

VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY
EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.
9705 E. Hibiscus Street
Palmetto Bay, FL 33157

Attendees: Orestes Mayo, Chairperson, Sue Buslinger-Clifford, Diane Quick, Pam Tabor, Committee Members; Ed Silva, Village Manager; Olga Cadaval, Human Resources and Communications; Jackie Calzadilla, Public Information Officer; Nancy Lawther, First Vice President of Advocacy and Legislation

1. Call to Order at 6:44 p.m. by Chairperson Mayo
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. No minutes at February meeting due to lack of quorum. Village principals attended and provided updates about their respective schools. Discussion also included request of Village services. BioTECH School principal also attended.
3. Public Comments
 - a. Nancy Lawther – First Vice President of Advocacy and Legislation
 - i. Provided a copy of the Miami-Dade County Council of PTA/PTSA's newsletter, the MDCC PTA Advocate
 - ii. The MDCC PTA is concerned about the source of funding of charter schools. There is a bill in the House but no corresponding bill in the Senate.
 - iii. Another funding issue is the amount of per pupil funding. Governor's initial legislative budget proposal and original House and Senate proposals had 2% increase in per pupil funding for 2016-17. In conference, the House presented a proposal accepted by the Senate to drop it down to 1%. This will not meet the inflationary cost increase. Concern that residents will be undertaxed as a result.
 - iv. School zoning issue: proposal to remove school zoning, allowing students to enroll in an under enrolled school regardless of residence; if school then becomes overcrowded, prospective student living near the school will not be given a spot
 - v. Municipalities as school boards / establishing their own school districts. Question is of breaking up districts (large counties) or combining districts (small counties). On ballot for 2018. Also question of allowing municipalities to create their own charter schools.
 - vi. Invitation to attend a meeting for "Citizens' Coalition for Miami-Dade Public Schools" meeting on March 14, 2016. Will feature a legislative wrap up. 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the South Florida Educational Federal Credit Union in downtown Miami.
4. Introduction of Olga Cadaval, Human Resources and Communication and Jackie Calzadilla, Public Information Officer (PIO)
 - a. Mr. Mayo introduced Ms. Cadaval and Ms. Calzadilla and asked them to speak about ways the Committee can get information onto the Village website.
 - b. Ms. Cadaval, Human Resources and Communication
 - i. Met with Mr. Mayo and the Mayor to identify ways to provide information to the general public. Council approved a contract for a new website. Until new

website can be created, recommends taking advantage of the Committee's page to provide information, news items, links, etc. Information can be sent by the Chair to her directly. Mr. Silva notes that Committee must be reasonable in its requests because of the volume of Village committees.

1. Minutes and agendas should be sent to Meighan Alexander, Village Clerk. Other information for website is to be sent to Ms. Cadaval.
- c. Ms. Calzadilla, Public Information Officer
 - i. Since joining the Village this year, has increased foot traffic on Village Facebook and Twitter sites
 - ii. Palmetto Bay News publication, which is sent to all Village residents, will include a cover and back page specifically from the Village. Includes message from Mayor and Council and calendar of events.
 - iii. Mr. Silva notes that other updates include changing weekly Village update email format and press releases.
 - iv. Mr. Mayo requests an email for the chair of the Committee. Mr. Silva agrees that this is a good suggestion.
 - v. Ms. Calzadilla asks that Committee inform her of any information that the Committee would like to share with Village residents.
5. Discuss PTA Elementary Summit (moved up from item #7)
 - a. Mr. Mayo states that the Mayor suggested having a PTA summit. Mr. Mayo motions to appoint Erica Watts as head of the PTA Elementary Summit. Dr. Buslinger-Clifford seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.
6. Million Orchid Project – Orchids are ready for placing in trees in March, Palmetto Bay must coordinate with Fairchild Tropical Botanical Gardens (moved up from item #9)
 - a. Mr. Mayo states that the orchids are ready. Mr. Silva notes that the contract has been signed with Fairchild Tropical Botanical Gardens and will ask the Council for a bucket truck to place the orchids. Mr. Mayo recommends having BioTECH High School students to assist with the project.
 - b. Dr. Buslinger-Clifford asks about the plan to use students for projects. Mr. Mayo states that cleanup projects are very popular with students, particularly the 22 acres by old Burger King headquarters. Future plan is to create a park. Will include a senior center on the property. Mr. Mayo states that BioTECH students want to organize cleanup and have a sign noting that the area is maintained by BioTECH High School.
7. Manager Silva will invite staff to discuss traffic issues and schools
 - a. Mr. Mayo proposes to table this item until a future meeting
8. Discuss Earth Week in Palmetto Bay week of April 16-23
 - a. Mayor Flinn to provide information concerning plans/activities.
 - i. Given the Mayor's absence, Mr. Mayo recommends tabling this item until a future meeting
 - ii. Mr. Mayo explains that there will be a week of activities in celebration for Earth Week.

9. Discussion for summer/weekend use of courts and facilities at Southwood Middle and Coral Reef Elementary
 - a. Discuss joint use
 - i. Mr. Silva explains that a proposal was provided to Village for use of these facilities because proposal comes with a request for funding. Mr. Silva will discuss this request further with School District
 - b. Support needed for March 7 Council Meeting
 - i. Mr. Silva notes that the Village provides many services and fulfills many requests from schools and nonprofit organizations for free. Ms. Quick suggests that the Committee assist in informing residents of what the Village does for its schools. Mr. Mayo states that it can be included in the Compact and Dr. Buslinger-Clifford recommends using the website to add information. Mr. Silva states that he will prepare a list of requests fulfilled by the Village. Mr. Mayo would like to have the list available for the next meeting.
 - ii. Will propose to support the FIU proposal to move the Youth Fair to Homestead
 - iii. Land swap near old Burger King headquarters referenced earlier
 - iv. County is surplussing the land by Perrine Elementary School. Village proposal is to lease the property and make it a park.
10. Discuss Community School at VPB
 - a. Mr. Mayo requests to table this until a future meeting.
11. Future Agenda Items
 - a. Set next meeting dates
 - i. April 5, 2016
 - ii. May 3, 2016
 - iii. June 7, 2016
 - b. Future agenda items
 - i. Ms. Quick proposes to identify agenda items at the end of each meeting to provide the Village Clerk to ensure a framework for next month's agenda in a timely manner.
 1. For April meeting: tabled items
 - a. Mr. Silva will bring staff to discuss traffic issues and schools
 - b. Mayor Flinn to provide information regarding Earth Week
 - c. Discuss Community School for Village of Palmetto Bay
12. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.