

**Amigos Center Advisory Board Minutes**  
**St. Michael's Lutheran Church & School**  
**July 31, 2006 - 4:00 PM**

Members/Miembros: Bob Selle, Denny Brown, Eulalia "Lala" Troncoso,  
Telephone conference call: Julio Estremera, Marve Ann Alaimo  
Special invited guest: Sarah Paganas

Absent: Charles and Audrey Mueller, Leonardo García, Jon Zehnder, Diego Grisales, Veronica Culbertson

- Opening prayer/oración de abertura
- Our Misión Statement / El propósito del Amigos Center
  - **Amigos Center's mission statement is to provide the Hispanic immigrant community and migrant workers of Southwest Florida with the tools necessary to succeed in the USA.**
- Minutes from last meeting / Acta de la última reunión: Approved
- 2005 Financial and Statistical Report / Informe financiera y estadísticas:
- Director's Report / Informe del Director Ejecutivo

**Past business**

- Written conflict-of-interest policy: approved unanimously
- Accreditation and recognition of Fort Myers office and Golden Gate office – has the documents for application. Marve Ann will now finalize application package, within next week or so she will send the applications to BIA. The center gets "recognized", the workers get "accredited". Both Recognition and Accreditation are necessary for each office.
- 2006 Newcomer's Guide
- United Way of Lee County allocations committee team report: fine line to address the growing needs of the community and yet focus on the core parts of our program.
- United Way of Collier County – We were not accepted for new 2007 allocation, one reason was that UW of Collier was not able to reach its funding raising goal. Hurricane Wilma affected many of the donors. Sufficiency of staff is also probably an issue with UW of Collier (do we need a program manager?) Looking for a full working board that have members from Collier. Marve Ann offered to go with us with our next meeting with Ernie (ED of UW of Collier), she knows him.
- Immokalee Ministry Center: Marve Ann feels that we must be adequately staffed in order to provide the support services we want to provide. The purchase of the building depends on approval of a loan from Lutheran Church Extension Fund.
- Hire new Administrative Assistant
- New administrative office at Zion Lutheran Church, free of charge

**New Business**

- Case Managers: Immokalee and Bonita Springs
- Develop a full working board. Regenerate the board with donors who can help us raise funding. Teleconferencing may help (Denny will pursue this option). Have a hands-on day for new board members so they can see for themselves what we do, sense of personal pride of being involved. Top-tier donors. Full-board (decision making board) and then also an advisory board (honorary member) AEC apostolic function, social service function. We need greater geographic representation, donor representation. Denny will develop this restructuring and consult with Marve Ann.

**Next Meeting / Próxima reunión: Monday, October 30 / Lunes, 30 de octubre, 2006**