



# Office of Mayor-Elect Lenny Curry

Prevention, Intervention & At-Risk Youth Sub-Committee Meeting

June 29, 2015

Jacksonville University

Davis College of Business

Public Policy Institute

2800 University Blvd, Room 288

## IN ATTENDANCE:

Rev. John Guns, Member

Pastor Tom Messer, Member

Debbie Verges, Member

Leila Mousa, Member

Scott Wiley, Member

The Honorable Carolyn Woods, Member

Mal Washington, Member

Misty Skipper, Member

Tameka Holly, Member

Lawsikia Hodges, OGC Representative

## GUESTS:

Lt Lakesha Burton, JSO

Erica Whitfield

Roshanda Jackson

John Snyder, COJ

Leon Baxton, CIS

Jon Heymann, JCC

Ginger Peacock Preston, JCC

Amber Holley, Jacksonville Public Library

Pam Paul for Trey Csar, Jacksonville Public Education Fund

Siothis Jackson

Toni Crawford, EIC

A.G. Gancarski, Florida Politics

Marlene Russell, Support Staff

Wendy Jones Recorder

---

117 W. Duval Street, Suite 240

Jacksonville, Florida 32202

Tel: (904) 630-7200

Fax: (904) 630-7248

Chair Paul Perez and Co-Chair Johnnie Gaffney were unable to attend and in their place Jon Heymann from Jacksonville Children's Commission was asked to chair the discussion. He called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

The minutes of the last meeting were presented. Mal Washington made a motion to approve; Leila Mousa offered a second to the motion; and the Committee approved the minutes as presented.

The Acting Chair presented information which he had discussed with the Chair about recommendations. First he discussed restoring the authority back to the Jacksonville Journey so that they will have oversight of all the programs in regards to Prevention, Intervention and At-Risk youth. It does not mean restoring the funding just the authority. The funding can remain in the different departments such as the Children's Commission and JSO; just require that they report monthly to the Journey. Give them the authority to oversee the effectiveness of all City funded programs as they relate to crime prevention and have them report activities and results.

Discussion continued in regard to legislation of the makeup of the Journey, how they are to report and to whom they are to report. Mal Washington asked where the authority went as the legislation is still in place; over the past few years with the funding being stripped away the authority also went away. It was also noted that all the programs need to be reported on and not just what the Journey had oversight of (example 11 Team Up Programs under Journey but total of 68 Team Up Programs in all). The Journey should be taking a higher view by looking at all of the programs that are under Children's Commission, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and the Duval County School Board.

Carolyn Woods pointed out that there needs to be dedicated revenue sources for these programs. Debbie Verges suggested that this first year take time to look at the programs, the numbers, and different issues and see what could make a difference and where the emphasis for the next year should be. Roshanda Jackson pointed out that the Committee not be opposed to smaller agencies (non-profits and faith based) that are in the field doing the work. They may not have the abilities or capabilities to do the reporting so they are currently being overlooked. Pastor Guns agreed with this. There was a suggestion to have larger non-profits mentor smaller non-profits. Lt. Burton said that by focusing on smaller non-profits there may be better partnerships and that better service can be provided by having all non-profits work together.

The committee discussed the need for staff to pull this all together. Leila Mousa said that one person cannot do it all. There needs to be more buy in for accountability and to be able to bring all parties to the table. It was suggested that all faith based staff in the City (JSO, COJ, and DCSB) be brought to the table frequently to keep dialog open and to share information. It was suggested that at a minimum

there be two (2) full time employees with one being a designee to work with faith-based and non-profit partners.

Lt. Burton asked about the mental health aspect of the equation. When a violent crime happens in a neighborhood many times there is need of counseling for those in the neighborhood but they do not receive it. Discussion was to open communications and have free flowing information exchanges with all partners so they all can respond when the need arises. Much the same as when JSO encounters a violent crime, they notify the liaison to pass the message on to other partners so that the partners in the neighborhood affected can activate and assist.

It was noted that the Jacksonville Public Library is a part of the Prevention aspect but is largely overlooked. Libraries are in the neighborhoods and can be a viable resource.

The Jacksonville Journey needs to have a strategic plan in place and the first year needs to get a grasp on what COJ is doing through all of the departments.

Pastor Guns said that everyone needs to be called on the carpet because if we are putting 30 million dollars toward the problem and it is not working; then the entire system needs to be looked at and everything evaluated. We do not want to look back in 4 years and say it is worse.

Misty Skipper gave an overview of what had been discussed in regard to recommendations and will draft a copy for everyone to review in the next meeting (June 30). Some highlights are, restore authority to Jacksonville Journey over all programs and develop a strategic plan. Staff with 2 Full Time employees to partner with faith based and non-profits; collaborate with JSO and DCSB; review the process for funding to non-profits and faith based; and coordinate with JSO, Victim Services, DCPS and Journey such as when an incident occurs.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 a.m.



## Office of Mayor-Elect Lenny Curry

# AGENDA

**Date:** June 29, 2015

**Time:** 9:00 a.m.

**Committee:** Prevention, Intervention & At-Risk Youth Subcommittee Meeting

- I. Review & Approval Minutes – 06.22.15  
Paul Perez, Chair  
& Johnny Gaffney, Co-Chair
- II. Review and Discussion of recommendations  
Committee
- III. New Business  
Paul Perez & Johnny Gaffney
- IV. Public Comments

# Prevention, Intervention & At-Risk Youth Sub-Committee

June 29, 2015

Name	Role	Signature
Mr. Paul Perez	Chair	unable to attend
The Honorable Johnny Gaffney	Co-Chair	
Rev. John Guns	Member	
Pastor Tom Messer	Member	Tom Messer
Mr. Bill Spann	Member	
Ms. Debbie Verges	Member	Debbie Verges
Ms. Toni Crawford	Member	
Ms. Leila Mousa	Member	Leila Mousa
Dr. Nikolai Vitti	Member	
Mr. Scott Wiley	Member	Scott Wiley
The Honorable Carolyn Woods	Member	Carolyn Woods
Mr. Mal Washington	Member	Mal Washington
Dr. Pedro Cohen	Member	
Mr. WC Gentry	Member	
Ms. Misty Skipper	Member	
Ms. Tameka Holly	Member	Misty Skipper Tameka Holly
Mr. Trey Csar	Member	
Mr. Charles Griggs	Member	
Lt. Lakesha Burton	Member	L. Burton
Ms. Lawsikia Hodges	OGC Representative	Present
Ms. Rena Coughlin	Transition Team	
Guests / Visitors:		

Name	Address	City
Erica Lindbergh		Evanston
William H. Jackson		Evanston
John Sydnor	COS / GRANTS	Evanston
Leah Shaffer	CIS	Evanston
Lynn H. H. H.	JOL	Evanston
Megan Garock	Mason - JCC	Evanston
Audrey Thelen	Jacksonville Public Library	Jacksonville
Munford Jr. Treasurer	Jacksonville Public Ed Fund	Jacksonville
Melinda D.	EJC	Jacksonville
Sally Jackson	Community	Jacksonville