

### MINUTES

**September 4, 2025**

**Council Members Present:** Julianne Pérez, Fidel Johnson, Caterina Tassara, Brenda Carvalho, Angel Addison, Carol Weideman, Angel Addison, Christine Britt, Carol Weidman, Anthony Borbonio, Jeanne Lafler

**Council Members Absent:** Fred Green, Richard Rock, Carlos Mercado, Keith Sabiel

**Guests:** Maria Pepe, Meg Taylor, Vicky Obando, Noely Tlanepanha, Jurimar Garcia, Shakerah Molligan, Aoy Santarysuk, Jessica Conway

**JWB Staff:** Yaridis L. Garcia, Cristina Quintana, Jomar López

#### **I. Call to Order: Julianne Pérez, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.**

- A. Welcome – Member and guest introductions.
- B. June and July meeting minutes approved.

#### **II. Presentations: United 4 The Community**

##### **Back to School and Health Fair**

##### **Vicky Obando, Project Development Coordinator**

The Community Events grant funded this Back to School and Health Fair Event in Clearwater near JWB. They had face painting, police, and food. Florida health and preserve vision, Bay Care, PCS Hope Villages, LSF, Phillies, Clearwater Free Clinic, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, and others. They reached clients through door-to-door outreach, social media, and flyers placed in local businesses. 114 families were served, 447 attended the event, 227 backpacks were distributed, and they provided health services to 146 individuals. They served 90% Hispanic, 3% White Americans, African Americans 1% and other 6%. The event was a big success, and they are grateful for the support they received.

##### **Check, Change, Control**

##### **Maria Pepe, Community Impact Director, American Heart Association**

The Check, Change, Control program is a four-part series to encourage individuals to know their blood pressure numbers. Cardiovascular disease affects communities of color disproportionately and is the leading cause of death in the United States. A sedentary lifestyle contributes to this disease. The campaign promotes checking your numbers, changing any unhealthy habits, and controlling your medications. The training is offered over 4 sessions. Yaridis will send out an email to Council Members to assess interest and determine attendance dates. JWB is particularly

interested in childhood hunger and nutrition issues. The American Heart Association is also looking to partner with the City of St. Petersburg and Feeding Tampa Bay, and other corporate partners to bring healthy food access to all.

## **II. Open Agenda-Community Partners Updates**

(this item was moved down to the end of the meeting)

BayCare Kids Family Expo is coming up on October the 4<sup>th</sup> in Clearwater. Flyers circulated. Largo Library is working on its calendar of upcoming events. They will send any updates to Yaridis for distribution throughout the Council.

The City of Largo will be honoring Yaridis Garcia for her leadership and contributions to the community during Hispanic Heritage Month at the September City Council Meeting.

## **IV. Council Business**

- Carol Bumiller's Legacy – In honor of Council Member Carol Bumiller who served since 1996, her family requested that in place of flowers family and friends donate to the Juvenile Welfare Board. It was discussed that the Mid-County Community Council be named after Carol Bumiller Council or that the holiday event be held in her honor. To offer more flexibility, it was unanimously decided that the Mid-County Carol Bumiller Family Legacy be established instead and that it will appear in all agendas and events. A discussion about a logo ensued. Yaridis will share the Council's input with the JWB and come back to the Council with a final decision at the next meeting.

- Work Plan Review – The executive committee met in August to discuss the current work-plan. They discussed that we need to better organize the plan into two sections. Those that we set up with events we coordinate, and that there be other JWB activities we support. The workplan will be updated by October, along with the Bylaws (which will be combined) with a goal to present the draft documents for approval at the October meeting and at the start of the new fiscal year.

- Council's Evaluation & Social Network Map - Jomar Lopez – Through the work plan, the Community Council will better document and measure the impact of our work over the next 2 years. Mr. Lopez will launch a survey to capture the connections and linkages we experience and then aggregate over the course of the year. Organizations that received the community events funding will also be surveyed about the impact of the work. Yaridis will go over the survey and then send out any feedback to the council. Social Networking Map will be created as a spider web map to show the breadth of connections within the county councils and as an opportunity where we can strategically grow to strengthen our system of councils.

- Adopt-A-Family Holiday Celebration – The event will be on Wednesday Dec 17<sup>th</sup> in Pinellas Park from 6 – 8 pm. If anyone has a family in mind, we should give the information to Julianne. She will create a spreadsheet. Please plan to set up by 4 pm. The gift should be turned in a week earlier and wrapped with the name of the child/family. The Council again discussed naming the event after Carol Beumiller.

- Make A Difference Day – This is a special opportunity for the Council to give back to the community. It will be held the first week in November on November 1<sup>st</sup> at the Lealman and Asian Neighborhood Family Center. This is a great opportunity for Council members and the

community to participate in a project to better one of the areas with families and children with high needs in mid-county.

- On November 6<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm there will be a joint JWB and County Council meeting at JWB to meet with the interim JWB CEO Mr. Mike Mikurak and an opportunity for the Executive Committees of each of the Councils to share the work of the Councils and learn more.

#### **V. JWB Updates**

- Community Events Funding will be available again next fiscal year, pending Board approval. This funding has been a great success and has made a significant contribution to community efforts throughout Pinellas County. Questions can be answered by Yaridis Garcia and there is information on the funding on the JWB website.
- Joint Community Councils meeting will be held on November 6th @JWB.

#### **Future Meetings/Notices**

Mid-County Community Council: Thursday, October 2, 6-7:30 PM  
Public Works Building- 6250 82nd Avenue N, Pinellas Park, FL 33781

A motion to adjourn the meeting was called at 7:30 pm. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm by Chair Julianne Pérez.

*Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Council Secretary, Caterina Tassara*