

Mayor's Young Leaders Advisory Council (MYLAC)

November 16, 2019

Minutes

Proceedings of the Mayor's Young Leaders Advisory Council taken on November 16, 2019 in the Breakroom of Kids Hope Alliance, 1095 A Philip Randolph Blvd, Jacksonville, Florida commencing at 8:30 a.m.

Committee Members Attending

Tajah Anderson, Alice Baker, Alanna Carter, Armenay Chakour, Hayden Collins, Davin Daniels, Cameron Demery, Mary Dubuisson, Elijah Foreman, Dyana Foster, Mona Freeman, Alaya Green, Courtney Harold, Devonna Harrison, Brooke Hawkins, Kennedy Hill, Miles Johnson, Arquian Joseph, Joe Kennerson, Jaira Lunsford, Colleen Mackin, Gokul Madathil, Colleen, Kynia McNeal, Nidhi Patel, La'Mirakle Price, Steven Regelski, Tamara Sonera, Margaret Szczukowski, Daniela Valderrama, Rodney Wells

Staff Attending

Tia Keitt, Mari Ganues, Aszloyn Wakefield

At 8:38 AM, Alaya Green, President called the meeting to order. MYLAC members reviewed the agenda. Nidhi Patel, Secretary made the correction to the agenda that her name as secretary was missing. The agenda, with the noted changes, was accepted by General Consensus.

At 8:40 AM, Nidhi Patel reviewed the October Meeting minutes. Brooke Hawkins noted a name misspelled and the minutes were approved with the noted changes.

At 8:48 AM, Heather Carter, CEO of the Change Project began her presentation, "College Admissions 101." She asked members if they knew what they wanted to be and how did they know. Several members shared out. Ms. Carter shared helpful college sites: www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org . She noted that it kept track of all of your information.

She gave tips such as: "Take into account what interests you. What keeps you focused? What drives you?" She advised to consider our passions and to think about what job would we do without being paid.

About colleges, she shared there were 3700 Four-Year colleges in the U.S. and encouraged us to look outside of our comfort zones. She shared when selecting to schools, we should consider at least six: 2 Safety schools, 2 Reach schools, and 2 Good Fit schools. Apply to the Reach schools even if we don't meet all the criteria (G.P.A., test scores, etc.).

She talked about the Common App and not being limited when it comes to scholarships and funding. She suggested getting recommendation letters about 1 month early. She discussed the types of degrees. She encouraged college visits and to ensure that the college is a good fit for you; ask questions. Try to visit in the Fall or Spring when the campus is active. She encouraged us to talk to students who have attended the school of your choice and seek out the pros and cons; ask about financial aid.

She discussed Financial Aid and advised everyone needs to complete the FAFSA- once a year. The earlier you apply, the more money you are likely to receive. Financial Aid includes work-study, scholarships, grants, and loans. She cautioned us about Refund Checks and if there is a need to apply for a small loan, accept only what we need instead of trying to receive the big Refund Check which we will have to pay back.

She discussed Bright Futures which pays 100% of tuition. She talked about scholarships that are school-specific. We were encouraged to talk with our counselors, request a list of scholarships (most have a list). There is also the Big Scholarship Book and First-Generation scholarships.

Alaya, Rodney, and Nidhi presented Mrs. Carter with a certificate of appreciation

At 9:50 Mrs. Wakefield provided members with potential scholarship information for seniors and will provide additional information as final approval is given.

At 9:52 Rodney Wells, Vice President invites first time attendees to introduce themselves.

At 9:55 Mari Ganues, Assistant Director for Pre-teen/Teens announced Mayor's Youth at Work Partnership opportunity; 15-20 work hours per week, starting in January and working with the City of Jacksonville. The deadline to apply is November 22, 2019 and the pay is \$9 per hour. A 2.0 GPA is required along with a letter of recommendation.

She also provided events information: Dec 4th- City Art Walk and November 16-17 Jacksonville Film Festival.

At 10:07 Mrs. Wakefield gives instruction for meeting in our committees

At 11:30 Officers take pictures as members return from their committee meetings.

At 11:50 Rodney Wells, Vice President invites committee chair or representatives to share their committee reports. Elijah Foreman shared the committee report for Mental Health. Elijah shared that the committee was broken into sub-committees (Marketing, transportation, break-out session, food/vendors, and speaker/discussion panel) Mrs. Wakefield reminded the committee that some of these tasks are the responsibility of DCPS and a representative will be with them at the next MYLAC meeting. Brooke Hawkins provided the report for the Focus Issue. She shared that the committee has two short term initiatives; the first is a Farm Share event in January and the second would be an awareness and youth empowerment campaign at the schools represented by a MYLAC member to inform students about MYLAC and then provide them a way to share their concerns and thoughts about issues that youth face. La'Miracle Price, Colleen Mackin, and Margaret Szczukowski provided the report for the Census 2020 committee. They shared an idea to create Census 2020 flyers to go in report card envelopes with students. They also looked at some of the Census 2020 online resources including maps of the city that show areas that had a low response/count rate for the last census. These areas were low-income areas. Mrs. Wakefield reminded them that Mr. Cora with the Census Bureau will also be here at the next meeting to work with them on the MYLAC social media campaign for Census 2020.

At 12:11 Mrs. Wakefield announced the new ambassadors for the remaining districts: Jaira Lunsford, District #5, Colleen Mackin, District #6, Arquan Joseph, District #8.

At 12:13 Rodney Wells, Vice President share new business-

The Longest Table- Jax Chamber- November 20 @ 5:30 PM-7:30PM- a great networking event and an opportunity to meet new people.

City of Jacksonville Christmas Party- December 4 @ 4:00 PM- 6:00 PM

I'm A Star Foundation -Let's Move Event- December 7 @ 10:00 AM- 2:00 PM at Klutho Park

Young Leaders of Today Shhh-Let the Youth Speak December 9 @ 6:00PM- 8:00PM @ Legends Community Center

Women's March and Community Health Fair January 4th

Duval Teachers United: Lobby Day for Public Education January 13

Martin Luther King Jr Breakfast: January 17th Prime Osborn Convention Center

Women's March: Annual Women's March Rally January 18 @ Hemming Plaza

Women's March: Lobby Day Tallahassee January 22

At 12:22 There were no public questions/comments and the next meeting date: December 14th was announced.

12:22 PM Meeting adjourned