

Mayor's Young Leaders Advisory Council (MYLAC)

December 14, 2019

Minutes

Proceedings of the Mayor's Young Leaders Advisory Council taken on December 14, 2019 in the Breakroom of Kids Hope Alliance, 1095 A Philip Randolph Blvd, Jacksonville, Florida commencing at 8:30 a.m.

Committee Members Attending

Tajah Anderson, Alice Baker, Eleana Cummings, Erika De Jesus, Dyana Foster, Mona Freeman, Alaya Green, Arianna Glover, Courtney Harold, Devonna Harrison, Brooke Hawkins, Kennedy Hill, Arquan Joseph, Joe Kennerson, Ja'Miyah Levy, Jaira Lunsford, Nidhi Patel, La'Mirakle Price, Zavier Rathle, Steven Regelski, Makayla Smith, Tamara Sonera, Salma Soubai, DeMichael Sterling, Margaret Szczukowski, Daniela Valderrama, Rodney Wells

Staff Attending

John Edwards, Heather Bogarty, Mari Ganues, Tia Keitt, Aszloyn Wakefield

The meeting was called to order at 8:32.

MYLAC members reviewed the agenda. The agenda was accepted by General Consensus.

At 8:37, Nidhi Patel reviewed the November Meeting minutes. The minutes were approved by General Consensus.

At 8:40 Members split into their respective committees (Census 2020 with Victor Cora, Mental Health with Katrina

At 10:45 Members took a break.

At 10:50 Members returned to the conference room to share their committee

At 10:57, Mrs. Katrina Taylor led the members through a brain break in to teach us

about different ways to de-stress.

At 11:01, President Alaya Green introduced the Mental Health Committee representatives: Devonna Harrison, Salma Soubai, Mona Freeman to begin their report. They shared that during the Mental Health Conference there will be opportunities for the attendees to receive advice and information. The event will accommodate participants who speak languages other than English.

At 11:05, The Focus Committee Chairman, Eleana Cummings, and Brooke Hawkins briefed the General Body on the status of the “box”. MYLAC note pads will be attached to the boxes at the participating schools. The Focus Committee will plan more events that lead to a potential changes in legislature. One idea is to have monthly district-based youth-oriented meetings.

At 11:09, the Census 2020 committee representatives, Zavier Rathle and Gokul Madathail, reported on the status of their project: to create memes and other forms of advertisement to encourage families to fill out the Census form. The advertisement will also be in different languages, including English to reach out to families of all backgrounds.

At 11:29, President Alaya Green opened the floor to any new business. Mrs. Katrina Taylor informed us about the Christmas Party of Jacksonville, where students can volunteer to help out. Joe Kennerson informed us about his idea of a MYLAC Campaign to publicize the activities and purpose of MYLAC to create awareness of who we are. Gokul Madathail introduced an idea for Wellness Wednesday where students will take part in a poll to identify the reactions and sentiments of students after the class. Salma Soubai noted that the Mental Health Committee forgot to address the Wellness Wednesday portion of their discussion. They informed the body of the idea of a contest where elementary students will decorate doors, middle school students will create a tri-fold board, and high school students will create a video in order to advocate for mental health.

At 11:31, Mr. Edward talked to the members of MYLAC about bridging the gap between council members and MYLAC members. He conducted a higher level discussion about advocating and initiating change through legislature. He encouraged members “to think beyond planning events” and urge for change within Jacksonville. He introduced the idea of having new officers being voted in

before the summer and those members work with council members in an effort to begin to create change.

At 11:38, Alaya Green asked the members if they would like her to create an outline of the Robert's Rules of Orders, in order to ensure a smooth meeting. The Body accepted this idea.

At 11:41, the Body introduced new ideas to promote change. Eleana Cummings recommended having small events to cover small issues, but host large events to promote change for large issues. Salma Soubai suggested to get more funding for school renovations. Joe Kennerson asked to have a mock practice for promoting change. Mr. Everett recommended that when advocating for change, research your ideas before contacting a council member. Joe Kennerson recommended creating procedures on how to effectively address an issue. Salma Soubai suggested that instead of looking at a specific perspective, we should look at the broad perspective. She says that we should get council members to acknowledge the issues and the affects not just o nones school, but the majority of schools in Jacksonville. The issues taken into consideration should be grand and prevalent among the community.

At 12:04, Alaya Green redirected the members to how to promote change:

1. Identify the issue
2. Research more information regarding the issue.

The procedure was not completed, but members were encouraged to think about ways to effectively promote change.

At12:07, The meeting was adjourned by Alaya Green