

**Aurora Immigrant & Refugee Commission**

Monday, November 8, 2021  
5:30pm Zoom Meeting

Commissioners Present: Julie Ressalam; Linda Skelley; Jakie Zvejniecks;  
Kevin Vargas; Salvador Cazun; Lizzy Beachland  
Commissioners Excused: Karen Colato  
Commissioners Absent: Samuel Gebremichael; Sabe Kemer; Mark Wideman  
Other present: Maria Adams  
Staff Present: Ricardo Gambetta and Minsoo Song

- 1) Meeting was called to order at 5:45pm by Chair Kevin Vargas
- 2) OIIA Update:
  - Ms Song shared Hanbok Day Celebration partnered by OIIA, PUAC, the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in San Francisco. Aurora became the 3<sup>rd</sup> city in the states proclaim Oct 21 as Hanbok Day to recognize the contribution of local Korean community.
  - OIIA partnered with Bonfire co for Fletcher Plaza Fall Festival
  - 2021 NAE released the NAE Cities Index and Aurora has been recognized top cities in Colorado
  - Pupusa Festival: Sunday, November 14, 4-6pm
  - As one of the following initiative, OIIA will be hosting Mini-Coffee Expo in partnership with Centro American Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, Dec. 9 @ Community Gallery, AHM.
  - Renaming Park project: Vice-Chair Ressalam asked how AIRC could assist during the process and Mr. Gambetta will keep AIRC posted during the internal process.
- 3) Connect 4 Health Colorado: Maria Adams with Connect 4 Health Colorado shared open enrollment information.
- 4) Meeting dates for 2022: Commissioner Beachland made a motion to have AIRC Meetings on 1st Tuesdays and Vice-Chair Ressalam seconded. Chair Vargas proposed to have AIRC meetings on 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays of the month and AIRC agreed unanimously.
- 5) AIRC Holiday Gathering will be at Vice-chair Ressalam's house on Friday, December 10.
- 6) Chair Vargas adjourned the meeting at 6:21pm.

*Kevin Vargas*

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Vargas, Kevin

Chair

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Resalam, Julie

Vice-Chair