

FLORIDA COUNCIL ON THE SOCIAL STATUS OF BLACK MEN AND BOYS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

A Teleconference meeting of the Florida Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys was held on Thursday, August 25, 2011.

Council Members Present:

Dr. Eddy Regnier, Chairman
Rev. Dr. Albert Simpson, Vice Chair

Council Members Absent:

Mr. Ronald Henderson, 2nd Vice Chair

Others Attending:

Lois Scott

First Agenda Item: Welcome

Chairman Eddy Regnier welcomed Council member(s) on the conference call, thereafter called the meeting to order.

Second Agenda Item: Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:48 a.m.

Third Agenda Item: Chairman's Comments

Chairman Regnier talked about the letter of commitment that was circulated three years ago by the past Chairman's. He said that this letter was to be signed by Council members to assure the commitment by the member. Chairman Regnier stated that he changed some of the verbiage of the letter and would like to circulate it again and ask that members sign the letter. He talked about the new appointee that will replace Dr. Janetta Cureton and the voting that will take place for the new 1st Vice Chair. Chairman Regnier talked about the absentees of Gypsy Gallardo and her non response to phone calls and emails. He recommended the dismissal of Ms. Gallardo and asked the Governor for her replacement. Chairman Regnier talked about the new appointees; appointed by Secretary Wansley Walters, Deputy Secretary Robert Woody, Department of Juvenile Justice; appointed by Secretary David Wilkins, John Davis, Director of External Affairs for the Florida Department of Children and Families.

Fourth Agenda Item: Jacksonville Agenda/Invite(s)

Chairman Regnier talked about the agenda for the first day Council meeting to take place in Jacksonville. He stated that he would like to have a business meeting during the first half of the meeting to take care of unfinished business and to work on an outline for the Annual Report; the second half he would like the sub-committee groups to break-out in separate sections and work on the outline in individually. Chairman Regnier stated that he will give a review on the mission of the Council so that the new appointees will have a better insight of what the Council responsible for.

Fifth Agenda Item: Discussion of Annual Report and Timeline

Chairman Regnier stated that he wanted to make sure that the Annual Report gets delivered to all that should receive it. He said that he think the Aids and Assistance to the proper authorities should receive to make sure if get reviewed. Chairman Regnier stated that he would like to follow proper protocol for the Annual Report distribution.

Rick Nuss stated that by law the Annual Report has to be distributed to the appropriate authorities. He said that the Council should utilize the elected officials on the Council to follow-up on the Annual Report after distribution. Mr. Nuss suggested that Chairman Regnier come to Tallahassee to distribute the Annual Reports.

Chairman Regnier stated that the Council has to create a system to make sure that the elected officials review the Annual Report.

Ron Henderson stated that committee week starts early in the year, so if the Council can get the Annual Report out early it would better the chances for the Annual Reports review.

Chairman Regnier agreed to make an attempt to get the Annual Report out earlier this year.

Ms. Scott stated that committee week starts the second week in September. She questioned Chairman Regnier asking him what are the two or three major things the Chair would like the legislature to consider. Ms. Scott suggested that Chairman Regnier focus on those major issues.

Chairman Regnier agreed in making the areas known to legislation which is healthcare and economics which would help people get jobs in the community. He stated that he would like the committees to focus on one or two recommendations.

Sixth Agenda Item: Member Comments

Lois Scott stated that her subcommittee is on target and the break-out of the groups in Jacksonville will be excellent. She said that when her group gets together in Jacksonville they can firm up what the report will look like.

Mr. Henderson stated that he think that it will be difficult to get funding during these tuff economic times, and would hate to think that all the work of the Council is done in vain.

Chairman Regnier agreed with Mr. Henderson. He asked Ms. Scott if she had other thoughts of recommendations.

Ms. Scott stated that her thoughts for other recommendations are; the issues with the prison system and corrections; the initiatives to improve the outcome of those being released; and reducing recidivism.

Chairman Regnier expressed that incentives of health and jobs have to be high on the list.

Seventh Agenda Item: Upcoming Meeting Discussion

Chairman Regnier talked about the Jacksonville meeting agenda for the second day of the Councils meeting. He said that the Urban League president will give some insight on the critical concerns in the Jacksonville community. Chairman Regnier said that he will contact Dr. Danford to get clarity about what will be discussed.

Ron Henderson stated that he would like to hear from city or county officials to hear what they are doing in their county or the city addressing the issues that black men and boys are facing.

Rev. Albert Simpson stated that the Jacksonville Urban League like to use the platform of the Statewide Council to accomplish their political agenda. He talked about the Jacksonville Urban League and Dr. Cassandra Bush, Executive Director, THORMINC who have offered to give the Council a tour after the public forum.

Ms. Leven-Forbes stated that she was informed that the tour of THORMINC is considered to be a social gathering and not a meeting for the Council; therefore, no discussions are to take place on Council business during the tour. She stated that the tour is optional to all members and whoever would like to attend.

Ms. Scott stated that The Jacksonville Re-Entry Center (JREC) and The House of Refuge Ministries, Inc. (THORMINC) goes hand-in-hand in the things that they have to offer to the Jacksonville community. She said that it would be good if the Council could invite them to give a short presentation.

Chairman Regnier stated that he would look into sending an invitation to representatives of JREC to give a short presentation; and to Dr. Bush to give a presentation before the tour.

Eighth Agenda Item: Adjournment

Chairman Regnier asked for a motion for adjournment. Ms. Scott motioned that the meeting be adjourned; Rev. Simpson seconded that the meeting be adjourned

Chairman Regnier declared the meeting adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:13 p.m.