

**VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY**  
**EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA**  
**Thursday, May 19, 2016 at 6:30 pm**  
**9705 E. Hibiscus Street**  
**Palmetto Bay, FL 33157**

Members present: Orestes Mayo, Chair; Liliana Murphy; Diane Quick; Erica Watts

Elected Officials: Mayor Eugene Flinn, Committee Liaison

Attendees: Ed Silva, Village Manager; Eva Regueira, Director, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Miami-Dade County Public Schools; Jennifer Clarin, parent of two children at Coral Reef Elementary; Ellen Kahn, Alexander School

1. Call to Order
  - a. Mr. Mayo called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.
  
2. Public Comments
  - a. Ed Silva, Village Manager
    - i. Met with the School Board to discuss the following aspects of the Education Compact/matrix
      - a. Cooperation with traffic measures between Village, County and District. Would like to see traffic improvements noted as a reachable goal of the educational compact, particularly the following:
        1. Promotion of carpooling for drop off/pick up to reduce traffic
        2. Centralization of drop offs from which busses would transport students to schools (viewed as a long-term solution)
        3. Redesigned drop off and pick up procedures at Coral Reef Elementary and Southwood. Similar measure instituted at Perrine Elementary with success.
      - b. Collaboration with local schools, including Perrine, Southwood, Palmetto and BioTech High School, to expand community role in these schools
        1. Village is in discussions with FIU to connect them with local schools; Mr. Mayo notes that FIU is also in discussion with BioTech High School.
      - c. Create a master joint use agreement (JUA) for facilities between Village and Village schools. Facilities would be paid for by Village and available for use by residents when school is not in session.
        1. Extra parking at Coral Reef Elementary
        2. Fence installation at Southwood. Project moving forward. Will take District about 3 months to prepare and any work would begin during winter break.
    - ii. Mayor Flinn would like to add adult education classes based on needs and demands of local residents. Ms. Quick mentions that one of the issues is that prior adult education classes took place in high schools and the Village does not

have a high school. Committee would need to identify an elementary or middle school location.

- iii. Mr. Mayo moves to add these proposals to the compact. Ms. Murphy seconds the motion. Motion is passed.

3. Approval of Minutes (moved below Public Comments on the agenda)
  - a. April 5, 2016 minutes were approved
4. Updates regarding Earth Week activities
  - a. Mr. Flinn states that Earth Week activities were a success.
5. Orchid Planting effort
  - a. Mr. Mayo will coordinate with Village employees, BioTech High School and Fairchild Tropical Gardens on million orchid project before the school year ends. Mr. Mayo provided the members of the public in attendance details about the project, including BioTech High School student participation and partnership between Village and Fairchild Tropical Gardens.
6. Discussion – community school for Village of Palmetto Bay
  - a. Jennifer Clarin (member of the public) attended the meeting to address this item of the agenda. She would like information on a possible community school and to express concern that families have left Coral Reef Elementary for a charter school.
    - i. Mayor Flinn explains that keeping local students at local schools has a positive impact on traffic. Village would like to create a “community” school for all Village residents. This is not a proposal to open a new school (public, charter or otherwise). This is a desire to expand the services offered at a particular Village school.
    - ii. Ms. Regueira from the District explained that what the Village is discussing is termed a “neighborhood” school by the District and not a “community” school. A “community” school has adult education classes and other services.
    - iii. Mayor Flinn explains that the Village’s vision aligns with the definition of “community” school because of the desire is to have adult education classes and other services beyond K-12 education. He asked for examples of active community schools in the District. Ms. Regueira said that Feinberg-Fisher and Charles Drew K-8 are two good examples. Palmetto High School also is a community school which offers adult education (GED, ESOL) but also offers yoga and creative writing at the Pinecrest library. Ms. Quick states that the goal should be to bring these services to Village facilities and schools.
  - b. Ms. Watts states that there is concern among parents with Perrine Elementary. Many students zoned for Perrine elect to attend Coral Reef Elementary which has altered the population at Perrine. The school does not feel like a neighborhood school. Ms. Watts believes that if there is going to be a discussion about a community school, there should be focus on Perrine.
    - i. Ellen Kahn (member of the public) states that this is a longstanding issue at Perrine Elementary. Ms. Watts asks whether this is a fixable issue.
    - ii. Ms. Regueira explains that there are requirements to run a community school, including an Assistant Principal to run the program. Program can take on many

different forms, including adult education, after care programs and other options.

- iii. Mr. Mayo explains that the Committee will look at all schools in the feeder pattern including Perrine. Ms. Quick adds that she is appreciative of Ms. Watts' efforts to bring to the Committee's attention the dissatisfaction of residents living near Perrine Elementary because it is important for the Committee to be aware of any education-related concerns among Village residents
- iv. Ms. Regueira said that the District will look at all schools if that is the wish of the Village. Mr. Mayo states that there may be particular ways to incorporate Perrine Elementary given its arts program. Ms. Regueira will take this information back to the District for discussion and will provide an update to the Village Manager.

7. Updates for matrix

- a. The Committee would like to focus on the four points raised earlier by the Village Manager and accepted by the Committee. This will lead to a major update of the matrix to refocus efforts on these points. The Committee will sunset this Compact and create a new one.
- b. Ms. Regueira explains that the compact was written very generally to allow for a wide array to be raised. Mayor Flinn asks whether the Committee can hold a public meeting as a "vision session" to determine what the residents want included in the Compact. Ms. Regueira said that the District would want to be present, particularly to answer questions and to address any issues that may not be applicable for a Compact. She also can bring materials and other information to facilitate discussion.
- c. Ms. Regueira explains that the Committee should be developing 3 to 4 goals each year to focus on and the agenda can be built around it. Mr. Mayo agrees and states that this aligns with the goals of the Committee to identify issues that it believes are most important. Ms. Regueira explains that the Compact was passed by the Village Council and District, and that a new Compact would need to be addressed the same way. She asks whether the Committee wants undertake such an effort or keep the original Compact and focus on 3 to 4 particular issues.
- d. Mayor Flinn suggests that the Committee discuss further their vision for the Compact prior to the September Town Hall meeting.

8. Legislative Plan

- a. Mayor Flinn explains that the invitation to propose legislation was received and was disseminated to the Committee members.
- b. Ms. Regueira invites members to view last year's platform on the District website (under "legislative tools") to view proposals that were not passed last year and remain pending. Mayor Flinn suggests proposing a community school; Ms. Regueira states that this is not considered a legislative issue. Mayor Flinn questions whether this is true. Ms. Quick asks under whose purview this issue falls if not legislation. Ms. Regueira states that this is not a legislative issue because such programs often pay largely for themselves through fees for after school programs.
  - i. Mayor Flinn mentions that he also would like to include programming for special needs children and adults. Ms. Quick notes that other communities have excellent programming; Mayor Flinn says he wants the Village to be one of those communities. Mayor Flinn asks whether the Village can collaborate with

the District on this matter. Ms. Regueira states that anything for individuals over 18 years old would fall under Adult Education. She also notes that community schools are largely self-sufficient.

- ii. Mayor Flinn asks who should be involved with the District to create programming outside of school hours. Ms. Regueira says that she can invite someone from the District to attend the Committee's June meeting.
- iii. Ms. Watts asks whether support can be provided by the District to assist Coral Reef Elementary with the implementation of 21 stand up desks arriving shortly at the school. She notes that the school has successfully added fidget bands to many desks, with positive results and now looks to expand the impact by including stand up desks. Her concern is that she is overseeing the implementation of these desks and is doing so blindly; she would like support from or at least a discussion with someone from the District. Ms. Regueira will inquire with the District on this issue.

9. Town Hall Meeting – First Thursday in September

- a. Mr. Mayo raises the issue of when to hold the meeting – Saturday or evening?
- b. Mayor Flinn says there are a number of issues that can be addressed such as SAT/ACT preparatory courses.
- c. Mayor Flinn suggests using the June 7<sup>th</sup> meeting focus on this. Mr. Mayo asks that this be added as the sole future agenda item.
- d. Ms. Quick asks for clarification on the date of the Town Hall Meeting. Mr. Mayo recommends holding the meeting on Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, with a final Committee meeting to preparer on Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>
- e. Mayor Flinn says that Committee must check on whether the Chambers are available for that date.

10. Future Agenda Items

- a. Town Hall Meeting

11. Next Meeting(s) Date/Time

- a. Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

12. Adjourn

- a. Motion by Mr. Mayo to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Murphy seconds the motion. The motion passes and the meeting is adjourned at 7:53 p.m.