

Spanish-Language Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

July 25, 2011

5:00 p.m.

Cuyahoga County Board of Elections

I. Introduction and Welcome

a) Present:

Dennis Anderson	Henry Curtis	Arianne Morrow
Marilyn Bagley	Blanca Figueroa	Gregory Rodak
Laura Black	Luis Gómez	Ivelisse Roig
Luis Cartagena	Magda Gómez	Jenean Satterfield
Pablo Castro III	Javier Morales-Ortíz	Dharma Valentín

b) Not Present:

Adrian Maldonado
Carlos Chinchilla
Lorna McLain
Yasin Cuevas
María I. Pérez

II. Review & Approval of Minutes from 04/26/2011

a) Minutes were discussed by Magda Gómez.

- i. Approval of the Spanish Advisory Board minutes from the April 26th, 2011 meeting.
 1. The motion was made by Luis Gómez and seconded by Pablo A. Castro III for the minutes' approval and there was no discussion.

III. Old Business & Updates:

a) Spanish-Language Advisory Board Facebook:

- i. Bilingual Coordinator, Ivelisse Roig provided a brief report to obtain member's feedback and comments on how to increase the popularity of the Facebook Page.
 1. The Facebook page Insights Report was presented to the board members. It covered Facebook activity including our "Likes".
 2. The Bilingual Coordinator presented the new URL created to catch the interest of the Spanish speaking community: www.facebook.com/TuVoto.es.TuVoz. The Bilingual Coordinator suggested board members post the URL in their emails, LinkedIn, Twitter and Facebook accounts.
 3. The Chair, Magda Gómez emphasized the importance of our social media and described Facebook as a free and useful tool to give us an opportunity to inform people in the community.

b) Survey Project Discussion:

i. Survey summary report was provided by Bilingual Coordinator, Ivelisse Roig.

1. The Survey Monkey report shows a total of 42 participants. The survey data collectors are divided into three categories: email, website link and Facebook. The analysis shows that 72 % of the participants did not understand the issues when voting and 33.3 % do not read English very well. According to the results, 92.9% of the participants were registered voters.
2. Professor Javier Morales expressed his concerns in relation to the survey being unstructured. He would like to add demographics; i.e. Puerto Ricans vs. other nationalities, geographic areas, gender and age. Professor Morales will be available to discuss the survey after July 31st; he would count on the support of HASA - The Hispanic American Student Association from Baldwin Wallace. He suggested waiting until September to engage the students in going door to door.
3. Magda Gómez explained to Professor Morales that this survey is “just to test the water, to understand where we stand.” Board members are open for suggestions and changes from Professor Morales. The current survey will be distributed at the Puerto Rican Festival.

IV. New Business:

a) Puerto Rican Festival:

i. Schedule, discussion of the Puerto Rican Festival dates, volunteers and information that will be disseminated to the public.

1. Laptop with CD of the current voter registration list to verify current voting status.
2. Voting Booth.
3. Volunteers from the Hispanic Civic Committee and Advisory Board.
4. Registration cards, bookmarkers featuring Spanish services available at the Board of Elections, and Poll Worker recruitment flyers and applications.

ii. Dates:

1. The Puerto Rican Festival is August 5, 6 and 7. The table will be available on Saturday, August 6 from 12-6 and Sunday, August 7 from 12-6. A volunteer from the Spanish Advisory Board or from the Hispanic Civic Committee will be present and each shift will be for 2 hrs. A Board of Elections staff member will be present at all times.

b) Town Hall Meeting:

- i. The Chair, Magda Gómez shared the idea of having a meeting with all the Hispanic agencies in the county that provide services to the Spanish speaking community.
 1. The purpose of the meeting will be to work together to increase voter registration and education awareness.
 2. Luis Gómez suggested attending the Hispanic Alliance board meeting to present the idea since they have representatives from 15 agencies.
 3. The Co-Chair, Pablo Castro III commented that we should reach out to the pastors association, and that he will talk to Pastor Max Rodas.
 4. Magda Gómez recommended providing agencies with a checklist to tell us how they can best support us.
 5. Marilyn Bagley said “not to forget the agencies serving Hispanics on the East Side.”
 6. Further discussion is needed.

V. Bilingual Poll Worker Mock Training

a) Training was given by Trainer Coordinators, Jenean Satterfield and Gregory Rodak from the Poll Worker Department with the assistant of Ivelisse Roig.

- i. The purposed of presenting the training to the Advisory Board was to gather feedback on the bilingual supplementary section being offered to Bilingual Poll Workers.
 1. The training included a power point presentation; each member received a handout along with a glossary and a copy of the Consent Decree.
 2. Jenean Satterfield provided a detailed explanation of all the training requirements in accordance to the Consent Decree.
 3. The training covered: Section 4 of the Voting Rights Act, roles and responsibilities, Election Day tools, bilingual posters, voting units, tips for assisting the voter and common election terms. Each section had a pop quiz to keep the audience engaged.
 4. A role playing section was part of the presentation. The Bilingual Coordinator played the Bilingual Poll Worker and Gregory Rodak played the Spanish speaking voter. This provided a visualization of how a Bilingual Poll Worker should operate when providing assistance to Spanish speaking voters.
 5. An evaluation training form was distributed to the group to obtain feedback.

VI. Misc. News & Closing Remarks

a) Next meeting- to be announced

Meeting adjourn
6:15 PM