



HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS DIVISION

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**BROWARD COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CONSUMER ADVOCACY COMMITTEE
August 5, 2019
FINAL MINUTES**

Time Called to Order: 10:08am

Time Adjourned: 10:54am

Location: Governmental Center Annex, A-337

Minutes by Jose Melendez (HIP)

Members Present: **Marc Esko**, Consumer Advisory Council; **Danny Osley**, Formerly Homeless CoC Board Representative.

Guests Present: **Mickey Singletary**, HOPE South Florida; **Anthony Ginsberg**, Voter Participation Project; **Natasha Grant**, Department of Children and Families;

Staff Present: **Kavaja Sarduy**, (HIP); **Lorraine Gary**, (HIP); **Jose Melendez**, (HIP);

Welcome &

Introductions: **Danny Osley**, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:54 am and requested a moment of silence for the recent shooting victims. Attendees introduced themselves; and the Chair acknowledge the new Administrative Assistant who will take minutes for the subcommittee. A quorum was confirmed.

Approval of Minutes: Approval of Minutes July 2019 minutes

Motion: Marc Esko

Second: Danny Osley

Discussion: None

Result: Approved

New Business:

A. Report Information collected from “Coffee and Conversation”

Danny Osley attended the event held at the library in July 12th, 2019 the meeting had a speaker talking about a housing authority with information for veterans in reference to housing. The meeting had a speaker who discussed “Amendment 4”, the Voting Rights Restoration for Felons Initiative. Many attendees asked questions about the Amendment and steps needed to reinstate voting rights.

Marc Esko who also attended Coffee and Conversation, meet with a member of Broward Health and “Shower with Love.” They discussed Hepatitis A risk/treatment and the Showers. Danny Osley will reach out to the Covenant House for an update on attendance.

Broward County Board of County Commissioners

Mark D. Bogen • Lamar P. Fisher • Beam Furr • Steve Geller • Dale V.C. Holness • Nan H. Rich • Tim Ryan • Barbara Sharief • Michael Udine

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B. Annual Homeless Symposium

Lorraine Gary, (HIP) updated the group on the 2019 symposium. She is thinking of having it at the same location as last time, Hope South Florida. The event is usually done in conjunction with "Homelessness Awareness" month in November. She is aiming to have the event in mid-November, before the holiday. The "Coffee and Conversation" is being used as a platform to get topic ideas, discussion questions or areas of address for the symposium. By next week Ms. Gary will have a definite date once she meets with Hope South Florida to present at the next Committee meeting.

C. Census

Danny Osley presented the "2020 Census Complete Count Promotions Subcommittee Communications Plan", part of the plan is focusing on the census and how they can appeal to the homeless population to participate in the census. "2020 Census Complete Count" mission is to increase participation in the census from last time as a community. One objective is to use traditional and non-traditional promotional efforts. Broward County has a website for the census and this Committee can play a vital role in spreading the word in the community about the census. Ms. Gary asked for ideas on how the committee could help the Census efforts. She brought up the idea of bringing a Census speaker to the "Coffee and Conversation" meeting and will research the idea. Mr. Esko will reconnect with Ron Bergeron, Everglades Restoration project. Mr. Bergeron does work with the homeless community out in the western part of the county. Mr. Esko idea is to reach and inform the population in that area. The Census is scheduled to happen during March 12, 2020 through March 20, 2020 with a final due date of April 1, 2020.

D. Elections

Ms. Gary presented and discussed section E and F of Consumer Advisory Committee rules and By Laws. Section F goes over the appointment and selection process of members into the committee. Section E on who can become a member. Ms. Gary stated that charter is undergoing changes a communication will be sent to Dr. Rebecca McGuire and Jose Melendez to ensure that this is the most current version and there are no pending changes. Mr. Osley asked about members of this committee also serving on the CoC board. Under Section A (purpose) it states that at least two members of the Consumer Advocacy Committee shall have a seat on the Continuum of Care board. Mr. Osley pointed out that a second member has not been appointed to the CoC Board in over a year. A clarification as to whether the homeless representative needs to be currently/formerly homeless or can we have non-homeless individuals participate. An update from the board is needed regarding the appointed member vacancy and clarification if the appointed member must be Current/formerly homeless.

E. Committee Reelections

The committee chair restated that the need to reach the commissioner and get an update of the missing CoC appointee, with the intent of that person taking over the chair duties.

Old Business:

Membership Recruitment-Strategy/Plan to recruit (Head of household and transgender)

As a recruitment plan, Mr. Esko brought in a sample of the Broward Behavioral Health Coalition's consumer Advisory Council Invite packet. Mr. Esko explained that this council has a \$25-dollar stipend or a gift card, that covers the expenses of members who travel to the meeting. Idea will be taken into consideration by the chair.

Good of the Order:

- Mr. Osley invited Mr. Ginsberg (Voter Participation Project) to attend the North HAC on August 15th to speak to their population about voting and voting rights.

- Wednesday August 7, 2019 Pompano Beach Housing authority is taking 500 names. Mr. Osley stated that the information was received via email from the Broward Behavioral Health coalition and that the case managers in the North Homeless Assistance Center site were notified.
- Hope South Florida Day Respite is performing well and always receiving clients.
- Department of Children and Families stated that the county started to provide services for the Homeless Unified State grant on August 1, 2019.
- Anthony Ginsberg wanted to remind the committee that is not just about voter registration, but it is about teaching people about what they are voting for and what it means to vote on Election Day.
- Mark Esko reported that Artserv has a new CEO will like to do some collaborations with the homeless through the arts.
- Danny Osley will be attending the “Coffee and Conversation” on August 16th, 2019. Marc Esko is not able to attend due to personal issues. Danny Osley will reach out to Covenant House to see if they can attend one of the other meetings
- Agenda items next meeting will be “Coffee and Conversation”, Homeless Symposium, elections, member status of CoC appointees to this committee, and census.

Adjournment & Next Meeting

Mr. Osley adjourned the meeting at 10:54 am; next meeting will be held on September 9th, 2019.