

**MINUTES**

**Thursday, January 9, 2020**

**Council Members Present:** Harold Paxton, Laurel Kosharsky, Carol Weideman, Marilyn Walker, Keith Sabiel, Richard Rock, Carol Bumiller, Carlos Mercado, Luis Perez

**Council members Absent:** Cheko Carter, Deputy Siem, Neil Brickfield, Zully Millan, Sara Bleattler, Donna McGill,

**Guests:** Chris Mathews (Kinship Care); Julianne Perez (City of Largo)

**JWB Staff:** Yaridis L. Garcia; Fiona Potter (JWB Consultant)

**I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair, Harold Paxton at 6:05 pm; minutes were approved, and members and guests were welcomed.

**II. Community Council Business:**

a) **Community Resource Fair:** Council members started to brainstorm their next community resource fair as part of their work plan. Members suggested conducting focus group with parents to ask about day, time, place and content of the fair in order to attract families to attend the event. Members decided to have this event in September since it does not compete with all the back to school events in August. Members suggested Lealman as the next community to hold this event; next Council meeting will be held at the Lealman Asian NFC to further plan

b) **Council's Meetings:** due to conflicting schedule with the JWB Staff, Council members considered and agreed to meet on Tuesdays, 6-7:30 PM starting on February. This change will be in effect until May 2020

c) **JWB's Strategic Plan Focus Group:** Facilitated by JWB's Consultant, Fiona Potter

The Council actively participated in a robust dialogue and provided feedback for the following 3 questions:

1. What do you see as the key needs of children and families in Pinellas County?

- Lack of adequate transportation
- An increase in mental illness and suicide among our youth
- Not enough parental engagement
- Creative ways to share community resources with our families

- Assist families to be self-sufficient, instead of depending on the government
  - Working collaboratively with our children and youth in order to find out what their interests are
  - Lack of employment and underemployment among our families
  - Disconnect between parents and the school system
  - Heavier investment in the early years of the child development
  - Affordable housing
2. How would you like to see JWB involved in responding to those needs?
    - Listening to the community feedback about what they think is needed in their respective community
  3. What would be key indicators of success/strategic milestones during the next 3 to five years?
    - Greater access to mental health services
    - Stronger collaboration and communication among parents and the school system
    - Stronger youth voice

The full report will be compiled and share with Council members; this feedback will inform JWB Board as they work on JWB's Strategic Goals for the next 3 to 5 years.

### **III. Upcoming Meetings:**

- JWB Children's Summit: Friday January 31, 8:30 AM
- JWB Board Meeting: Thursday February 13, 9:00 am @ JWB
- CWLA Stakeholders Meeting: Friday January 24, 10:00 AM
- Council Meeting: Tuesday February 4, 6:00 PM -meeting will be held at the Lealman Asian Neighborhood Family Center

Respectfully submitted by: Laurel Kosharsky, Secretary