

**Cultural and Ethnic Communities Leadership Council (CECLC) Meeting Minutes (Draft)
October 17, 2014 from 11:30 until 2:00, Wilder Foundation
<http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/CulturalEthnicLeadershipCouncil>**

Acting Chair in Pam Cosby's absence: Paula Haywood

Members Present: Anna Mazig, Dave Haley, Kamala Puram, Maria Sarabia, Nathan Moracco, Pa H. Lor, Pahoua Yang, Paula Haywood, Tenzin Dolkar (For Sia Her), Mitchell Davis Jr., Rev. Janet Johnson, Vayong Moua, Sen. Kathy Sheran, Sen. Tony Lourey, LaRone Greer, Sarita Ennis, Dave Haley

Members Absent: Muriel Gubasta, Sia Her, Ann Hill, Edward McDonald, Jose Gonzalez, Hector Garcia, Annamarie Hill, Rep. Jim Abeler, Rep. Tom Huntley, Rep. Tina Liebling, Rep. Tara Mack, Sen. Michelle Benson, Sen. Julie Rosen, Kamaludin Hassan, Saciido Shaie, Titilayo Bediako, Pam Cosby, Bauz Nengchu, LaJuana Whitmore

DHS Staff: Antonia Wilcoxon, Denise Flock

Guests: Brian Balk (DHS), Chelsea Magadance (Senate Office), Stacie Weeks (Senate Office)

1. **Welcome**
2. **Review minutes from September 19, 2014**
 - a. **Motion to approve: Dave Haley**
 - b. **Seconded by: Rev. Janet Johnson**
 - c. **Motion approved**
3. **Review Proposed Agenda for October 17, 2014**
 - a. **Motion to approve: Vayong Moua**
 - b. **Seconded by: Kamala Puram**
 - c. **Motion approved**
4. **Reflecting on sub-committee process**
 - a. **How did the process go?**
 - b. **What would you do differently?**
 - c. **What did you learn?**
 - i. **Focusing on one area helps**
 - ii. **As concerns arose outside our group it was nice to suggest or pose those questions to other groups that could deal with that question.**
 - iii. **Don't get fixated on any single issue.**
 - iv. **Changing the way government was addressing equity.**
 - v. **Finding the time outside of regular work schedule was challenging.**
 - vi. **Awareness was broad.**
 - vii. **It was difficult sometimes to know what direction to take.**
 - viii. **We would ask ourselves, were we discussing something more relevant for another committee.**

- ix. Mix of groups brought in different perspectives, opinions.
- x. Learned a lot about others experiences because everyone had different experiences.
- xi. How do we narrow down what's reasonable.
- xii. How do we take ideas, come out of this and bring them to fruition?
- xiii. Do we have the staffing support, etc. to take an idea and move forward with it?
- xiv. How to get it to the next level.
- xv. Met pretty regular and piggy backed off each other to share and come up with what to present to the larger CECLC group.
- xvi. Overwhelmed by all of the information coming at them.
- xvii. Even when trying to address equity, because we are all differently culturally, so many things to learn from each other. Small group helped understand about others. In order to increase your competence, you need to know your neighbor. Listening to others on the council makes things very real.
- xviii. A lot of ideas and knowledge, passion was shared which strengthened the group.
- xix. Learned from other folks on their perspectives.
- xx. Surprised as to how concrete we got with our proposals and work.
- xxi. Even though we couldn't get together face to face we did have phone calls, gathered information other ways. Had a phone call with California to learn about their challenges.
- xxii. It was tough to physically get together very often.
- xxiii. We set a foundation to set off to the next level.
- xxiv. Turning what we talk about into action.
 - 1. This almost shuts down the conversation because it then leads to budget and transforming the system.
 - 2. Then we become limited.
 - 3. At some point we need to translate into action and when and how does that happen?
 - 4. You do it too soon and it could be damaging to the possibilities that are out there.
- xxv. Coordinating the groups to get together was sometimes challenging. We had to find other routes to get the work done.
- xxvi. Trying to do regular jobs and become fruitful with assignments is difficult.
- xxvii. How do we forecast what is going on in communities and prioritize those. We wind up not doing anything because it becomes too big.
- xxviii. Sometimes the communities just need to be heard. If they can see an avenue for their voices, they feel they have been heard and valued.
- xxix. There is not another opportunity such as this. No wonder there are a lot of ideas.

xxx. What emerges to the top, which things get priority? Set a path. How are we going to achieve? Is DHS going to be the agency to help, if not, what other organizations do we bring to the table. The DHS size sometimes feels overwhelming.

5. Communication Plan Template

- a. Handout from Antonia
- b. Glenace Shea will be coming in to help us frame our words.
- c. How do we present this council, how to frame it so people know who we are and have traction.
- d. How we frame our words could make a difference.
- e. Take a poll?
- f. What message do we convey to get people's attention across different communities?
- g. Be more accurate or effective in moving the agenda.
- h. Is there any MN unique data; MN is unique.
- i. **Add to future agenda:** Terminology. Defining how we want to call things. Inequity, unfairness? Communication/strategy. How are we going to talk about this subject?

6. Follow-up on Review of Bylaws Language (Section G)

- a. Motion to affirm change in bylaws: Repeal current number 5 which reads: *Inform the commissioner of human services of a council member missing three consecutive meetings.*
 - i. Motion to repeal: Anna Mazig
 - ii. Seconded by: Mitchell Davis
 - iii. Motion passed
- b. Motion to add new number 5 in bylaws: New number 5 would read: *Provide written notice to appointed member/s that have five total absences and/or have missed three consecutive meetings regarding possible resignation from council.*
 - i. Motion to add number 5: Anna Mazig
 - ii. Seconded by: Pahoua Yang
 - iii. Motion passed
- c. Motion to add new number 6 in bylaws: New number 6 would read: *Inform the Commissioner of Human Services of council members that have five total absences.*
 - i. Motion to add number 6: Anna Mazig
 - ii. Seconded by: Kamala Puram
 - iii. Motion passed

7. Discussion regarding expiration of the council.

- a. This date is set in statute.
- b. As of March 15 according to statute, we no longer exist but we can continue to meet until we receive notice of the legislative decision. Antonia will send the statute to everyone.
- c. Is there a new proposed date going through this session?
 - i. There is something in the bill about being extended to 2020.
 - ii. Sen. Sheran believes June, 2020 would be a better current expiration date.

- iii. State fiscal year ends June 30, Sen. Sheran suggested this date (but not year) to match with other deadlines in the state system.
 - d. Future agenda item: Look at the language of how the dates of the council will take place.
 - i. We need a committee to read and review the language and bring it to the agenda of November's conversation.
 - ii. Antonia will send language she asked to be included.
 - iii. We can do a conference call to vote or discuss the language.
 - iv. Make sure you read the language before the phone call.
 - 1. Motion to schedule a phone call for next Friday, October 24 @ 2:00 to review proposed language to amend the end date of council and potential reimbursement for council members. And other issues of importance to the council. Staggering dates for council membership.
 - 2. Motion for phone call: Dave Haley
 - 3. Seconded by: Mitchell Davis
 - 4. Motion passed.
- 8. Follow-up to recommendations:
 - a. Split off into sub-committees for discussion.
 - b. Came back to large group and discussed high priorities.
 - i. **Awareness:** Focused on item which related to community and grass roots activism and action. No reinventing the wheel but key people who are already active, community communicators. Resource kit? Tools for people to use to eliminate reinventing processes that currently exist. Directories; make it broadly available. Directories would be to help subcommittee. Working with people who already have reputation within the community. Get it into one place we are all aware of.
 - ii. **Leadership:** Identified two priorities. Integrate equity at a legislative level. Comprehensive equity policy for DHS, contracting, hiring practices, agency policy on equity.
 - iii. **Community Health/Health System:** Look at communities who are not well informed about services offered. State and local government community based organizations. Look at organizing systematic outreach. Gaps analysis. What's working in addition to what is not working. With all the data collected we could harness data that's meaningful. How consumers and providers are engaging.
 - iv. **Cultural and Linguistic Competency:** Focusing on the transparency needed in eligibility determination. Transparency of service delivered at county level. DHS making processes more transparent – based on equity.
 - v. **Research and Evaluation:** The possibility of creating a task force to collect data on policy holders; medical information. Develop a small pilot project with maybe Medicare. Take a look at cultural groups as defined by the communities.

9. **Open Forum**
10. **Public Comment**
11. **Adjourn**
 - a. **Motion to adjourn: Dave Haley**
 - b. **Seconded by: Pahoua Yang**
 - c. **Motion passed**
12. **Meeting adjourned at 2:25pm**

Next meeting: November 21, 2014