want to invite all the members of the ICAC to share your stories. We are particularly interested in documenting your experiences as leaders. For instance, the pathways you have taken to leadership positions. The challenges you have faced and the lessons you have learned along the way. And very importantly, your visions for helping to create strong communities. Our overall goal is not only to archive and preserve your experiences, but also to share the stories in order to inspire similar kinds of leadership in other communities across the state. And of course, to inspire young people and even future generations of Latinx leaders in North Carolina to perhaps take up leadership roles in their own communities or beyond.

The process of oral history collection is relatively simple and wouldn't be a big time commitment on your part. We would be in touch before the interview to discuss the kinds of questions you would want us to ask you about your leadership experience. And I wouldn't ask you anything besides what we agree upon beforehand; so you are in control of what you want to share. We would schedule the interview, which would only take about 45 minutes to an hour. And it can be in person or via Zoom, however you are most comfortable. And once we've processed the recording and finalize the oral history, you can see the final copy and tell us if you like it or not before it is archived. So you have final say.

If you agree to let us archive the interview, it will be publicly accessible on the New Roots website and would look something like this. There is an audio player where someone visiting the site can listen to the entire interview. There is an abstract, a list of themes addressed in the narrative. And a full transcript of the conversation. And that's it, that's where it would live from then on. Additionally, we can work with a local institution, like a library or community-based organization, to share the materials with them if you would like them to house the interview as well.

The committee thanked Daniel Velasquez for the presentation.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Committee Vacancy Process

The committee and Town Staff discussed the committee vacancy process.

ICAC Meeting Guidelines

The committee and Town Staff discussed the ICAC meeting guidelines.

Board of Commissioners Presentation – December 5, 2022

Prepared by Jenifer K Johnson, Town Clerk

The committee discussed the presentation and what may be included, such as a general update or more specific such as the Faith ID program.

A motion to give a general overview of ICAC and share the specific Faith ID program was made by Victoria Navarro, seconded by Hannia Benitez, and unanimously approved.

NEXT STEPS

Committee members will work on the presentation and will discuss at the next meeting on November 8, 2022.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Committee members discussed having a special meeting on November 14 if necessary.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business the Immigrant Community Advisory Committee adjourned at 8:00pm.



Hannia Benitez, Chairperson

ATTEST:



Jenifer K. Johnson, Town Clerk