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FLORIDA COUNCIL ON THE SOCIAL STATUS OF BLACK MEN AND BOYS

Health & Families Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

A Teleconference meeting of the Florida CSSBMB, Health & Families Subcommittee was held on Wednesday, August 31, 2011.

Council Members Present:

Eddy Regnier
Ben Shirley
Albert Simpson

Council Members Absent:

Bill Hardin
Ronald Henderson

First Agenda Item: Welcome

Chairman Eddy Regnier welcomed Council members on the conference call thereafter called the meeting to order.

Second Agenda Item: Roll Call

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

Third Agenda Item: Opening Invocation

Rev. Albert Simpson rendered the invocation

Fourth Agenda Item: Call to Order

Chairman Regnier called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

Fifth Agenda Item: Chairman's Comments

Chairman Regnier talked about topics for the subcommittee meeting in Jacksonville. He stated that he would like a general meeting and the subcommittee meetings to prioritize the topics to be addressed. Chairman Regnier said that the priority will be to have the report ready by December. He said that he would like the report to be ready before committee week for the legislature.

Sixth Agenda Item: Focal Discussion Points

Chairman Regnier stated that he would like to come up with an outline or agenda for Jacksonville. He asked Rev. Simpson did he know anything about the outcome of healthcare in Jacksonville.

Rev. Albert Simpson stated that healthcare was not his area but could research this information. He said that he needs an outline to question those who are aware of healthcare in Jacksonville through Ms. Leven-Forbes. Rev. Simpson stated that the Churches have to lean strongly towards clinic and the health professionals. He said that there has been HIV awareness in schools; in the past health fairs had been organized to cover several issues in the community.

Chairman Regnier talked about getting to the black churches in Florida. He stated that he wanted to know how the churches handle HIV issues. Chairman Regnier said that he would like

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the churches through-out the state of Florida to get more involved in educating the black community about this disparity.

Mr. Ben Shirley suggested that the Council go into the community to see who wants to partner. He said as the agency start closing some of the service center's the Department of Children and Families went out into the communities and ask who would like to partner with the department. Mr. Shirley said that one of the biggest avenues in the black communities are the churches.

Chairman Regnier talked about obesity in the black community. He said that there are statewide consequences in health in the black community due to unhealthy eating habits such as diabetes and high blood pressure.

Mr. Shirley stated that he like the avenue of partnering with the churches in the black communities so that people would get the information.

Seventh Agenda Item: Annual Report

Chairman Regnier suggested that the Annual Report be distributed to the Urban Leagues and NAACP with a letter from the Council.

Mr. Shirley suggested that the Council invite the entire Black Caucus to the Council's meeting in Orlando or the Council should make a request to be added to the Black Caucus meeting agenda.

Chairman Regnier stated that this would be taken up during the Executive Committee teleconference. He said that the committee needs one issue in healthcare to push forward. Chairman Regnier said that he would like for the committee to think on a recommendation for healthcare.

Eight Agenda Item: Next Subcommittee Meeting

The next subcommittee meeting is October 19, 2011; 9:00a.m.

Ninth Agenda Item: For the Good of the Order

Chairman Regnier said that the committee should continue looking at disparity issues and find a solution for them.

Tenth Agenda Item: Adjournment

Chairman Regnier asked for a motion for adjournment. Mr. Shirley motioned that the meeting be adjourned; Rev. Simpson seconded the motion. Chairman Regnier declared the meeting adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.