

# FLORIDA COUNCIL ON THE SOCIAL STATUS OF BLACK MEN AND BOYS

## MEETING MINUTES

A teleconference meeting of the Florida CSSBMB, Education Subcommittee was held on Wednesday, August 3, 2011.

### **Council Members Present:**

Andre Smith, Chair  
Argatha Gilmore  
Matthew Gregory  
Bill Hardin  
Eddy Regnier

### **Council Members Absent:**

Gypsy Gallardo

### **Other's Attending:**

Ervin P. Cohen, Edward Waters College

### **First Agenda Item: Welcome**

Andre Smith welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the teleconference and thereafter requested roll call.

### **Second Agenda Item: Roll Call**

Roll call was executed by Council staff Tawanna Leven-Forbes.

### **Third Agenda item: Call to Order**

Andre Smith called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. and the agenda was adopted as posted.

### **Forth Agenda Item: Chair's Focal Points**

Mr. Smith talked about a list of items that Dr. Regnier provided about education, with questions about where to go next in the state of Florida when looking at the rates of successful graduations and drop-out rates and the statistics on African American men between the ages of eighteen and twenty-four etc. Mr. Smith questioned Mr. Cohen about a statement that he made during the last sub-committee meeting about technology in the schools and how it is being used.

Mr. Cohen talked about learning in urban communities on the elementary school levels; saying books are still being used, but when transitioning into middle and high school learning becomes digital; saying it becomes rapid where many young people don't recover because they didn't have excess to technology. He said how could young people continue the learning process if they don't have excess to computers at home.

### **Fifth Agenda Item: Past Recommendations in Education**

Mr. Smith talked about the past recommendations and questioned the committee on what should be done about the past and new recommendations. He talked about a subcommittee meeting in the past where a recommendation was made about the impact on the accountability on local former students. Mr. Smith said that the Council needs to consider how the recommendations will be funded.

Chairman Regnier stated that the Council need a system on following up on all recommendations to make sure that they are being reviewed by the legislative authorities.

Mr. Smith stated that the meetings should not only be about writing the Annual Report but discussions on recommendations that have been made.

**Sixth Agenda Item: Annual Report – Structure and Timeline**

Mr. Smith stated that he would like the Annual Report to be the effort of the sub-committee and not one of his own and to decide the structure of the report.

Mr. Cohen talked about how he approaches his work in Jacksonville in updating charts. He said that until people see the economics associated with doing the work people will not understand.

Mr. Smith talked about being able to show the impact of a change in the Annual Report.

Mr. Gregory talked about structuring the annual report in his organization and points that are added to explain the information, when making narrative from year to year it makes it difficult to operate.

Mr. Smith talked about a group in the department of education called Septic, the Florida education training and placement information program that tracks students outcome.

**Seventh Agenda Item: Future Subcommittee Meetings**

Ms. Leven-Forbes stated that the next meeting is September 28, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.

**Eight Agenda Item: For the Good of the Order**

Ms. Gilmore stated that she appreciated Mr. Smith's focal points and direction that he is taking the committee stating that she will be using his guidance.

**Ninth Agenda Item: Adjournment**

Mr. Smith declared the meeting adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m.