



City of Jacksonville – The Jacksonville Journey

Positive Youth Development Sub-Committee

MINUTES

OF

POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

SUB-COMMITTEE

March 26, 2008

The Jacksonville Journey – Positive Youth Development

Sub-Committee

March 26, 2008

8:00 a.m.

PROCEEDINGS before the Jacksonville Journey - Positive Youth Development Sub-committee taken on Wednesday, March 26, 2008, Edward Ball Building, 8th Floor - 214 N. Hogan Street, Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida commencing at approximately 8:02 a.m.

Positive Youth Development Committee

Audrey McKibbin Moran, Chair

Joseph Bastian, Member

Betty Burney, Member

James Crooks, Member

Ellis Curry, Member

Bobby Deal, Member

Eddie Diamond, Member

Carolyn Floyd, Member

Maryam Ghyabi, Member

Warren Grymes, Member

Chris Hazelip, Member

Timmy Johnson, Member

Bill Mason, Member

Edgar Mathis, Member

Mac McGehee, Member

Shelton Tarver, Member

Claudette Williams, Member

Wyman Winbush, Member

Chris Wood, Member

George Young, Member

APPEARANCES

COMMITTEE CHAIRS & MEMBERS:

Audrey Moran, Chair
Bobby Deal, Member
Claudette Williams, Member
Jim Crooks, Member
Eddie Diamond, Member
Joseph Bastian, Member
Warren Grymes, Member
Timmy Johnson, Member
Chris Hazelip, Member
Wyman Winbush, Member

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ellis Curry, Member
Bill Mason, Member
Carolyn Floyd, Member
Mac McGehee, Member
Maryam Ghyabi, Member
Shelton Tarver, Member
George Young, Member

EXCUSED:

Chris Wood, Member

STAFF:

ROSLYN PHILLIPS
LINDA LANIER
KRISTEN KEY BEACH
STEPHANIE BARNETT
RACHELLE M. SUNDY

OTHERS PRESENT:

T. Gould, Edward Waters College
S. Anderson, Edward Waters College
Shorty Robbins, COJ Recreational and Community Services
Anna Bradley, COJ
Diane Brunet, PR Subcommittee
Tia Mitchell, Times Union

PROCEEDINGS

March 26, 2008

Positive Youth Development Sub-Committee

8:00 a.m.

Call to Order and Comments. Chairwoman Moran, called meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

Purpose of Meeting. Discuss the Mayor's crime initiative - The Jacksonville Journey - Take a Step - Positive Youth Development Sub-Committee and to develop action items for charges III & IV. Chairwoman Moran welcomed the group and thanked them for their willingness to be in attendance. The minutes to the March 21, 2008 meeting were approved unanimously.

Chairwoman Moran spoke about the meeting held on March 21st and reminded the committee that at the end of that meeting they had come to a consensus that it would be a good idea to zero in on Zone 1 which had the most hot spots of crime and use that as a starting point. Chairwoman Moran went on to let the committee know the Chairs of the different Jacksonville Journey sub-committees met on Friday and they all reached a consensus that all of the committees would zero in on Zone 1. Chairwoman Moran went on to say she appreciated the leadership from this committee on making that happen. Chairwoman Moran asked Chris Hazelip to speak on the letter he wrote and e-mailed to each of the committee members. Mr. Hazelip touched briefly on the contents of his letter in which he wrote in regards to the March 21st meeting: Much time was spent discussing the "message" we want to communicate to our youth. Mr. Hazelip spoke briefly on a comment by George Young last week:

"Mentoring is important, but drug dealers and gangsters have mentors in their criminal activities too." The content of what is being communicated makes all the difference. The Committee directed many "why" questions at the youth panel. We recognize the "why" but we are afraid that by discussing and articulating a "message" component in our task we will somehow violate church or government barriers. Mr. Hazelip suggested that the Committee include the identification and articulation of a core message to be delivered to our youth in whatever programs we urge our community and government to endorse. Chairwoman Moran thanked Mr. Hazelip for his letter and said they would talk about it in the action item process.

Chairwoman Moran called Linda Lanier to review youth statistics in Zone 1 and "40 Developmental Assets." Ms. Lanier began her presentation by reading a paragraph from the 40 Elements of Healthy Development hand-out. "Search institute has identified 40 positive experiences and qualities that all of us have the power to bring into the lives of children and youth, which are called developmental assets. For many people, the assets have become a source of ideas and inspiration in the face of frustration and even despair. Ms. Lanier then touched on a few key components listed on page 2 of the hand-out. The key components essential for a young person to become productive in today's society are:

Caring: Young person places high value on helping other people.

Interpersonal Competence: Young person has empathy, sensitivity and friendship skills

Cultural Competence: Young person has knowledge of and comfort

with people of different cultural/racial/ethnic backgrounds.

Resistance Skills: Young people can resist negative peer pressure and dangerous situations.

Peaceful Conflict Resolution: Young people seek to resolve conflict nonviolently.

Crimes are associated with getting your feelings hurt and it ends up in violence. A child needs to have 31 of the 40 assets in order to be productive to society. Average kids today have only 19. After Ms. Lanier's presentation, Chairwoman Moran invited questions from the committee members.

Q -(Comment) These are the values that fall on the parents. We can't address the needs of the children without addressing the need of guidance by the parents.

A - The problem is that the kids are raising themselves.

Q - (Comment) There is definitely a relationship between the 40 assets and the letter from Chris Hazelip.

At this time, Linda Lanier started her review of the statistics in JSO Zone 1. Some of the statistics she outlined are as follows (based on 2000 Census):

- Zone 1 has not experienced growth. In fact, there are two schools being shut down.
- There are a total of 37.9% of children ages 0-17 living below poverty
- There are 26 JCC funded after school programs with 4281 children being served.
- There are 13 Jax Parks Club Rec after school programs with 467

children being served.

To see all statistical data, log onto www.coj.net and click on the Jacksonville Journey link. Chairwoman Moran invited the committee to ask questions.

Q - I do not see where any Churches are reflected in with the statistics. Do any of the area Churches provided after school programs?

A - A survey was conducted in 2005 on after school programs. We found that Churches weren't stable and not consistent with their after school programs. JCC funds summer school programs for the area and those are more consistent and stable.

Q - (Comment) The 32204 zip code area in Zone 1 has a lot of zeros. Why is that?

A - There is only one school in 32204. It is not as populated due to urban growth in the area.

Chairwoman Moran thanked Linda Lanier for her presentation and announced the item for discussion which was the four charges the committee has been tasked with. It was agreed by the committee that Charge II, Engage Duval Youth Voice Council and Market 2-1-1 would be submitted as a non-action item and as a narrative. United Way is already looking for a way that 2-1-1 can be used to reach kids in need and The Youth Council has been met with Mayor Peyton. Next, the Committee discussed Charge IV, Expand Summer Jobs Program. It was reported to the Steering Committee that there is no funding for the Summer Jobs Program. The City partnered with Worksource to administer the applications in the past. One problem is recruiting businesses to come forward and participate.

Chairwoman Moran stated that she made a call to Mike Hightower and asked if the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce will assist in recruiting business to come forward and offer jobs to young people. Mr. Hightower agreed to be a part of this going forward. A comment was made that funding for the Summer Jobs Program should be included in the City's budget.

At this time there were comments and questions from the Committee:

Q - Is there anything planned for the Summer Job Program in 2008?

A - There is no funding this year for the program

Roslyn Phillips: Met with partners looking for alternatives and tried to reach out to business to come forward to participate.

Comment: We need to involve the Chamber in Commerce in mentoring.

Warren Grymes: It's important we understand what going on in the community. What we need is a community wide effort to get mentors. United Way wants to do a campaign drive for mentors. It is planned for June 21, 2008 at the Prime Osborne Convention Center. The goal would be to have 1500 new mentors to go into the school districts.

Chris Hazelip: That would be a great collaborative

Warren Grymes: This has to be an on-going campaign to be done every year

Wyman Winbush: In regards to the Summer Jobs Program - before participating in the program, the kids need to be made to read a book, go to a class or meet with other youth.

Chairwoman Moran: Great suggestion

Claudette Williams: Endorses Mr. Winbush. Just having a job is not enough. There needs to be all other aspects of development. A very important component is community service.

Joseph Bastian: In addition to community service, there needs to be a financial component such as how to budget.

Jim Crooks: Citizenship is very important. We want children to grow up and become citizens of this community.

The Committee then discussed Charge III, Undertake a Major Push to Support Out-of-school Programs.

Linda Lanier: There are no known funding opportunities. JCCC has no new monies and they are looking at another 10% cut in the budget next year. If there was funding, it would take two years to develop and implement the programs.

Bobby Deal: It's essential that everything that comes out of this committee has an academic component. Not all programs run an academic program. The kids need to have help. We have to be accountable for every dollar spent on these programs. We need public support. These programs aren't day care. It's about turning these children around. Kids need to have good grades in order to participate in PAL athletics. It's all about development.

Wyman Winbush: When children know they have to be accountable in order to do the things they like, they will step up to the bar.

Timmy Johnson: We need to take a look at the kids we are targeting. We have to entice the kids to participate before we expect them to just show up.

George Young: We've got to educate the parents. They need to raise their expectations for their children. You can talk to a child and encourage them. The kids in this area have no hope. They have given up. Who do they go home to? How did we get to this point? The young parents need to take responsibility for their children.

We have barely scratched the surface here.

Chairwoman Moran: I think about that a lot. There is going to be an opportunity to continue to be involved. And we really are just starting but thank God we are.

Bobby Deal: We need to expand summer camps to eight weeks.

The committee voted unanimously to add this to the action items.

George Young spoke about his experiences playing in the city's parks as he was growing up. Having a coach that will teach children ethical values is important.

Chris Hazelip: Not all coaches have the same integrity as George Young. They have the "must win" attitude.

Bobby Deal: There is 2.0 grade average requirement at PAL. Last year, 1900 kids participated. Only 300 needed tutoring. PAL has a coaches ethics policy. We suspend coaches who do not follow this policy. We hold them at a higher standard to be role models.

Jim Crooks: Are we going to be required to prioritize our charges?

Chairwoman Moran: Yes. We will take a look before we submit our recommendations. Our charges are much more focused.

At this time, Chairwoman Moran announced the meeting time was coming to an end and public comments.

Public Comments

Bruce Barefoot, The Bridge of NE Florida: Mr. Barefoot commented to the committee that they were doing a fabulous job and if there was anything that The Bridge could do to help, they would. Mentoring is powerful. At The Bridge, we mentor 24/7. Mentoring is important with the Jobs Program. Transportation also needs to be

addressed. Most youth do not have transportation to their jobs. The Bridge provides transportation for their participants. Mr. Barefoot recommended a public/private partnership for funding. Empower the kids and parents to be a part of the decision making process for the programs. We are trying to create great families not just great kids.

2. Action Items

- Review the sport program at the next meeting.
- The committee voted unanimously to expand summer camps to eight weeks.

Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 10:35 am