

**City of Hollywood  
Education Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
January 13, 2020**

In attendance:

Daniel Derrico, Chair  
Cheree Liebowitz, Vice Chair  
Mitch Anton  
Donna Greene  
Joel Levine  
Kathy Thomas  
Matthew Laskowski  
Grahm Rubin  
Jacqueline Grant  
Allan Libero  
Ellen Suppa

Also attending: Lorie Mertens-Black, Committee Liaison

**I. Approval of minutes from November 18, 2019**

Mitch Anton made a motion to approve the minutes from November 18, 2019. The motion was seconded by Jacqueline Grant. The minutes were unanimously approved. It was later noted that the version of the minutes handed out was not correct. The correct version was emailed in advance of the meeting. The Committee will reconsider the November 18, 2019 minutes at the February 10, 2020 meeting.

**II. Presentation by Renee Jaffee, Executive Director, Early Learning Coalition**

Ms. Jaffee provided an overview of the programs provided by the Early Learning Coalition. See attached presentation.

- III. Update from Coco Burns on the ranking and funding of grant applications.** See attached list. Members discussed the process and funding of grants submitted; specifically they questioned how funding was awarded (BEF grants vs City of Hollywood funding). Ms. Burns explained that the Broward Education Foundation would fund an additional \$2,300 over the \$20,000 provided by the City. Mitch Anton made a motion to approve funding based on the recommendations in the attached list. Allan Libero seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Ms. Burns also shared information on the Innovative Teacher IDEA Expo. See attached. Cheree Liebowitz asked that the Committee have a discussion, at a future meeting, on the grant program parameters.

- IV. New Business – Annual Report.** Dan Derrico had compiled a draft Annual Report. The Committee reviewed the document and made changes as attached through page 12 of the document. The Committee will take up the goals and objectives at the next meeting.

Lorie Mertens-Black will compile comments from members and send back out.  
Members will submit comments by January 24, 2020.

V. Old Business

- a. Survey for High Schools – Members discussed the proposed education survey. Consensus to move forward with it. Matthew Laskowski will send the final version to Lorie Mertens-Black.
- b. Update on the School Board proposals. Ms. Mertens-Black explained that the Driftwood and Hollywood Central proposals would be considered at the School Board Workshop in January. The Attucks/Bethune proposal was not advanced.

VI. Member Comments.

- a. Members discussed the schedule for future meetings and reaffirmed that they wanted to hear from the three high school principals.

VII. Staff Report.

- a. Ms. Mertens-Black provided an update on the initiative to collect accomplishments from schools. She shared the information received from principals.
- b. Ms. Mertens-Black advised that several members' terms were expiring and explained the process for reappointment. She advised those members to reapply if they wished to seek reappointment. Ms. Mertens-Black announced her retirement as of February 6, 2020. Members expressed appreciation of her efforts as liaison.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.**