

Recap of the Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting February 29, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 8:37 A.M. by Chairman Anthony Arena. The members in attendance were: Chairman Anthony Arena, Mark Snellgrove, Calvin Johnson, Vincent Tafuro, Gaye Townsend, Kay Doughty, Greg Truax, Jeffrey Rhodes, Miller Dowdy, Bea Black, and Don Coryell. Members absent were: Vice Chairman Jim Mills, Anne Madden, and Ron Pierce. Staff in attendance: Brandon Wagner. A quorum was present.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Greg Truax.

Chairman Arena announced that CAC member Greg Truax was appointed to the Hillsborough County Expressway Authority.

Each member introduced themselves, and Bea Black explained the role and responsibilities of the CAC for the viewing audience.

Meeting Recap – The recap of the January 25, 2008, meeting was moved, seconded, and approved unanimously.

Public Comment #1 – No public comments received.

Presentation on Hispanic Liaison Office by Tony Morejon – Mr. Morejon provided handouts about the role of the Hispanic Liaison Office, and an announcement of a bilingual town hall meeting to be held on March 13, 2008. He discussed the numerous issues he and his staff address, including: disaster preparedness, outreach through TV, radio, print and media, immigration, taxes, health care, child safety, and employment. Mr. Morejon briefly described the development and growth of the Hispanic community in Hillsborough County. Mr. Morejon indicated that 25% of Hillsborough County's population is Hispanic.

Presentation on African American Liaison Office by Joyce Russell – Ms. Russell provided a handout of information about her office's accomplishments in the community. She cited statistics from the 2000 census showed 15% of Hillsborough County's population was African American. Of Hillsborough County's total population, 46% is Hispanic, African American or Asian. Ms. Russell discussed their efforts to address voting, employment, disaster preparedness, and health care. She announced the 2nd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Memorial Dinner on April 26, 2008, at the Tampa Airport Hilton. Twenty scholarships of \$1,000 will be given to graduating high school seniors. Ms. Russell reviewed the recently held African American Black Heritage Festival.

Presentation on Asian American Liaison Office by Kimi Springsteen – Ms. Springsteen explained that her office was created in 1994, and is the only one on Florida. She works with a population with 15 different ethnic groups with their own languages. Ms. Springsteen explained that many Asians are unaware of Florida's diverse economy beyond tourism. Ms. Springsteen passed out information about the upcoming Asian American Fest on May 3, 2008, and upcoming Korea Joint Conference addressing trade and economic development.

Presentation on ADA Liaison Office by Sandra Sroka – Ms. Sroka explained to origins of her office. She primarily enforces Title II of American with Disabilities Act, requiring equal access to programs and services of local governments. Examples include: parking at facilities and minutes of meetings. Ms. Sroka also addresses technical and advisory issues such as crosswalk signalization and voting machine accessibilities. She provided a packet of information to the CAC on resources and activities. Ms. Sroka stated at 20% of our population has some form of physical or mental disability, and 63% of working age people with disabilities do not work.

Presentation of Value Initiative PSA's by Tammy Peralta, Station Manager of Hillsborough Television – Ms. Peralta discussed the purpose of the new Value Initiative PSA's to inform the public about how their tax dollars are being used. She played a few of the pieces for the CAC's review and consideration. Ms. Peralta also distributed the background on the sample PSA's that gives the reader the whole story of each feature.

Presentation of Budget Update by Eric Johnson, Director of Management and Budget – Mr. Johnson provided information regarding the budget and the impact of Amendment #1 that passed on January 29. It is estimated that Amendment #1 will cost Hillsborough County \$70 million. \$30 million was held back last year in

anticipation of future tax reforms. Mr. Johnson distributed a draft document showing where the growth of government has occurred over the last several years per Commissioner Higginbotham's request. He also explained the purpose and value of reserve funds.

You've Made a Difference Award – Deferred to March meeting.

Facility Naming Report – Deferred to March meeting.

Proposed Presentation Schedule – Deferred to March meeting.

Other Business – None

Staff Assignments – Ms. Townsend asked that staff inform the CAC of all town hall meetings. Ms. Townsend also asked to defer discussion of the You've Made a Difference Award and the Facility Naming Report.

Public Comment #2 – No public comments received.

The meeting was adjourned at 11: 42 A.M.