

Hispanic Coalition
February 7, 2006
Meeting Notes

Attendance: Barb Barker, Berta Busha, Fr. Philip Dinh Van Theip, Sr. Pat Flanigan, Gerardo Garcia, Dale Hanaman, Nancy Hanaman, Aida Hurtado, Ted Kay, Cynthia Loa, Candice Lux, Sue Murphy, Patrick Nehring, Elbia Oviedo, Santos Oviedo, David Peterson, Maria Ramirez, Nancy Roebke, Zella Van Natta, and Ken Williams

Members introduced themselves.

There was a question about making all the materials for the Coalition available in English and Spanish and conduct the meeting in English and Spanish. Those who know both languages will translate for those that know only one.

Ted Kay/La Clinica volunteered to translate the mission into Spanish.

A directory of Coalition members will be created. Everyone present was asked to write their contact information for the directory on an index card. UW-Extension will type up the directory.

There was a discussion about a resource directory being available in Spanish that would explain the services offer in the county. Waushara County Human Services has a directory available. It may be accessible on through the internet. UMOS uses it extensively.

The creation of an evaluation committee was briefly discussed. The general comment was that more action is needed from the Coalition, but otherwise we doing what we have to do.

The idea to do something at Blue Ribbon Kids Day was brought up at the previous meeting. A couple ideas are to translate signs at Blue Ribbon Kids Day or have a booth at there. It may be possible to have some food and/or music at the booth to draw people in. Another idea is to provide interpreters throughout the event. The booth could be used to evaluate the Coalition by asking people outside of the email list if they have heard of the Coalition. Information about the coalition could be available at the booth and the booth could be used to recruit new members.

Posters and flyers for Blue Ribbons Kids Day should be in English and Spanish. They can be at different locations like the bank. When referred to in Spanish Blue Ribbon Kids Day should be described as a "feria," because that is how it would be described in Texas and Mexico. Dave Peterson will speak to Mrs. Peterman about the possibility of high school students translating the posters and flyers. Berta Busha and Nancy Roebke will look at and assist with the flyers and posters.

The Hispanic Coalition Booth will be a place where people can come to pick up a translator. La Clinica will have people at Blue Ribbons Kids Day that could float between the Coalition booth and their booth. Dave Peterson will speak to Mrs. Peterman about the possibility of high school volunteering as guides/interpreters that could go around with Spanish speaking families. The preference is to have the Coalition's booth near the door to engage the Hispanic attendees and to provide guides who can speak in Spanish to go with families to the other booths. The booth should have the Coalition's mission statement up and a list of who is involved in coalition. Activity, music, or food at the booth will help draw people in. Music may not work because of close proximity of booths, but it may be okay as a background if volume is controlled. Maria Ramirez, Sr. Pat Flanigan, Aida Hurtado, and Barb Barker will help with the booth.

Blue Ribbon Kids Day was a project identified at the Coalition meeting in November. Some of the other activities on the list may need more direction.

Nancy Roebke invited people to practice talking in Spanish from 12:00-1:00 at the CAP Building on Mondays in February. Participants are asked to bring their own lunch.

This Friday parents at Riverview School are being asked to do multi-language activities together in 4:45 p.m. Riverview Library. Head Start use to do it and it worked well. Riverview has bilingual books.

The Berlin Library has materials to learn Spanish and Oshkosh has a similar program.

Migrant Day is a day for people to come together to celebrate being migrant laborers. Migrant Day is sponsored by the Migrant Coalition. UMOS plays a big part in it. The Migrant Coalition has decided not to sponsor Migrant Day in Beaver Dam because it was no longer free to migrants. At Migrant Day the food was free and free t-shirts were given out saying migrant celebration. The migrant celebration is an example of a project the Coalition could do. Migrant Day may be pulled back into Wautoma. It could be combined with August Fest, both are in August. The Coalition wants to bring the Hispanic and non-Hispanic populations together. The Migrant Coalition said the migrant celebration needs to be free. The Migrant Coalition covers the cost for the migrant population. The migrant celebration could be free if someone matched the Migrant Coalition's contribution. Last time the cost was about \$6.00 per person. Another alternative would be to have the general population pay to attend and tickets handed out to the migrant population. St. Joseph Church was discussed as possible location for the migrant celebration during August Fest, but was ruled out in favor of a place downtown so that the migrants would not be separated from everyone. Cynthia Loa will look into bring Migrant Day to Wautoma. Dave Peterson will talk to the Waushara Area Chamber of Commerce about incorporating Migrant Day in with August Fest.

The County Fair Board would like to include something for Hispanics in the fair although there is a cost to attend the fair. They would like to have some kind of Hispanic Band at the fair. Dave Peterson asked anyone with suggests for a band to contact him.

Pictures by David Giffey about migrant farm workers in Wisconsin are on display at the Stevens Point Library. The display had been at La Clinica. Ted Kay can look into bringing back display. The library or public place would be good place to show this exhibit.

A video about on the immigrants coming from Mexico will be shown at St. Joseph's Hall on February 20th at 6:00 p.m.

Richard Harris is talking to a lawyer about being a part of the Coalition. Volunteers were asked to join the Coalition from the schools, Julie Vargas from Tri-County School and a representative from the Wautoma Schools. Pat Glinski from CAP Services was asked to join the Coalition.

The need for bylaws and greater structure to the Coalition was discussed. It was decided the need for bylaws may evolve.

The Coalition will meet before Blue Ribbon Kids Day. The next Coalition meeting will be March 21 at El Tapatio de Jalisco in Wautoma from 4:30 to 6:30.