

Mayors Young Leaders Advisory Council (MYLAC)

March 2, 2019

Minutes

Proceedings of the Mayor's Young Leaders Advisory Council taken on February 2, 2019 in the Lynwood Roberts Room in City Hall, 117 W. Duval Street, Jacksonville, Florida commencing at noon.

Committee Members Attending

Mia Allen, Dantesia Block, Kendall Cosper, Isaiah Dowdell-Butler, Keyante Eady, Ki'Aira Ellis, Michael Esguerra, Caroline Esquiverdo, Kyra Freeney, Ellison Gilmore, Marlon Griggs, Anjolina Gutierrez, Vanessa Hamza, Zara Harold, Tabitha Henry, Jonee' Jenkins, Al'aisa Jenkins, Kendall Kirkland, Madaline Krawchuk, Joshua Leynes, Nathaniel Lundord, Kenyana McCray, Cierra McKenzie, Kalei Michaeu, Jordan Mills, Donovan Moman, Andrea Moran-Melendez, Sadhana Mylavari, Haleigh Oglesby, George Pratt, Casey Peterson, Evan Quaintance, Chelsea Quaintance, Tejan Sanders, Adit Saxena, Tamara Smith, Tamara Sonera, Vanessa Strive, Markeyuna Stubbs, Sierra Taylor, Brianna Toawicha, Mia Uzell, Mikayla Walker, Danielle Williams

Staff Attending

Jennifer Blalock, John Everett, Mari Ganues

The meeting was called to order by President Michael Esguerra at 12:00 pm.

At 12:05 pm, Mayor Lenny Curry was introduced to the MYLAC members. Mayor Curry had a sit down conversation with the MYLAC members to discuss any and all concerns they have. MYLAC member Andrea Moran-Melendez and Tamara Sonera provided the Mayor with the upcoming events for the program, Gang Violence in March and Mental Health in April. Mayor Curry would like the MYLAC members to provide a short list of ways for him to assist with both events. The mayor provided information about Cure Violence. Cure Violence will do an assessment to provide immediate impact, where there is disruption and educational gaps. Community/gang members advised him that there will not be a fix for these problems until poverty issues have been changed. The mayor discussed the Mayor, sheriff, and State Attorney's plan to decrease crime in the second term by restoring more JSO and community service officers as well as Kids Hope Alliance continued work with Jacksonville youth and programs.

After a 5 minute snack break, the president had the council members review the minutes from the previous meeting at 1:01 pm, and no changes were made. Secretary Marlon Griggs motioned to have the minutes from the last meeting approved. The motion was put forth by George Pratt and seconded by Andrea Moran-Melendez.

At 2:15 pm, Morgan Seller with Duval County Public Schools spoke the MYLAC member about Mental Health Month which includes PSA Contest and a 30-day Mental Fitness Challenge. The following details were discussed about the upcoming Student Mental Health Conference:

- Date & Location TBD – aiming for week of April 15th
- Logo/Flyer – to be created by MYLAC members
- Agenda Review – MYLAC members provided their suggestions and feedback for the Mental Health event. MYLAC members decided on “Grow through what you go through” as the slogan for the event.
- Evaluation – update evaluation process from last year. Place to write name and whether a student wants follow up, place to mark what session(s) they attended, and check boxes to mark what school they are from
- Swag Bags – stress balls and bag has the event logo on the front
- Student Mental Health Club Kit (at the end of the conference)

After a 5 minute snack break, Tessa Duvall, the Education, Children and Families reporter at The Florida Times Union shared important facts about her article When Kids Kill. Ms. Duvall spoke to MYLAC members about her mental health research efforts and how it correlates with youth crime/violence. Ms. Duvall wrote 103 current inmates that are serving sentences in connection with crimes committed before they turned 18. Fifty-seven of the 103 wrote her back. MYLAC members asked questions and shared their thoughts with Ms. Duvall.

Dr. Blalock went over scholarship opportunities and MYLAC members learned about different types of loans, scholarships, and federal financial aid.

Brianna Toawicha of the MYLAC social media group took “Tell Me Something Good” news from MYLAC members.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm

Next Meeting

Next meeting for MYLAC is at noon on March 2, 2019, at City Hall in the Lynwood Roberts Room.