



Office of Mayor-Elect Lenny Curry

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

June 17, 2015

Jacksonville University

Davis College of Business

Public Policy Institute

2800 University Blvd, Room 270

IN ATTENDANCE:

Paul Perez, Prevention, Chair

The Honorable Dr. Johnny Gaffney, Co-Chair

Pastor Tom Messer, Member

Bill Spann, Member

Debbie Verges, Member

Leila Mousa, Member

Dr. Nikolai Vitti, Member

Scott Wiley, Member

The Honorable Carolyn Woods, Member

Mal Washington, Member

Pedro Cohen, Member

Misty Skipper, Member

Tameka Holly, Member

Trey Csar, Member

Charles Griggs, Member

Lt. Lakesha Burton, Member

Lawsikia Hodges, OGC Representative

Rena Coughlin, Co-Chair Transition Team

GUESTS:

John Snyder, COJ Grants

Doug Howell, JSO/Gang Unit

Chris Brown, JSO/Gang Unit

Nick Burgos, JSO/Gang Unit

Susan Main, ELC

Taurean Sinclair, COJ, Journey

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Ginger Peacock Preston, JCC
Jane Bouda, COJ Housing
Jason Roth, United Way
Jennifer Giltrop, Jacksonville Public Library
Melba Furlow, Miciah Deleston Foundation
Martha Cox, Family Foundations
Sonja Johnson, Support Staff
Marlene Russell, Support Staff
Wendy Jones Recorder

Chair Paul Perez called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Chair called for a review of the minutes from the June 15, 2015, meeting. Recorder noted that there were corrections regarding the name of Capt. Burns which should read Katherine Burns; Mr. Mike Hallett should read Dr. Michael Hallett; and Ms. Paul Perez should read Mr. Paul Perez. Motion was made and seconded to approve as amended. Motion carried.

The Chair introduced Lt. Lakesha Burton, who has recently been appointed as the Executive Director of PAL (Police Athletic League). She stated she is looking forward to working with the Committee and the members.

The Chair then introduced Lt. Nick Burgos who is over the JSO Gang Unit and turned the meeting over to him. After a brief introduction Lt. Burgos had Det. Doug Howell and Det. Chris Brown introduce themselves and begin the presentation. The JSO Gang Unit follows the Florida State Statute 874 regarding gang activity and they have 2 detectives and 16 investigators who work in this unit. The Florida Statute mirrors most other states statutes and gangs are a very fluid process. There are gangs that are part of a National gang, which do not like media attention; and there are gangs that are local gangs, these are the one which seek media attention. They are 11 criteria that are used to identify gang members either as a criminal gang member (two or more identifiers) or a criminal gang associate (meets one identifiers). The demographics of gangs are males and females; black, white, Asian and Hispanic; ages 15 to 24 years. Gang members over 25 are either dead, in jail, changed their life, or are career criminals. Current problem with gangs in Jacksonville is being driven by social media; gang members feel they are being insulted by someone on Facebook and then they retaliate. The more gangs are talked about in the media the more kids it draws to gangs. There are two types of graffiti: tagging - an artistic type of graffiti and not gang related; and the other is graffiti that is gang related and is usually not artistic.

Discussion of the source of gangs is economics. As a community we have find ways to help bring kids opportunities to make a living and give them opportunities to better themselves. The cycle must be

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broken. Social issues that are the root cause of the problem are still in place in neighborhoods. All agencies and partners must come together and provide sustainable services to help break the cycle.

Dr. Vitti reiterated that he heard the detectives say that average gang member was between 18 and 24 years of age and if they were school age they were truant. He then asked what the School Board could do differently to help with the gang problem. It was suggested that more documentation and better communication would help. Detectives asked if there was system of review with the Choice program that allows removal of problem kids from their school of choice if they are causing gang related problems. There is a review at the end of the school year to determine if they are/ or are not meeting the requirements of the schools. Dr. Vitti mentioned that having more presentations regarding gangs and the lifestyle presented the younger children (even to 5th graders) may be a way to help with the problems the City is facing.

A group of invested organizations; who can provide job placement, education and enforcement is needed to work together to help sustain programming to work with kids. Dr. Vitti pointed out that intervention must come early and it is a multiple pronged approach.

Taurean Sinclair mentioned that the City had been asked to participate in the Forum on Youth Violence Prevention because the City had been in conversation with other Cities that had been participating in the Forum. Through the Journey work they have been looking at strategic plans and best practices.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.



Office of Mayor-Elect Lenny Curry

AGENDA

Date: June 17, 2015

Time: 9:00 a.m.

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

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| I. | Review & Approval Minutes – 06.15.15 | Paul Perez, Chair
& Johnny Gaffney, Co-Chair |
| II. | Introduction – Executive Director of PAL
Lt. Lakesha Burton, representing Sheriff Elect – Mike Williams | Paul Perez |
| III. | Presentation – JSO – Topic of Gangs | Lt. Nick Burgos |
| IV. | New Business | Paul Perez & Johnny Gaffney |
| V. | Public Comments | |

Prevention, Intervention & At-Risk Youth Sub-Committee

June 17, 2015

Name	Chair	Signature
Mr. Paul Perez	Chair	PRESENT
The Honorable Johnny Gaffney	Co-Chair	PRESENT
Rev. John Guns	Member	
Pastor Tom Messer	Member	Thomas E. Messer
Mr. Bill Spann	Member	Bill Spann
Ms. Debbie Verges	Member	Debbie Verges
Ms. Toni Crawford	Member	out of town
Ms. Leila Mousa	Member	Leila Mousa
Dr. Nikolai Vitti	Member	Nikolai Vitti
Mr. Scott Wiley	Member	Scott Wiley
The Honorable Carolyn Woods	Member	Carolyn Woods
Mr. Mal Washington	Member	Mal Washington
Dr. Pedro Cohen	Member	Pedro Cohen
Mr. WC Gentry	Member	WC Gentry
Ms. Misty Skipper	Member	Misty Skipper
Ms. Tameka Holly	Member	Tameka Holly
Mr. Trey Csar	Member	Trey Csar
Mr. Charles Griggs	Member	Charles Griggs
Ms. Lawsikia Hodges	OGC Representative	Lawsikia Hodges
Ms. Rena Coughlin	Transition Team	Rena Coughlin
Guests / Visitors:		
John Snyder	CO5 / GRANTS OFFICE	
Doug Howell	JSG / GANG UNIT	

Name		Signature
CHRIS BROWN	ISO GANG UNIT.	
Nick Byers	ISO Gang Unit	
Sonia Johnson	WJ	
Susan Mann	ELL	
Laneen Sinclair	ISO Public	
L.T.A. Burton	ISO / PAL	
Ginger Peacock Preston	JCC	
JANE Bourde	COs Housing	
Jason Roth	United way	
Jennifer Gilroy	Jacksonville Public Library	
Melba Furlow	Public Library / Michian Delester Foundation	
Martha Cox	Family Foundations	