

**City of Hollywood  
Education Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
January 25, 2021  
Via WebEx**

**In Attendance:** Chair Dan Derrico, Jacqueline Grant, Donna Greene, Joel Levine, Vice Chair Cheree Liebowitz, Kypps Poliard, Graham Rubin, Gabrielle Short , Ellen Suppa, and Kathy Thomas

**Absent:** Peggy Cannis, Allan Libero

**Staff:** Anthony Grisby, Community Development Manager  
Peggy Eads, Administrative Assistant 1

**Non-Members:** Angel Gomez, Governmental Affairs, Broward County Public Schools  
Carol Fischer

**1. Call to Order**

Dan noted the presence of a quorum at 6:05 p.m. and roll was taken.

**2. Review of minutes from October 19, 2020 meeting**

Ellen **motioned** to approve the October minutes. Graham seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

**3. Acknowledgement of BCPS personnel in attendance**

Dan welcomed Angel Gomez, Governmental Affairs, Broward County Public Schools, and Carol Fischer

**4. New Business**

- **Update on the Teacher Grant Program – Coco Burns, Program Coordinator, Broward Education Foundation**

Unfortunately Coco was unable to attend the meeting. The committee members discussed the grant selection process and how it was affected by the pandemic. The Broward Education Foundation (BEF) staff and Grant Department had made selections for the grants based on the criteria set by the city and the EAC. Some members felt that the members should have been more involved in reviewing the applications and making the selections. Dan stated his opinion that next year the committee should be involved in the grant selections as they have been in past years. He made a motion to accept the grant awards as selected by the BEF staff and to ask Coco to forward the applications to the members. Ellen seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

- **Approval of the 2021 Meeting Calendar**

Ellen made a motion to approve the 2021 meeting calendar. Joel seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

- **Discussion and Approval of the 2020 Annual Report**

The committee members discussed the report that had been submitted to them for review. The report included accomplishments, goals and objectives and concerning issues from the previous year's report. The committee discussed several modifications, additions and deletions in those sections to bring the report up to date. The members agreed that the revised version of the report as agreed upon would be submitted to the City Clerk's office the following day, after review by Dan and Anthony.

Dan suggested that each member come to the next meeting ready to discuss a specific goal or project that they would like to work on and support. Kathy spoke about the need for student mental health support during the pandemic and Cheree suggested hosting a webinar on the subject.

## **5. Old Business**

None.

## 6. Member Comments

Donna said she had attended a virtual staff meeting of South Broward High School, and had learned that only 167-175 students are attending in-person classes. However, the principal had stressed that in local elementary schools, approximately 50-75% of students are attending in person classes. Cheree said that she had attended a Beachside Montessori meeting and their attendance was 50% in person.

Dan asked if teachers are considered essential workers as far as getting the Covid vaccine is concerned. Anthony said that teachers are considered essential workers but are not included in the “priority front line worker” category for the vaccine. The committee members discussed their general agreement that teachers should be included in the priority category and the best way to make that known. Dan made a motion that the committee submit a letter to the City Commission advocating for the Commission to lobby decision makers to designate that Hollywood teachers and school staff be considered in the high priority front line worker category for the vaccine. Ellen seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

The committee expressed the desire to communicate with Hollywood public schools to ask them their priority needs for 2021 in light of the continuing COVID pandemic, and Dan volunteered to write the email, which would be sent to Hollywood school principals.

## 8. Staff Report

None.

## 9. Adjournment

Joel made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting and Kathy seconded it. It was approved unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

**The next scheduled committee meeting is on Monday February 22, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. via WebEx.**