



JWB Children's Services Council of Pinellas County

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SOUTH COUNTY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Gulfport Neighborhood Center; 1617 – 49th Street South; Gulfport, FL 33707

Thursday, March 4, 2010 at 3:30pm MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: Patsy Buker, Mary Barnhart, Norman Brown, Laura Walters, Mary Stull, Deputy William Lawson, Paula Godfrey, Philip Harris, Judy Piran-Vesseh, Deputy Cheko Carter, Carrie Hepburn, Michael Arendall, Veronica Ettel, Donald Taylor, Jr., Lynette Davis, Mona Lisa Johnson, and Delquanda Turner. **Meeting Packet** included Agenda, January & February 2010 Minutes, and Abuse, Neglect, & Dependency flyer.

I. Meeting was called to order at 3:35 pm by Elder Martin Rainey, Vice Chair

A. Welcome and Introductions – Elder Rainey welcomed all to the meeting, in the absence of the Chairperson's vacation. Self-Introductions were given.

II. Presentations.....

- A. Ameri Corps Update – Veronica Ettel, JWB Grants Specialist, announced that JWB has received a planning grant for implementation of AmeriCorps program in Pinellas County. The grant derived from Peace Corps under President Kennedy's leadership and now there is a real push under President Obama. Handouts were passed out on the national and state programs and JWB's goals. Pinellas County is designated to literacy skills at the neighborhood level. Regional advisory groups will be formed in the near future. The Council's assistance may be needed for this and to complete surveys. Please contact Veronica if interested, vettell@jwbpinellas.org.
- B. Action Learning Collaborative Survey – Carrie Hepburn of the Federal Healthy Start Coalition asked everyone to complete the attached survey and return to her by the end of the meeting. She shared statistics of black babies being 3x less likely to celebrate their 1st birthday; 1 out of 53 black babies die compared to 1 out of 153 non-black babies die before their 1st birthday. Carrie shared a handout on Unnatural Causes, When the Bough Breaks and the initiative to complete the surveys in the agenda packet. The results will be tabulated and shared in a final report in the future. The Council agreed to watch the video at a future meeting or to plan a non-meeting date to watch and then discuss.

III. Business Items/Updates.....

- A. January 2010 and February 2010 Minutes were approved.
- B. Tommy Minkoff's Investiture Ceremony – Elder Rainey reported that this event was nice, especially when Tommy's brother spoke. Patsy noted that the event was wonderful. Michael added that it was great his sons could attend despite the weather. Delquanda noted there was a great turnout of support.
- C. Cooperman-Bogue Luncheon – Delquanda reminded everyone of the luncheon on Thursday, March 15th. Delquanda will request to hold a table for Council members who will attend. A sign-up sheet was rotated.
- D. JWB February Board Meeting – Patsy noted the meeting went as outlined. JWB's audit was presented and very clean. Relay for Life presented their piece on kids who age out of foster care.
- E. Building Bridges out of Poverty – Delquanda shared the agenda from the training on Tuesday and Wednesday. Donald attended and shared that there are "hidden messages and rules" within our agencies...i.e. language and linguistics. The speaker helped him personally as well. There are books available at JWB on Building Bridges out of poverty, Delquanda will check SCCC budget to see if funds are available if any members (Michael, Patsy, Mary, Lynette) are interested in purchasing one. Mona added that the training included a lot of helpful dialogues. Carrie noted the birthday cake example. Elder Rainey suggested that that maybe one of the future meetings should be devoted to this topic.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever does."
Margaret Mead, Anthropologist

- F. Open Discussion – Patsy has a concern about the recent John Hopkins Middle School issue and wondering how can the Council get involved and learn more. Suggestions were made to invite others (i.e. Principal, SRO, PCSBoard, Maureen Thornton, teachers, etc.). Elder Rainey noted that he and Norm were on a Task Force for 18 months to promote diversity and the opposite was done. Patsy asked is this the bigger problem countywide and would it be a benefit to address and learn from the other Councils as well. Patsy shared the YWCA is applying for the Allegany grant to build bridges, using the Building Bridges out of Poverty concept.

IV. Joint Council Meeting Prep.....

- A. SAVE THE DATE: April 29th Joint Meeting with Board at 6pm at JWB
 B. Committee Reports – Elder Rainey reminded Council that the connecting caring adults concept needs to be presented and shared with the JWB Board at the upcoming meeting. Let's come prepared at the April meeting to work and get the report, recommendations, and affiliations complete.
 C. Relationship / Affiliation Map – Delquanda explained the relationship map. This will be used to collaborate all of the resources that we as a council have to offer the South County area.

V. Council Meeting Dates.....

- A. April 1st Meeting – Elder Rainey noted this is also Good Thursday. The Council needs to meet in April to prepare for the Joint Meeting. The options are to (1) Meet April 1st (2) Cancel or (3) Meet on either March 25th, April 8th or April 15th. The Council decided to have the April meeting on Thursday, April 15th at 3:30pm at the Gulfport Neighborhood Center.
 B. May 6th Meeting – Elder Rainey noted that the May meeting is one week after the Joint Meeting. Does the Council want to (1) Meet May 6th (2) Cancel or (3) Meet on May 13th? Council was undecided and will discuss at April meeting.
 C. June 3rd Meeting (3 days after Memorial Holiday) – To be determined in future meeting(s).
 D. July 1st Meeting (3 days before Independence Holiday - To be determined in future meeting(s).

VI. Announcements

- Laura Walters - passed out information regarding free Family support program at the Sanderlin Neighborhood Family Center.
- Donald Taylor – noted that due to his move out of the area, he will be resigning from the Council.
- Veronica Ettel - thanked all for their time and interest in the upcoming AmeriCorps program.
- Carrie Hepburn - shared information regarding free McDonald's breakfast for FCAT students. Delquanda will email.
- Norm Brown - mentors and tutors are needed at John Hopkins Middle School-please call school for more information.
- Judy (of ECA) - Eckerd Community Alternatives will be moving to 8550 Ulmerton Road in Largo.
- Delquanda shared information of AND Conference...more details to come
- Paula Godfrey - shared information of upcoming Bank of America teen financial literacy program. On April 17th, PPLC, 20th anniversary ceremonies at all libraries.
- Elder Rainey - Jordan Park had space available for after school programming. Contact Ms. Applebaum at the center if interested. The NAACP will be hosting its 4th Parenting Forum on second Thursday in April.

VII. Adjourned at 4:51pm.

Updates:

- Thursday, March 11th – JWB Board Meeting at 8:30am at Epi-Center
- Thursday, March 18th – Cooperman-Bogue Awards Luncheon, 11:30am
- Thursday, April 1st – Next Council Meeting, 3:30pm at Gulfport Neighborhood Center
- Thursday, April 29th – Joint Council Meeting at 6pm at JWB

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