**Minutes of the Meeting of the Mayor’s Hispanic American Advisory Meeting**

**May 21, 2024; 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM, Main Library/303 N Laura Street**

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

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

**Guest Present:** Jaqueline Santana (Church World Service), Cecilia Gonzalez (Linklaim), Oscar Espinal (Linklaim), Ana S. Ramos (Linklaim), Jon Urrutia (Linklaim), Elizabeth Anderson, Nina Perez, Trey Ford, Officer Frank Gonzalez, Officer Osvaldo Vargas & Officer Jose Navarro-Reyes

**Administration:** Yanira (YaYa) Cardona (COJ-Spanish Outreach Coordinator)

* **Meeting Called to Order:** by Chair, Jose Morales at approximately 11:54am
* **Welcome & Introductions:** New Board Members –
  + Anamaria Contreras – not present
  + Pablo Diaz De Sandi – VyStar VP
  + Nicole Landa – Mayo Clinic
  + Sabrina Smith – Fisher Tousey Attorney
* **Announcements** 
  + Sending 2 letters of attendance
  + MHAAB Board Secretary position open
  + Currently have Quorum to vote on issues & approve minutes
  + Trying to go out into the community more – Town Halls, 6-8pm
  + Achieving the Dream Scholarship Luncheon– 05/30/2024, Deerwood Campus at Florida Blue – 1st time in 4 to 5 years doing a luncheon – YaYa speaking on behalf of the mayor – Visit the First Coast Hispanic Chambers of Commerce Site for more information.
* **Public Comment** – N/A
* **Guest Speakers:** 
  + **Jaqueline Santana** (Community Engagement Associate) – Church World Service – provides services for those in need/new in Jacksonville/we need help with shoes, clothes & any resources for kids.
  + **Oscar Espinal** (Chief Operating Officer) - Linklaim Legal Referral Network/want to be involved with the Hispanic community
  + **Elizabeth Anderson** (Director of One Jax) – onejax.org – summer camp coming up
  + **Nina Perez** (founder of Moms Rising 2006– Mamas ConPoder 2016) – MamasConPoder is MomsRising’s Latinx community. Local & National Non-profit organization intended to work on public policy that is friendly to families by working directly with families. Theory of change to create solutions & form those solutions directly, work on a broad range of family economic issues, recently been tracking what’s going on in public schools. Contact information: [nina@momsrising.org](mailto:nina@momsrising.org)
  + **Trey Ford** (Marketing Coordinator, Eartha Farm & Market) food specific to all different type of cultures, 10 acres/coop farm, open invitation, located on 4850 Moncrief Rd. every Saturday farmers market, volunteer opportunity & get space – Heritage week add agricultural – Supervisor at Duval water conservation
* **Approval of Minutes from 12/2023, 01/2024, 02/2024 & 03/2024 (Quorum)** will give 30 days to allow time for all to review
* **Meeting Schedule**
* Next Town Hall/*Outreach Event* (still planning)- Financial Workshop?
  + Pablo Diaz De Sandi will help and bring people to do financial literacy classes
* Hispanic Heritage Planning committee – month worth of events – meeting Thursday, 05/23/2024
* CM Raul Arias interesting in attending meeting
  + CM Rahman Johnson Assistant: Andrew Powers would like to be more involved with Board
* **Old Business**
  + Sub-Committee (rearrange): goal is to condense into 3, next month want to have sub-committee up and running – come back with goals
    - Social media (can go under business) – Jorge Lopez
    - Education – ESOL
    - Public Safety – Miguel DiPierri, Chair
    - Health & Wellness – Aida Seeraj, Chair
    - Business – Zergihno Roell Garcia, Chair
    - Faith

\*Motion to condense sub-committees into 3, 2nd by Zergihno, motion carries to condense sub-committees

* 2023 Year Report was sent
* Attendance – sending letters to those non-attendance
  + Election of Chair & Vice Chair – take a month and come up with a Vice Chair nominations, motioned, 2nd & approved.
  + Hispanic Heritage Month
  + Banner or new tablecloth – trust fund only $200
* **New Business**
* FSCJ: English as a 2nd Language – Still need – option:
  + English Classes – Starting June 4th (update/YaYa)
* YaYa met with Gregory Grant of JSEB – looking to create monthly workshops (free) to educate small businesses. Will host quarterly forum – all in Spanish at Main Library, starting in July
* Publix service grants for non-profits, $150k or 24% of average revenue for last 3 years (higher or two) July 1st deadline to submit application.
* Meeting time good for all board members, 12-2pm
* **2024 Goals** 
  + **Employment** – COJ Career Fair 06/18/2024 – Jose Morales will be there, can provide information for the Board. Percentage of Hispanic people working for city is 5%.
  + **Meeting with Mayor** – trying to get a meeting schedule with Mayor Deegan – come up with bullet points on topics to speak about
  + **Hispanic Heritage Month** – integrate Spanish heritage awards, YaYa states asking for $300K budget to be approved October 1st – part will go towards funding the Hispanic Heritage dinner (no dates but before 10/12), small festival like a mini world of nations, rest of funds will sponsor events already happening in the Hispanic community. Every week some type of activity.

\*We do have a **Trust fund** but with very little money in there. Parvez is trying to get a budget for each board ($10K) approved.

***Discussion:*** *Pablo question to YaYa – Possible to link events the city planning with other events planned - Committee of Hispanic businessmen planning Hispanic tailgate with Jags with purpose of raising funds for a Hispanic non-profit? Per YaYa, it is a possibility, have to present to CM Arias all events happening for Hispanic Heritage month, and they will select the ones they want to partner with.*

* **Events**
  + Caesar Chavez – March 29th (update)
  + Health & Wellness Fair – May
  + Inspire to Rise – Aida Seeraj hosting event about Youth Mental Health for Mental Health Awareness Month– Thursday, 05/23/2024
  + Public Safety – JaxReady Fest
  + Overdose on Awareness Month - August
* **Website** updating site – trying to do an information page
* **Adjourn Meeting**

Chair: Jose Morales

Vice-Chair: *Vacant*

**Disabled Services Division**

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