

Mayor's Hispanic American Advisory Board

Minutes for the August 13, 2013 Meeting

Present: Paul Martínez, Patricia Solo-Josephson, Jesús Montero, Javier García, Ida Grooper, Rafael Caldera, Carmen Matay, Mario Decunto, Yvonne Shaffer

Staff Present: Betzy Santiago and Grace Pettus

Guests: Angel Reyes, Wilfredo Gonzales

Welcome: Paul Called the meeting to order

Minutes Approval – No minutes were provided due to Ana's absence. Minutes will be presented during the next meeting.

Committee Reports

Health, Education, Public Safety

Rafael and Yvonne participated in the August 12th MAAAB meeting. The group talked about supporting the schools ESOL programs and joining efforts to create a multicultural community leadership forum. Yvonne Shaffer advised that the public is seeing us as part of LULAC. Ida Groper stated the need to advertise more. Betzy mentioned advertising options were available through the City's Public Relations Department.

Government Relations, Public Relations, Business

The subcommittee met via a phone conference to discuss the HLA event which would recognize Hispanic community leaders. Rafael made a motion to discuss approving the event, Jesus second the motion. Ida and Rafael stated the event was never approved and the subcommittee was to discuss if the event would be a duplicate of any other event. Ida asked if there was research done to see if other organizations such as LULAC have done the same. Yvonne advised the Mayors Asian American Advisory Board is having a similar event. Paul would like to create a database that would help recognize the Hispanic leadership. He talked about the option of fundraising for the event in the future.

Faith Based, Cultural, Special Events

Carmen proposed having a sponsor for the event. Jesus stated that the initiative comes from the Mayor and that recognition is important. Ida asked Betzy if our event would be similar to the one hosted by FCHCC. Betzy responded that the chamber focuses on business and our event would have more categories. The Jacksonville Business Journal

has a diversity award also Hands on Jacksonville, and Leadership Jacksonville have recognition events. Betzy stated that the Hispanic community has no representation in the government and that recognition is important. Javier stated that successful Hispanics don't want to be involved in politics or with the government. Patty said there is a gap between medical community and the political community. This event would bridge that gap. The motion to approve the event was proposed by Rafael and seconded by Jesus. All of us were in favor so the motion passed unanimously. September 26 will be the date and venue will be free since the event will be held in City Council Chambers. Betzy would help by providing a sample nomination form.

Guests

Angel Reyes from the softball organization Jose Carrera advised that the Jacksonville Softball Association wants to take their field from them. Please see attached letter. Paul advised that he would respond in 7 to 10 business days.