



**North County
Community Council**

Council Officers

Beth Hovind

Chair

Carmen Lake

Vice-Chair

Michael Arendall

Secretary

Mark Hopkins

KidsFirst Representative

Council Members

Deputy Daniel Mattox
Ellen Navarro Anderson
Eric Clark
Dawn Handley
John White
Deputy Martin Guzman
Mary Sharrow
Nadine Spring Nickeson

Joanne Reich

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Minutes May 2, 2024, JWB North Community Council

I. Call to Order. The May 2, 2024, meeting of the North County Community Council, Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County, was called to order by Chair Beth Hovind at 6:03pm at the Hispanic Outreach Center, 612 Franklin Street, Clearwater, Florida.

In attendance were Council Members Beth Hovind, Carmen Lake, John White, Eric Clark, Dawn Handley, Mark Hopkins

Other guests included: Joanne Reich – JWB, Johanna Apolo – St. Pete Free Clinic, Andrea Vendetti – Hispanic Outreach Center, Daphne Lamplay – Operation Par & South County Community Council and Adriana Palacio – Mattie Williams

Absent were Council Members Daniel Nocera, Ellen Anderson, Michael Arendall and Mary Sharrow.

Introductions: Council Members and guests introduced themselves.

II. Presentation

Dawn Handley, council member, presented event details from Family Fun Day at the Boy’s and Girls Club in Tarpon Springs, on April 27th. The successful event reflect the time and effort Dawn spent organizing and planning. 20 Vendors set up to support children and families in North Pinellas County. From JWB to local police handing out bicycles to Advent Health teaching CPR, the event was both engaging and uplifting. A major take aware that was repeated while talking to attendees is that they were not aware of all the resources in Pinellas County for family and children support. This event hosted over 135 individuals and lasted around 3 hours. Family Fun Day received funding from JWB’s Community Grant.

III. Council Business

1. Grandfamilies – NCCC echoed the success of North Counties Grand Family event previously discussed that took place on March 14th, 2024. Joanne Reich spoke to the council about the upcoming, third and final Grandfamilies event on Saturday, May 4th. Given the success of these events and community engagement, more events to be planned next year.

2. Mark Hopkins highlighted JWB's Kid's First Luncheon at the Colosseum in St. Petersburg with over 600 people in attendance. The event highlighted three young adults making a difference in the community and recognized by others. Mark talked about his time on the selection committee and how inspiring front line social workers are.
3. New council member initiative: Council discussed future planning and engagement of new North County Members to grow the council. It was discussed on how the council can engage with rising high school students but majority agreed that the council should stick to college age and up to be council members. Beth Hovind provided the council with data the members took to identify skills, backgrounds, experience, and geographic impact the council members currently represent in North Pinellas County. Council to review data for more collaboration in upcoming meetings.
4. Carmen motioned and Mark seconded to approve April minutes. Next Council meeting at Safety Harbor Chamber of Commerce.
5. Council moved to community updates from members and guest in attendance. Discussions included services being provided in North Pinellas, upcoming events, and other updates in the community.
6. Carmen motioned and Dawn seconded to adjourn May 2nds North County Community Council Meeting at 6:56 p.m.

Minutes Submitted by Eric Clark