

Aurora Immigrant & Refugee Commission
Monday, June 27, 2022 5:30pm
Aspen Conference Room, Aurora Municipal Center

Commissioners Present: Linda Skelley; Jackie Zvejniecks; Kevin Vargas; Salvador Cazun;
Samuel GebreMichael; Mark Wideman
Commissioners Excused: Lizzy Beachland
Commissioners Absent: None
Other present: Chief Dan Oates
Staff Present: Ricardo Gambetta, Minsoo Song and Malika Farmonbekova

- 1) Meeting was called to order at 5:40pm by Chair Kevin Vargas
- 2) Meet & Greet Chief Oates
 - Chief Oates and AIRC agreed to work together to build trusty relationship in our community
 - Chief Oates will reactivate multi-cultural neighborhood watch program in collaboration with AIRS
 - Chief Oates shared that APD's focus is to fight with increased crimes in the city.
 - Chief Oates reassured that APD will not reinforce Immigration issues
- 3) OIIA Update:
 - Mr. Gambetta introduced Ms. Farmonbekova as a community outreach specialist.
 - OIIA staff made a presentation during Colorado Municipal League Annual Conference
 - OIIA was able to secure many sponsors for 2022 Global Fest.
- 4) 2022 Global Fest
 - Denver Immigrant & Refugee commission showed interest partnering with AIRC for 2022 Global Fest Parade of Nations.
 - AIRC will invite Denver Commission and next meeting date as July 12th
- 5) Member update
 - Commissioner Zvejnieks has been working with 2040 Health to organize Community Breakfast on August 16 but due to the lack of communication, the project has been on hold.
 - Commissioner Wideman and Zvejnieks participated Public Engagement meeting for new police chief recruitment on behalf of AIRC. Commissioner Zvejnieks shared CCA will be hosting ESL and Citizenship classes
 - Commissioner GebreMichael shared that Ethiopian community will organize soccer league to bring community together asked if there is any facility that the community could use. Ethiopian day celebration will be on September 11.
 - Chair Vargas shared that VEC will be hosting 4 Vaccination clinics in July and August providing \$100 stipend per dose to Arapahoe County residents
 - Chair Vargas will be resigning from the commission for the personal reason
- 6) Chair Vargas adjourned the meeting at 7:08pm



Vargas, Kevin
Chair

Aurora Immigrant and Refugee Commission

Members: 11 members

Term Length: 2 years

Term Limit: 3 terms

The Board currently has five (4) vacancies with one (4) terms already expired in 2022, six (6) in 2023, and three (1) in 2024.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Make four (4) of the vacant terms run from 2022/2023 to 2025.
2. Extend two (2) terms from 2023 to 2024.

CONCLUSION:

This would create staggered terms with four (4) in 2023, three (3) in 2024, and four (4) in 2025.

Member	Term Begins	Term Ends	PROPOSED Term Begins	PROPOSED Term Ends
1	2021	2023	2021	2023
2	2021	2023	2021	2023
3	2021	2023	2021	2023
4	2021	2023	2021	2023
5	2021	2023	2021	2024
6	2021	2023	2021	2024
7	2022	2024	2022	2024
8 - Vacant	2022	2024	2022	2025
9 - Vacant	2022	2024	2022	2025
10 - Vacant	2022	2024	2022	2025
11 - Vacant	2022	2024	2022	2025