

**YOUTH EDUCATION AND SAFETY
ADVISORY BOARD
MARCH 19, 2012**

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. Board members present were Chair John Pisula, Vice-Chair Lorraine Hofheinz, Tim Curtin, Marcy Fallahzadeh, Nan Gault, and Rae White. Also present were Vice-Mayor Hattan and Board Secretary Janet Gale recording the meeting. Hal Axler, Diana Podel, Stacey Shaffer and Barbara Ann Tilley were absent.

Chair Pisula indicated that he would appreciate having current minutes. Ms. Gale responded that her office was aware of the issue and doing what it could to catch up. Vice-Chair Hofheinz offered her notes to refresh memories.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Update on School Board Issues – Katherine Leach

Chair Pisula announced that Ms. Leach was ill and unable to attend. She asked to be placed on the May 21st agenda. Since he had invited Donna Korn to the May meeting already, if Ms. Korn did not accept, he would confirm with Ms. Leach. Chair Pisula indicated that before the next meeting, he would email Ms. Gale on which School Board Member would be attending the May meeting.

2.2 Cyber Security

Chair Pisula advised that this item was supposed to be addressed by Ms. Podel who was absent.

3. OLD BUSINESS

This item was discussed later in the meeting.

4. NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Human Trafficking – Councilmember Susan Starkey

In Councilmember Starkey's absence, Vice-Mayor Hattan offered to "fill in" Board members since she had attended the meetings.

Vice-Mayor Hattan spoke of the seriousness of the issue and of the people and agencies involved in a pro-active plan to advise truck drivers coming into the Truck Stop located in Davie by I-595. Truck drivers were handed out contact information so that if they saw anything out of the ordinary, it could easily be reported.

A discussion ensued regarding the enormity of the problem and of the willingness that the truckers gave to participating as "another set of eyes."

Chair Pisula agreed this was a legitimate problem and concern; however, he did not want to get "too far off track." He believed that the "Gang Task Force" was more closely relevant to the Boards issues. Vice-Chair Hattan understood, but felt the Board should be aware.

A discussion ensued regarding gangs and how they were everywhere. Vice-Mayor Hattan advised that one of the largest "recruiters" was an "A-student" at Western High School. Members agreed that the Town did not have as bad a problem as it used to thanks to the outstanding efforts of the task force.

Vice-Chair Hattan advised that the establishment known as the "The Eden" had been shut down and was to be moved to Burriss Road.

A discussion ensued regarding computer discs which could be inserted and would let parents know which web sites had been engaged during use of the computer. Ms. White advised of a program which did the same thing and offered to provide more information on it at the next meeting.

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Vice-Chair Hattan advised of the improvements that were made regarding security at the PAL (Police Athletic League) located in Potters Park.

Chair Pisula assigned Vice-Chair Hofheinz and Ms. White as members of a sub-committee to pool their resources together so that at the next meeting in May, they can have something to “move on” for the presentation in September on Cyber Security. Mr. Curtin knew someone from the Broward Sheriff’s Office who would make an excellent presentation. He would provide that person’s name and phone number to the sub-committee members once he had it. Vice-Chair Hattan offered to announce the event during Council members’ comments at the appropriate Council meeting once the plans were finalized. Ms. White had it clarified that all levels of Davie schools were to be invited.

Board members discussed holding a “Candidate Forum” before the election of the Broward County School Board Members which would take place November, 2012. The venue and details were discussed and it was agreed that the Community Room at the Police Department would be able to contain the anticipated audience. Ms. White was to find out if there would be any conflict with Cooper City and let the Board know. Also, it was agreed that they would concern themselves with the November election rather than the primaries. Chair Pisula considered that the Cyber event might be moved to an earlier date in lieu of the debate.

Chair Pisula indicated that in October was National Teen Drivers’ Safety Week. He would like to work it into awareness somehow although it was a busy time of year.

3. OLD BUSINESS

From her notes, Vice-Chair Hofheinz reminded Chair Pisula that he was going to find out about the cost for “silver cord.” Chair Pisula advised that the School Board would be paying for the cords. Any money which the Board had raised would go into the scholarship fund. Since it was the fifth anniversary of the scholarship fund, Chair Pisula suggested inviting past winners to be part of a reception in December when this year’s winners were announced at a Council meeting.

Ms. Fallahzadeh asked whatever happened with the Guy Harvey posters. Chair Pisula responded that he still had the posters and didn’t know what to do with them. It was suggested that they could be raffled off at a Council meeting and displayed in the lobby for a fund raiser. The idea was not dismissed and not moved forward either. Ms. White indicated that if the posters were signed, they could be valuable. Chair Pisula stated that he would “dig them up” to see what they were and he would email the details to Ms. Gail to let the Board know.

Ms. Fallahzadeh mentioned that she had attended the Broward County Coalition of Educational Advisory Boards and was disappointed that the Town of Davie had no display. Ms. White also attended and between both, they reported on the activities.

Ms. Fallahzadeh indicated that she receives the Superintendent of Schools monthly reports and asked if she should forward them to Ms. Gale to distribute. Chair Pisula responded that since the Board meets bi-monthly, she could give an update. Meanwhile, if anything important came up, she should email it to Ms. Gale who would send it out.

Ms. White distributed a news release about Broward County Public Schools requiring baseline neurocognitive testing for high school athletes. Everyone thought it a good practice.

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Mr. Curtin felt that the Coalition was an opportunity for Davie to set a platform for its achievements and he listed many of the issues which the Board had addressed. Chair Pisula summarized that most of the Boards efforts were directed towards safety and he would like to devote more attention towards increasing the graduation rate.

Vice-Mayor Hattan suggested bus tours to colleges and technical schools and spoke of how well it influenced high school students. The Board was receptive to the idea and expanded on the details. They also spoke of how the economy had impacted the enrollment to community colleges and which institutions were reaching out to support communities in educational endeavors.

Vice-Chair Hofheinz advised that the next Davie Fire Rescue CERT training classes would start April 10th with Julie Downey as the instructor. She and Mr. Curtin highly recommended taking the eight-week course. This led to a discussion regarding emergency management in the event of a disaster.

Brainstorming on fund-raising was briefly discussed.

5. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Chair Pisula suggested that graduation rates should be an item to focus on at the next meeting.

Vice-Chair Hofheinz and Ms. White would provide an outline for cyber security.

Ms. White would check on Cooper City's intentions for a candidates' debate for the Broward County School Board.

Vice-Mayor Hattan suggested that for the Board to "get their name out," that a member occasionally speak at the public hearing portion of the Council meetings. At the first Council meeting of each month a half-hour was dedicated for the public to address the Council about items that were not on the agenda. Each person could speak for three minutes and it would give them an opportunity to speak of projects or upcoming planned events. Chair Pisula added "discuss Town Council meeting" to the next agenda.

Chair Pisula agreed to start the paperwork for the Fifth Annual Grant Award in educational excellence for the next agenda. Vice-Chair Hattan strongly expressed her support of the Board by making a donation to the Grant Award, "off the record." She suggested that while still Vice-Mayor, she could send out a cover letter to the principals of the participating schools in order to encourage their teachers to apply for the grant award.

6. COMMENTS AND/OR SUGGESTIONS

Ms. Fallahzadeh reminded Chair Pisula to check on the status of the Board's banner.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business and no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Date Approved

Chair/Board Member