

Mayor's Hispanic American Advisory Board Meeting

Minutes Draft

Date: Tuesday, October 18th, 2016

Board Members Present: A. Burst, R., Caldera, C. Echeverry, E. Pantoja, J. Silva, J. Cuetos

Absent Board Members: M. Decunto, J. Montero, T. Jimenez

Staff Present: J. Lacayo

Guests: Liz Lawrence (American Red Cross, Regional Planning & Preparedness Manager) and Victoria Raleigh (American Red Cross, Regional CEO)

Welcome: 9:03 AM Meeting was called to order by A. Burst. A quorum was confirmed. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance: Led by E. Pantoja.

Minutes Approval – E. Pantoja made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by J. Cuetos. Motion passes unanimously.

Fiscal and Executive Updates

R. Caldera gave a committee report of the nominating committee for the executive committee. C. Echeverry was nominated for Vice Chair and M. Decunto was nominated for Secretary. J. Silva and E. Pantoja were also nominated for Secretary but declined opportunity. A motion for a vote for C. Echeverry as Vice Chair was made by R. Caldera and seconded by A. Burst. Motion passed unanimously. A motion for a vote for M. Deunto as Secretary was made by R. Caldera and seconded by E. Pantoja. Motion passed unanimously.

There is \$1,011 in the MHAAB account (J. Lacayo).

Committee Reports

Health and Public Safety

State of Hispanic health event was held on October 11th. The director of Duval County Health was there. The report of the community health assessment for the Hispanic community will be made public in December. It was a great networking event. A disaster relief effort for victims of hurricane Mathew is taking place for those affected in Hatti and Cuba tonight at Emed at 6PM. Celebra La Vida will be held on October 20th at the Gabriel House of Care. It's an October professional networking event with the FCHCC. J. Cuetos will be in attendance (E. Pantjoa).

Education

The Women's Center of Jacksonville will be meeting with Veterans. There is an Education Center available for those that need counseling for education. Innovation day is October 19th from 9AM – 11AM at FSCJ (innovation week). Congressional debates will be taking place on

October 26th from 6:30-7:30 to replace Crenshaw's seat. The College Promise Campaign for the conference (debt free entrance for college) will be occurring at the FSCJ campus. Each college and university are to host their own (Capital Fundraising Campaign for over 5 years, with a criteria of 2.5 GPA). ITT is reaching out to communities in the area. FSCJ help 75 students so far but there are 100's nationwide. October 13th the Hispanic Advisor Council with H.I.L.L will be meeting (J. Silva). There is a need for Spanish lessons in the Jacksonville Community (A. Burst).

October is both Hispanic Heritage Month and Cybersecurity Awareness Month. Several events are taking place to promote both initiatives. Academic institutions in the area are offering programs to help ITT students complete their degrees due to the closing of ITT. Webster University employees will distribute MHAAB flyers at Dog Fest hosted by Canine Companions for Independence at the Riverside Arts Market October 22nd. It is a non-profit organization that enhances the lives of people with disabilities by providing highly trained assistance dogs and ongoing support to ensure quality partnerships. The event will feature live music, agility course, graduate speakers, demonstrations and dog contests (C. Echeverry).

Flagler College held a career expo on October 5th. Many universities and colleges were in attendance. Information was given to the Career Development Center pertaining to MHAAB (C. Echeverry).

Economic and Faith Based

N/A

Hispanic Leadership Awards

On November 17th the Mayor offered to participate in the Hispanic Leadership Awards (HLA) event but it doesn't give enough time to recommend nominees or to promote the event (A. Burst). Standard operating procedure is 12 week notice for HLA.

Achieving the Dream

First Coast Hispanic Chamber of Commerce celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month and awarded Achieving the Dream scholarship awards recipients at the Gala event in October. The event featured a live band, dancing, silent auctions, cigar rolling, rum tasting, dominoes and costume contests. Several MHAAB members attend the event and mentioned it was well organized and fun. The only area for improvement discussed was to award scholarship recipients earlier than 9PM in the evening since the event was held from 6PM – 10PM on a Thursday (C. Echeverry).

Old Business

MHAAB is still waiting on the bylaws review by the City of Jacksonville regarding voting back in July pertaining to clarification regarding board removal (R. Caldera). J. Lacayo and R. Caldera left MHAAB meeting in order to receive clarification for the City of Jacksonville's Office of the General Council. It was recommended to postpone motion until J. Lacayo returns from meeting by several board members. The agenda moved to new business discussion for the sake of time.

New Business

N/A

Public Comments

Liz and Victoria from Red Cross gave a presentation for hurricane response. More than 1,200 families were given food, clothing and shelter as they fell victim to house fires, floods and other disasters. More than 10,000 residents and businesses were taught how to keep themselves, their businesses and their homes after through presentations on how to prepare for and prevent damage from hurricanes, fires, and tornadoes. More than 4 million pieces of information reached local residents on topics such as CPR, first aid, disaster prevention and safety tips through digital media and preparedness apps. 972 people are now homeless in the Jacksonville area due to Hurricane Matthew.

More than 9,000 services were provided to the United States Armed Forces service members through emergency communications, emergency loans, grants and counseling or referral services. Nearly 14,000 military members and their families received “Get to Know Us Before You Need Us briefing and assistance”.

12 families received help locating and reuniting with loved ones through international tracing, messaging and other international services.

More than 42,000 residents were trained in programs such as lifesaving, CPR, first aid, aquatics, babysitting and Nurse Assistant Training.

Last year alone, the North Florida Region provided over 8,5000 community services throughout our community. These services include: hours in hospitals and clinics covered by Red Cross volunteers, community events, services provided to or by youth adults, and referral and additional services provided throughout the area.

The North Florida Region relies on the public for support. Its work is made possible by the generosity of individuals, companies and the United Way.

The preparedness program campaign is in effect which offers free fire alarms and installation to those in need. The Red Cross also offers assistance to those who need advice on how to exit homes in case of a fire. October is Fire Prevention Month. Information was given regarding an app that provides information for locating closest shelters when a disaster arises. Cruz Roja Americana (Red Cross).

Old Business Continuation

Met with general council Jason Teal (R. Caldera and J. Lacayo) during the MHAAB meeting. It was reported that to abstain from a vote it turns the vote into an automatic yes. The conclusion was that there was a 6/3 vote at the July meeting pertaining to a board member’s removal. The motion in discussion was a recommendation to remove a MHAAB member, not to remove, which only the Mayor can approve.

A discussion of the motion to strike language pertaining to the recommendation of removal of a MHAAB member was made. A motion was made to strike July meeting minutes language regarding the recommendation of removal of a particular member (motion R. Caldera, seconded by J. Silva). All 6 MHAAB members present voted against motion (motion did not pass).

Meeting Adjourned by Chairman Burst at 10:28AM:

Meeting Minutes Draft Submitted by: C. Echeverry 11/7/2016. The next meeting will be on November 8th at City Hall, 4th Floor Conference Room.