



City of Jacksonville – The Jacksonville Journey

Positive Youth Development Sub-Committee

MINUTES

OF

POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

SUB-COMMITTEE

December 21, 2007

The Jacksonville Journey – Positive Youth Development

Sub-Committee

December 21, 2007

3:00 p.m.

PROCEEDINGS before the Jacksonville Journey - Positive Youth Development Sub-Committee taken on Friday, December 21, 2007, Edward Ball Building, 8th Floor - 214 N. Hogan Street, Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida commencing at approximately 3:00 p.m.

Positive Youth Development Committee

Audrey Moran, Chair
Joseph Bastian, 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
Mary Langowski, Member
Bill Mason, Member
Rashean Mathis, Member
Edgar Mathis, Member
Mac McGehee, Member
Dan Rice, Member
Shelton Tarver, Member
Claudette Williams, Member
Wyman Winbush, Member
Chris Wood, Member
George Young, Member

APPEARANCES

COMMITTEE CHAIRS & MEMBERS:

AUDREY MORAN, Chair
JOSEPH BASTIAN, Member
BETTY BURNEY, Member
JAMES CROOKS, Member
ELLIS CURRY, Member
EDDIE DIAMOND, Member
CAROLYN FLOYD, Member
CHRIS HAZELIP, Member
TIMMY JOHNSON, Member
MARY LANGOWSKI, 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

PROFESSIONAL STAFF:

PEGGY SIDMAN, Office of General Counsel

STAFF:

ROSLYN PHILLIPS
LINDA LANIER
KRISTEN KEY BEACH
RACHELLE M. SUNDY

OTHERS PRESENT:

PROCEEDINGS

December 21, 2007

Steering Committee & Committee Chairs

3:00 p.m.

Call to Order and Comments. Chair Moran called the meeting to order at approximately 3:05 p.m.

Purpose of Meeting. Discuss the Mayor's crime initiative - The Jacksonville Journey - Take a Step - Positive Youth Development Sub-Committee.

Chair Moran welcomed the group and thanked them for their willingness to be in attendance during the busy holiday season. She noted that with only 120 days set by the Mayor to work on this initiative, she wanted to hold a meeting to introduce the group and perform some of the necessary housekeeping items. She made a promise to the group that she would ensure that the meetings begin and end times were adhered to. Chair Moran then asked the group to begin introductions around the table.

Chris Hazelip: He is an attorney with Rogers, Towers Law Firm; serves on the Human Rights Commission with Dr. Crooks and the Better Jacksonville Oversight Committee. He notes he is delighted to be here today.

Timmy Johnson: Notes that he is the Director of Parks & Recreation for Atlantic Beach, has been a citizen of Jacksonville for over 13 years and is honored to serve.

Betty Burney: Notes she is Chair of the Duval County School Board and believes this is the reason she was asked to join the committee.

Joseph Bastian: Legislative Correspondent and serves on Congresswoman Corrine Brown's staff in Washington, D.C. and notes that he asked to serve on this committee. He was born and raised in Jacksonville, and has a vested interest in this community.

Bill Mason: President Emeritus of Baptist Medical Center and President of the Florida Community College Foundation and feels very honored to have been asked to serve. He's very interested in this subject and happy to be here.

Mac McGehee: Notes that he is with Mac Papers and the FCCJ Board of Trustees, feels very strongly about programs that build character and believes that is why he was asked to serve.

Eddie Diamond: Notes that he retired from phone company; he is a community activist and has dealt with everything from drugs to murder. He notes that he has a vested interest in this community with his children and grandchildren growing up here. He is proud to serve at the Mayor's request and is 100% behind this initiative.

Roslyn Phillips: Notes she is the Mayor's Chief Community Officer and the head of the Constituent Services Business Unit; has a liaison relationship with the Children's Commission and the Library system; and is providing staff support to this committee. She notes that she looks forward to working with this group.

Audrey Moran: President of the Sulzbacher Center for the Homeless which currently houses 80 children; and she is an attorney by training. She is very happy to be serving on this committee.

Linda Lanier: Notes that she is the Director of the Jacksonville

Children's Commission; she is also the mother of three and grandmother of two, and is very excited to be part of this committee.

Jim Crooks: Involved in the Springfield Youth; Executive Committee for Blueprint for Prosperity; and Chair of the Human Rights Commission. This is an area where he has much interest.

Claudette Williams: Notes that she serves as President of Edward Waters College - believes she was asked to serve on this committee because she advocates youth development.

Chris Wood: Notes he is a senior at Stanton High School - on Jacksonville Youth Council, excited to serve with this group.

Wyman Winbush: Notes he is here because he is not able to say no to working with the youth in our community. Feels very close to disadvantaged children and is looking forward to working with this group. Currently serves as the Chair of the Board of Trustees at FCCJ.

George Young: Notes that he is a retired firefighter. Feels he is here because he was at a town meeting and challenged the Mayor to build jobs for young people. He's very interested in youth development.

Mary Langowski: Notes she is focused on creating opportunities for young people, especially on the Eastside of Jacksonville. The Eastside Resource Center is for children who have no where else to go. This keeps youth off the street and out of trouble. She feels she has a vested interest in helping the youth of our City.

Edgar Mathis: Notes he is a member of the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice; Leadership Jacksonville, class of 1989. Very

proud to be asked to serve.

Ellis Curry: Notes that he is an ex-felon who goes to middle schools and speaks to the students about his experience. He feels he can offer quite a lot to the young people of our community and is proud to be asked to serve on this committee.

Shelton Tarver: Apologized for his tardiness. He is a senior at Terry Parker, co-chair with Chris Wood of the Jacksonville Youth Council and is excited to be here and be part of this endeavor.

Chair Moran thanked the group and then turned the meeting over to Peggy Sidman, Office of the General Counsel for the overview of the Sunshine Laws.

1a. Sunshine Law - Overview

Ms. Sidman provided an overview of the Sunshine Law as well as the Florida Public Records Law, and opened the floor to questions. There were several questions and Ms. Sidman's responses are listed below:

- 1) Why are we under Sunshine if we aren't expending any funds?
Law applies to all boards or commissions, meeting to discuss public business. It's not just for matters that you expend funds on. In 2000 there was a constitutional amendment that any public business must be covered under Sunshine Laws.
- 2) After the 120 days, what do we do with all of the documents we receive/create? Do we keep them? **The Attorney General asks that you keep the documents for your term and pass them to your successor if one is appointed. Kandi Begue is the repository of all public documents for the record.**

- 3) Can I discuss with the NAACP Board? **Yes, as long as no other member of your committee is present.**
- 4) May we speak with a staff person via phone to discuss scheduling, etc? **Yes, you may speak with any staff members without public notice.**
- 5) What if a sub-committee is created from this sub-committee, do those meetings have to be noticed? **Yes, any meeting held with 2 or more committee members must be noticed if you are discussing public business. You may speak with one city council member, remembering that they are also covered under the Sunshine Laws.**
- 6) What about e-mail communication between members? **E-Mail communication is not permitted between members, because it is not open to the public, if you are asking for a response. Sunshine Law notes the public must be noticed on any discussions.**

Ms. Sidman also noted that there is more than just the Sunshine Law; there is a Public Records Law and a Gift Law. If you have any questions about what you should keep or when you should provide notice to the public, please don't hesitate to contact our office or speak with any of your staff members. Always be very careful about communication between board members. Do not engage in dialogue, whether written or spoken, with committee members, you will be in violation of the Sunshine Law.

Chair Moran thanked Ms. Sidman for her overview and then turned the meeting over to Ms. Phillips, asking her to provide mayoral perspective and the process to be utilized. Ms. Phillips noted there are a number of programs around the City designed to help counter the current problems now facing the City, but the Mayor felt that a more focused approach is going to ensure positive results. Ms. Phillips noted this is not a study committee, this is an action committee. It's not just prevention or intervention, but it is law enforcement as well. As you read through the reports in your notebook, you will see that there is a common theme. We need to be more proactive, not reactive to the problems in the community. There are four areas that we can begin looking at. One of them, by working with the Children's Commission, we were able to provide funding for after-school programs (such as the 211 helpline); there are mentoring programs as well. This is not meant to be limiting, but to provide a starting point for discussion. Our charge is that the best possible development of our youth be provided, whether by subject matter expert advise or by collaborative efforts of the group.

Process: We have 120 days, which puts us through April. Later in the agenda, we'll discuss the next meeting dates. Staff support is provided in each meeting, as well as recording of minutes both written and electronic; meetings will be noticed.

Any questions: In listening to the charge, one of the things that impacts positive youth is recreation. Ms. Phillips noted that when we spoke about after school programs, that included

recreation. Member E. Diamond noted that he feels we should get started as soon as possible. He feels that after the 1st of the year, we should hold pep rallies in the middle schools and let students know that we are here to help them; help them become energized in this effort as well. It was noted by the Chair that the Mayor would like this group to identify action items that can be done now - not wait until the end and provide feedback. She further notes that we are going to carve out time in our meetings to discuss those type action items that can be put in place. Chair Moran then asked Linda Lanier to speak to the group and provide overview about positive youth development and provide additional information that was not in the Notebook. Ms. Lanier began by saying that she would like to hand out a "research" statistic document. She feels we really need to be grounded in this workgroup. If we spend tax dollars, we have to provide a foundation on what those dollars are going to achieve. The article covers evidenced based programs, which comes from peer review journals and scientific basis. This is a high level of quality data collection, and evidence that the change you see happening is the actual result of the program. You must always be able to show that it was your intervention program that affected the positive change. Ms. Lanier noted that there are some powerful things happening in our community to affect positive change. There is merit in this group from taking a look at those programs to determine what is working. Chair Moran noted that in the essence of time, we will hear from these workgroup at a later date. We need to focus on accomplishing what he has set before

us. Suggestion of holding two meetings per month, have the 1st meeting be an overview of what is happening in our community that particular charge area; and the 2nd meeting be an all out discussion about what we can do to affect change in these charge areas. Chair Moran would like to define what we want from this group and ask for evidence on how their program is working. Parental responsibility should be primary, when we ask these subject matter experts to come and speak; we need to ask directly how their parental involvement is structured. There were suggestions around the table, such as a program like Buddy Check 12; "It's the 7th of the month, have you looked at your child's homework?" Chair Moran notes we can put this on the action list, very good suggestion. Another area is mentoring and volunteering, we need to look at parental involvement in that as well. Chair Moran notes these are all very good suggestions. The second meeting of each month will be spent developing an action plan to present to the steering committee. She then addressed the timeframe for these meetings, is 1 ½ hour good for the group? Group consensus is yes. Meeting room is the 8th Floor of the Ed Ball Building. It was noted that meeting minutes would be forwarded to all of the members and the meetings are going to be streamed so the public can listen. A question was posed to the Chair, if the press approaches, what should be done? Chair Moran notes that she'd be glad to answer any media questions, or Kristen Key Beach would also be the press referral point for this committee. However, she feels the Mayor and Steering Committee will be getting the majority of the press coverage. It was noted

that we thank the young people who are sitting at the table for their interest and commitment to their peers in the community. Ms. Beach noted that there are press conferences scheduled for each sub-committee, and the Positive Youth Development press conference is scheduled for 11:00 am on January 23rd. There was discussion about the best time and date for this sub-committee. It was agreed that you would not be able to obtain 100% buy-in from the group about the date/time to meet. It was determined that Wednesday's at 8:00 am (2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month). First meeting is Wednesday the 9th at 8:00 am until 9:30 am. It was noted that attendance is not mandatory at the Press Conference and parking is validated at the front desk. A question was asked about quorum requirements for voting in our committee. Chair Moran noted that she would like to have a quorum for the Mayor, which would include 13 votes plus 1. Chair Moran thanked each member and wished all a Merry Christmas.

2. Action Items

Bring current issues facing the community under the charge of the committee.

3. Discussion Items

None.

Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 4:16 p.m.

THE JACKSONVILLE JOURNEY

Certification

Recorded by:

Submitted by:

Rachelle M. Sundy

Kandi Begue, Project Manager

Approved by:

Susie Wiles, Chief of Communications/Special Initiatives