

EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes of the July 9, 2020 Meeting

In attendance: Chair Jena Rae McClure, Vice-chair Melissa Megna (phone), Kirk Engelhardt, Robert Fleischer, Ellen Kay, Chun Majahan, Richard Quiroga, Howie Sorkin (phone)
Guests: Angel Gomez (phone), Commissioner Howard Meltzer (phone), Joseph Napoli, Mayor Greg Ross (phone)
Board Liason Tina Hudson

Absent: Helen Cohen

Meeting called to order at 6:20 pm by Jena.

The EAB is deeply sorry about the passing of our esteemed member Renee Grutman. She will be terribly missed, and it is a great loss to the board. May her memory be a blessing.

Our new member, Kirk Englehardt, was introduced. We welcomed Kirk to our board. He introduced himself and shared a little about himself and his background. He was appointed by commissioner Green. We are happy to have him aboard.

Anabelle Andon has resigned from the EAB because she moved. There is an a vacancy on the EAB at this time.

Chun moved to approve minutes from March 6, 2020 meeting with changes stated. Kirk seconded.

Jena met with the new city manager Mr. Napoli to discuss ideas. These are the outtakes from her meeting:

- Start a Cooper City historical museum. We should assist in obtaining funding and personal commitments to build and maintain.
- The city helped graduating seniors put on a parade for their graduation through the sports complex and down Stirling Road. This should continue annually. We should form an implementation committee to include funding sources.
- Our children need to learn how to interact with law-enforcement. We need to develop law-enforcement/student interactions protocol to teach children and law-enforcement communication tools

Additional suggestions from Melissa:

- There was a lawyer that used to talk to high school seniors about what happens if you do something illegal or incorrect. This lawyer would instruct them on how to handle things. Perhaps we should research into finding someone to do this, or to track down this lawyer.

- There also used to be a homecoming parade on 90th Ave. Melissa would like to look into continuing this as well

Commissioner Meltzer had several suggestions for the Cooper City History Museum. He has some artifacts. He spoke of a house on Griffin Road east of 106 Avenue that might possibly be a good place to house the museum. He also talked about making a book about Cooper City.

Discussion about Meet the Candidates night:

We discussed that this year holds the record for the highest amount of candidates that Cooper City has had after qualifying. They are five qualifying candidates for zone four, and two for Mayor.

We also discussed a Meet the Candidates night for the school board at large seat. There are five candidates running for this position.

The election for both is November 3. Because it will probably be a lot of mail in ballots this year we would like to get the Meet the Candidates night completed by the end of September.

Kirk suggested that we do separate dates for Cooper City candidates and for School Board candidates, since both address different issues.

Last year at our Meet the Candidates night we had questions from residents, and children from the schools.

This year we would like the EAB to write the questions. We can also reach out to students.. We will need the candidates, a moderator, water, and questions for the events. The meet the candidates for Cooper City vacancies will be held on Tuesday, September 15, at 6:00 PM. The meet the candidates for the Broward County School Board open seat will be held September 29 at 6 PM. There will be a remote option due to COVID-19 for both events.

Action item: all members of EAB - Think of questions to ask the candidates and school board members, reach out to neighborhood kids, bring the questions to the next meeting.

Action item: Jena will contact the candidates running for the city positions and the school board candidates who are running for the position at large.

Meeting day change:

Certain members cannot stay the entire meeting on the first Wednesday of the month. In addition the commissioners may have more flexibility if the meeting day changes. A motion was made by Chun to vote on which Wednesday (first or fourth) to hold the meetings. Motion was seconded by Ellen. The vote passed unanimously for the fourth Wednesday of the month. The next meeting will be Wednesday, August 26.

Action item: Melissa will send the flyer and agenda to Jena for the Meet the Candidates night

Chun announced that through the Kiwanis Key Club, they will be opening a seat on a panel to speak with kids about racial equity. This is going to be through Zoom. Contact Chun if you are interested, or if you know anyone who is interested. This will happen at the end of July or August.

Jena motioned to adjourn at 7:28 PM. Kirk seconded.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:28 pm

Next meeting:

Wednesday, August 26, 2020 at Cooper City Hall at 6:15 pm.

The foregoing minutes were respectfully submitted by Secretary Ellen Kay and approved by Chairperson _____ on date ____/____/____