

### MINUTES February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

**Council Members Present:** Harold Paxton, Richard Rock, Carlos Mercado, Julianne Pérez, Deputy Corey Studt.

**Council members Absent:** Carol Bumiller, Keith Sabiel, Neil Brickfield, Fred Green, Cheko Carter, Angel Addison, Fidel Johnson, Christine Britt, Carol Weideman, Jeanne Lafler

**Guests:** Bea Dukes (Judah First Christian Ministries), Wanda McCawthan (Friends of Ridgecrest), Arelys Escalera (Pinellas County Communications); Jillian Rose (City of Pinellas Park); Tracey Schofield (Police & Kids Foundation); Caterina Tassara Runyon (LANFC); Monica Lueking (St. Pete Free Clinic); Beth Bell (Clearwater Rotary Foundation)

**JWB Staff:** Yaridis L. Garcia

- I. Call to Order-** Richard Rock, Chair at 6:05 PM
  - a. Welcome- Members & Guests
  - b. Approval- January Minutes.
    - i. No Quorum present: minutes not approved.
- II. Open Agenda-Community Partners Updates**
  - a. Caterina: Lealman (Honey and Arts Festival next weekend)
  - b. Richard Rock: Teen Works from Pinellas Park (Submitted to FL League of Cities and won with video!).
  - c. Jillian, Pinellas Park: YES program (Citizen's Academy for teens) for teens from the area learned how to cook healthy food and change oil.
    - i. For teens attending a Pinellas Park school or Pinellas Park residents.
    - ii. Can share flyers with teens from council.
  - d. Friends of Ridgecrest President, Wanda:
    - i. Mentioned attending Sheriff's Department Citizen's Academy
    - ii. YMCA, Community Policing, Church leaders
      1. Planning a Male Mentor Session in the Community (do not have a specific date yet) - Corporal Lawson, Tiffany of YMCA as leads.
      2. The Principal at Ridgecrest Elementary is also looking for volunteers.
      3. Met with Sherrif Dept. and had good meeting.
      4. **Feb 24 at African American Heritage Month at Botanical Gardens, all invited.**
      5. Looking for ideas for community development in Ridgecrest area.

- e. Arelys: Zero interest loan for Pinellas County residents (unincorporated and excluding city residents, individual \$40,000.

### III. Council Business

#### Change Meeting Time

- i. Survey results re: Meeting times. Best options are:
  - 1. Thursday evenings (21 out of 27 people would prefer this time/day)
  - 2. Monday afternoons (12 out of 27 people would prefer this time/day)
  - 3. Will share more details next week when we have quorum to vote.

#### Work Plan FY 2024-26

A sub-committee updated the new work plan. Shared work plan with Council

- ii. Last year out of 10 Board Members, we had 6 that attended our Council meetings.
  - 1. **We have two new Board members to invite to Council meetings.**
  - 2. Mid-County Council members attended the Joint Council Executive Leadership meeting.
    - a. **Also added into the workplan, council leadership to attend another council, North & South County meeting per fiscal year.**
  - 3. Jomar Lopez, evaluator assigned to track our work plan and highlight our results.
  - 4. **This quarter the focus is on the Grand Families Event**
  - 5. Received feedback about NLC trainings for nonprofit: Most were in-person in Tampa, need more local options or virtual and consider working members.
    - a. **To consider: Educational Day Retreat with Training for all councils together (41 members). Council building and training all in one!**

### IV. May 4<sup>th</sup> Grand Families Event

- a. Data: Approximately 16,000 grandparents taking care of children in Pinellas County
- b. Emailed flyers to nonprofits, faith based and others in the region.
  - i. Case Managers will distribute flyers to families.
  - ii. Evara Health will send through social media to families.
  - iii. Shared in Pinellas schools PeachJar
  - iv. **Grand Families Heroes Event in Mid-County**
    - 1. Vendors include haircuts, legal, mental health, medical, and school system.
    - 2. **Vendor sign-up (google form) TBD.**
    - 3. Goal: 800-1,000 families to attend across the 3 Councils
- v. JWB Evaluator: Jomar Lopez to create satisfaction survey for the event.

1. **To-do: Will invite Jomar Lopez, JWB Evaluator to bring the survey to the Council for feedback.**
2. **Will ask Council members and a family from each event to present to the JWB Board in September.**
3. **Pastor Beatrice could share personal experience as grand family.**
4. To-do: Video for after the event (who are the grand families)
  - a. Maybe have interviews during the event
5. **In PSAs emphasize that any family would benefit from this event**
- vi. Will send through all Libraries and upcoming events.
- vii. Recent example: Yaya and Carlos: At Bellaire school, last Friday of each month, came to school for lunch and passed community resources to parents.

**V. JWB Updates:**

**Community Event Funding:**

- a. Simple application for small organizations to apply.
- b. For example: Hispanic Outreach Center received \$3,000 for event.
- c. **No one from Mid-County has applied yet.**
  - i. Note: 180 days application period prevented a guest from applying.
    1. People that have their event early in the year may have some advantage.
- d. This is a pilot project, but the budget plans to stay.
- e. **Could you apply in June and then again in October? Since they are two different years.**
  - i. **Yaya will share this question with JWB Internal Review Team to clarify.**

**Turbo Babies:**

- f. Carlos: Led Early Learning readiness at YMCA. In underserved, impoverished communities there can be a lack of intentional brain function. 80% of brain development 0-3, significant development 0-5 years old.
- g. **Pastor Beatrice collaborates with teen moms, wants to share Turbo Babies with them.**

**Youth Leadership Committee: Cooking could be fun!**

- h. Youth receives a box with all the ingredients to prepare the dishes, video how to make it, and hard-copy recipes.
- i. Distribution sites at High Point Neighborhood Family Center; Hispanic Outreach Center; Boys & Girls Club in St. Pete. 100 boxes to distribute.
- j. **Youth will present to the JWB Board in July. Can watch video or attend!**

**Next Meetings: Thursday March 7<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-7:30 PM @ Public Works Building**

*Meeting Minutes respectfully submitted by Julianne Perez, Secretary of Mid-County Council*