

Mayor's Hispanic American Advisory Board

Board Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2020

4:30pm City Hall/Zoom

Board Members:

Present: Marivi Wright, Jennifer Silva, Aida Seeraj, Demika Jackson, Jorge Lopez, Jose Morales

Absent: Miguel Dipierri

Quorum present? Yes or No

Disabled Services Staff Present: Kara Tucker and Jennifer Wolf

Others Present: Manny Velasques-Paredes, Demetries Coletti-Brown, Valerie Raquiro, Officer Marc Medina

Proceedings:

· *Meeting called to order* at 4:31pm

· October meeting minutes were not amended and approved

· *Presentation:* Officer Marc Medina – International Affairs Unit

- a. Taskforce was created in July 2001 to address the concerns of high crimes (Human trafficking, robbery, scams) against the Hispanic community especially the undocumented. The population was afraid to come forward due to fear of being deported or not believed. Continue to spread the word through radio, neighborhood walk, social media, community events. Work with zones 32202, 32203, 32204 which contains a large Hispanic population (Phillips Hwy, Toledo area).
 - b. New program initiative through the Sheriff's office Chief Rostevo called the Sheriff Watch Espanol. This program was created to address and assist the highest populated Hispanic areas. Before the pandemic, two meetings were held: One in a housing development on Powers Ave and the other within a Church. Both meetings had low attendance. In order to maximize participation, the program partnered with Hind Chahed at the Center for Language & Culture (ESOL program) located at 7401 Old Kings Rd South. The officers attend their weekly meetings once a month to discuss crime awareness, how to interact with the police during traffic stops, communication with non-emergency and emergency numbers, etc. An additional resource for questions with immigration or law enforcement contact the International Affairs Unit (904) 630-0914 direct line. An additional resource for the community is our weekly radio show Wednesday at 9:00am 92.1 Latina Jacksonville. Listeners can call in with questions and receive information on police community awareness. The goals are for the Hispanic community to not be fearful of police enforcement.
 - c. Currently utilize bicycles to move around the community to continue building relationships with the community.
 - d. Collection for the victims of Honduras. Information for collection items will be sent to Jennifer.
 - e. Types of crimes currently being seen within the Hispanic community – armed robbery, theft, and scams. Many have a fear of police enforcement for various reasons. Language line is being used to communicate with individuals that do not speak Espanol.
 - f. Aida offered a community partnership with Inspire to Rise, Inc for the Hispanic community.
 - g. Will send key information for MHAAB to provide key points to the Hispanic community on police enforcement interaction.
-

· *Finance report*: no report provided

· *Committee reports*:

- *Public Safety & Veterans: Chair D Jackson & J Morales*
 - Annual - Jose will provide information on the emergency preparedness conference and affordable housing taskforce. Demika – initiative and attendance with veterans’ outreach activities over the past year
- *Education & Workforce: Chair J Silva*
 - Annual – Information on the ½ penny referendum passing with 67% vote report
 - Aida is interested in joining this committee
- *Healthcare & Faith-based: Chair M Wright*
 - Annual – Information on the COVID-19 testing sites shared on social media to include the tv interviews and Jax Saludable
 - Aida & Demetries interested in joining this committee
- *Media & Public Relations: Chair J Lopez*
 - Annual – Information on data from social media, any flyers, and World of Nations; report on the Townhall from beginning of the year
- *Business & Housing: Open*
 - Demetries interested in joining this committee

· *Other business: Annual Report – Due December 30, 2020*

- a. Committees have 2 weeks to turn in draft to Jennifer Wolf. See above reports for requested information from each committee under Annual.
- b. Minutes for previous meetings need to be recorded – 4 currently missing
- c. Potential Member – Currently 3 pending for interview and acceptance to include Manny and Demetries
- d. 2021 Goals
 - a. Short videos from leaders/speakers/key members either pre-recorded or live to discuss topics influencing the Hispanic community (Espanol and English)
 - b. Provide community resources and awareness – Aida
 - c. Awards program for 2021 honoring those who continue to innovate the Hispanic community
 - d. Partner with community HIV testing organizations and sites (Planning Council, UNF, Jasmyn, Dept. of Health & World Aid Committee)
 - e. Participation in the World of Nations and the Hispanic Fair
 - f. Hispanic Veterans initiative
 - g. Consider working with other organizations during their Job fair & business expos
 - h. Consider having speaker events on quarterly basis to discuss hot topics effecting the Hispanic community (ex. substance abuse)
 - i. Continue to support ESOL and the Wellbeing of the community

· Meeting adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

· Minutes submitted by Secretary;

**Minutes transcribed by*

Demika Jackson
MHAAB Secretary
Committee Chair of Veteran
