**Minutes of the Meeting of the Mayor’s Hispanic American Advisory Meeting, November 19, 2024; 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM, Main Library/303 N Laura Street**

**Members Present:** Pablo Diaz De Sandi, Nicole Landa, Jose Morales, Dr. Carmen Martinez, Zergihno Roell Garcia, Aida Seeraj & Sabrina Marcos Smith

**Staff Present:** Kara Tucker & Tereese Goodloe

**Guest Present:** Officer Gonzalez & Officer Medina (JSO-International Affairs Unit), Arlene Ortiz (Pres of Sister Cities), Nancy (Puerto Rican Chambers) Julby Boutin (Prospera), other guest in attendance however names spoken in Spanish

**Meeting Called to Order:** at 12:30pmby Chair, Zergihno Garcia

**Pledge of Allegiance:** All in attendance

* **Announcements** 
  + 1. JSEB Meeting, November 19th, Main Library:
       - 2025 schedule – 3rd Tuesday of every month, YaYa will have calendar ready by next week. Jose recommends that the Board is promoted at JSEB meetings, and a contact list of attendees provided to the Board.
    2. All agreed to move the December Meeting to Thursday, December 12, 2024, due to the coming Christmas Holiday
* **Public Comment:** 
  + *Several members from the Public in attendance spoke about issues with the World of Nations with the majority of the conversation spoken in Spanish, therefore unable to accurately take minutes however a briefing only of the conversation is included as follows:*
* ***Non-Profit Agencies are purchasing space(s) and reselling the spaces at very high cost to businesses (that may not be from the Hispanic Country) willing to pay the most, who then charge extremely high prices for food to WON attendee’s where some have a family of 4 or more and it is not cost effective to purchase food. Also, the Hispanic owned businesses are not aware of registration dates to register as vendors before spaces are bought up.***
* Pablo advised he will draft a letter from the Mayor’s Hispanic American Advisory Board on behalf of the Hispanic community to COJ’s Office of Sports & Entertainment to address the issues so hopefully changes can be made for the 2026 World of Nations Event.
* **Vote to Approve Minutes** 
  + MOVED BY: Pablo TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR: September 17, 2024. SECOND BY: Dr. Carmen.
    - Quorum – 7 members in attendance.
* **Meeting Schedule**
  + *Subcommittees: Meeting dates every 3rd Tuesday from 12pm – 12:30pm*
    - **Social media & Business** 
      * Zergihno, Pablo (chair), Jorge, Anamaria & Sabrina
    - **Education, Healthcare & Wellness**
      * Nicole, Pablo, Aida (chair) & Dr. Martinez
    - **Public Safety, Veterans & Faith**
      * Miguel (chair) & Jose
  + *Hispanic Directory & Newsletter*
    - *2025 Goals (a part of January Planning Meeting)*
  + *Hispanic Job Fair*
    - *2025 Goals (a part of January Planning Meeting)*
* **Old Business/New Business**
* JSEB Meetings
* Financial Workshop – one of the JSEB meeting
* 11% of Hispanics working for City based on last census
* Meeting with Garrett Denis, vacant position
* CM Arias update on number of Hispanics employed in COJ positions
  + MHAAB Board Secretary position – always an option.
* FSCJ: English as a 2nd Language – Still need.
* **2024 Past & Present Events –** If there’sevents or things you think we need to be in just bring it up and we will put it on the agenda.

**Past:**

* + Caesar Chavez – March 29th
  + Health & Wellness Fair – May
  + Inspire to Rise – Aida Seeraj hosting event about Youth Mental Health for Mental Health Awareness Month– Thursday, 05/23/2024
  + Achieving the Dream Luncheon – 05/30/2024
  + Public Safety – JaxReady Fest
  + Overdose on Awareness Month – August
  + Jax Bridges – August
  + Latino Tailgate Event – September 15th
  + Sister Cities Proclamation Event – September 16th
  + 2 virtual events with Mayo Clinic about Breast Cancer:
    - Thursday, 10/17 at 3pm in Spanish
    - Sunday, 10/20 at 5pm
    - Nicole Will send flyers to Kara
  + Annual Meeting for Sister City Association, October 24th, 6pm City Hall Atrium
    - First time bringing students from PR to meet the mayor

**Present:**

* Annual Turkey Giveaway, Saturday, November 23rd, 10x10 booth space for MHAAB per YaYa
* Mayou’s Monthly Newsletter, YaYa will be translating in Spanish
* Latinos in Action at DCPS, Michael Ramirez will speak at December meeting per YaYa
* Inspire to Rise, Free Dental & Medical Clinic, Friday, November 22nd
* **Adjourn Meeting**

**Chair:** Zergihno Roell Garcia / **Vice-Chair:** Pablo Diaz De Sandi

**Members:** Anamaria Contreras, Miguel DiPierri, Nicole Landa, Jorge Lopez, Dr. Carmen Martinez, Jose Morales, Aida Seeraj & Sabrina Marcos Smith

**Disabled Services Division**

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