



MEMORANDUM
Harvey Ruvin
Clerk of the Circuit and County Courts
Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners
Miami-Dade County, Florida
(305) 375-5126
(305) 375-2484 FAX
www.miami-dadeclerk.com

CCPI
Agenda Item No. 5B

TO: Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime
and Members, Chairman's Council for
Prosperity Initiatives

DATE: September 28, 2015

FROM: Christopher Agrippa, Director
Clerk of the Board Division

SUBJECT: Approval of Commission
Council Minutes

The Clerk of the Board's office is submitting the following Clerk's Summary of Minutes for approval by the Chairman's Council for Prosperity Initiatives:

July 27, 2015

Attachment
CA/jm



Stephen P. Clark
Government Center
111 N.W. 1st Street
Miami, FL 33128

CLERK'S SUMMARY OF Meeting Minutes

Chairmans Council for Prosperity Initiatives

Jean Monestime, Chairman [2]; Daniella Levine Cava [8], and Barbara J. Jordan [1]

Economic Development

Monday, July 27, 2015

9:30 AM

Commission Chambers

Members Present: Daniella Levine Cava, Barbara J. Jordan, Jean Monestime.

Members Absent: None.

Members Late: None.

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent County Business: None.

**REASONABLE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC
TO BE HEARD AS PROVIDED IN RULE 6.06**

1 CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

Report: *Chairman Monestime called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. A moment of silence was observed, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Levine Cava.*

In response to Chairman Monestime's inquiry regarding the procedure to be followed as today's (7/27) meeting was being held in the Chambers, Assistant County Attorney Cynthia Johnson-Stacks advised the Council was created pursuant to Chairman Monestime's memorandum and does not officially take any action in terms of placing items on the County Commission's Agenda. She noted these items were being discussed today; therefore, there was no requirement for a reasonable opportunity to be heard, provided that the Council's function did not change.

The following staff members were present: Assistant County Attorneys Cynthia Johnson-Stacks and Terrence Smith; and Deputy Clerks Judy Marsh and Jacqueline Sanchez.

Commissioner Suarez was also present.

Chairman Monestime said the Council would begin focusing on economic development issues. He noted during the last Legislative Session, despite repeated efforts to encourage the County's Delegation to extend the Sunset provision, the Legislature took no action, thus, the State's Enterprise Zone Program would sunset on December 31, 2015. Chairman Monestime advised that his office had been exploring local options for economic development, and he was hopeful the Council would suggest ideas to develop local incentives to encourage businesses to provide jobs in the disadvantaged areas.

Chairman Monestime said the Council had previously discussed wage issues, and recognized that local governments in Florida were limited in setting wage policies. He noted a responsible wage ordinance was adopted for County construction projects relating to the building trades, and a living wage was required for service contracts entered into by the County. Chairman Monestime advised the County could not set rates for anyone working in the private sector, but fortunately, the State of Florida had a minimum wage that increased annually based on an index

that was included in the Constitution by voter approval. He pointed out that as relatively little could be done to adjust the minimum wage; the County had been working on ways to reduce the cost of living in Miami-Dade County (MDC).

Chairman Monestime observed that housing was a major expense, and indicated that Commissioner Jordan would be sponsoring a new inclusionary zoning ordinance, subsequent to the presentation at the June 29, 2015 Council meeting regarding Montgomery County's successful inclusionary housing program. He pointed out transportation cost was also a burden on working individuals, and he was awaiting the new bulk purchasing transit pass program to be live on the County's Website next month. Chairman Monestime commented that assisting residents with managing their income and increasing their savings would improve their economic outlook; and noted Ms. Vanessa Benavides, Director, Financial Stability, United Way of Miami-Dade, Inc. would present some proven programs and initiatives to address these issues.

2 PRESENTATIONS

2A

151740 Special Presentation

BILL JOHNSON
FLORIDA SECRETARY OF COMMERCE/PRESIDENT &
CEO, ENTERPRISE FLORIDA
TOPIC: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES

Presented

Report: *Chairman Monestime introduced Mr. Bill Johnson, Florida Secretary of Commerce/President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Enterprise Florida, Inc. He noted Mr. Johnson would discuss efforts to create meaningful employment for recent college graduates, and individuals seeking employment opportunities. Chairman Monestime welcomed Mr. Johnson, a former County Administrator who had served in various capacities.*

Mr. Johnson made a presentation on economic development incentives. He said today (7/27) marked the beginning of his sixth month as Secretary of Commerce for the State of Florida, and as President/CEO, Enterprise Florida, Inc. (EFI). He noted since his appointment, he had been travelling the State to meet with stakeholders at the local level on what he considered to be the "listening tour," and met with thousands of Floridians in large urban areas, and small rural communities. Mr. Johnson mentioned that he had visited some of the poor communities in the State, and while large urban areas such as Miami, Palm Beach, Broward County, Tampa, Orlando and Jacksonville were doing really well, there were certain areas and pockets, even within Miami Dade County, that were experiencing employment and poverty issues. He said the message that was communicated to him in the rural and urban areas was that the State of Florida needed to promote all of its industries. Mr. Johnson added that in addition to Tourism, which was the foundation of Florida's economy, the State must be aware of the importance of other major industries, including military, agriculture, life sciences, research and design. He pointed out that Florida was now emerging as the second busiest, largest financial center nationally; and had moved from fourth to third position nationally in information technology.

Mr. Johnson commented on Florida's population growth which would grow by over 300,000 new Floridians this year, adding close to two billion to the State's coffers. He informed the Council that

new jobs were being created, noting that since December 2010, 900,000 net new private sector jobs were created. Mr. Johnson pointed out as Secretary of Commerce and head of EFI, his job was to work with the County, the Beacon Council, other State and regional partners, to help grow the economy; and advised that job creation was Governor Scott's number one priority. He commented on quality of life, noting global companies were not only interested in incentives, but also Florida's quality of life and its future. He noted the State continued to lead the nation in infrastructure investment; and had high expenditures in public education which was extremely important to companies seeking to expand or relocate to Florida. Mr. Johnson said Florida was a safe state, with crime being at a 45-year low; and ranked as one of the best states in the United States to expand or open a business due to the favorable tax climate. He added that this year, Florida ranked No. 2 out of all 50 states overall as a business-friendly environment; and ranked No. 1 in the United States and in the world in aerospace aeronautical manufacturing.

Mr. Johnson advised that for the first time, during the Special Session, the Florida Legislature allocated \$10 million to assist EFI in selling Florida as a business destination. He noted EFI was seeking to bring in a talented, hopefully, Florida firm, to assist in marketing Florida, and input would be sought from the State's grassroots partners on this marketing approach.

Mr. Johnson commented on the importance of the State's toolkit to showcase Florida's economic development incentives. He noted a Closing Fund was required as a deal closing tool, and this year, the Governor requested \$85 million for the toolkit Closing Fund and other incentive monies, and received \$43 million. Mr. Johnson explained that the toolkit included programs designed to address certain needs of businesses seeking to expand or locate in Florida, and opined that it was important for the State, and local governments to pay attention to existing businesses. He said that each program in the toolkit served a different role in attracting businesses and retaining jobs; and came in various forms, including tax credits, tax refunds, tax exemptions, infrastructure funding and grants paid directly to a qualified business. In some cases, Mr. Johnson stated, business needs could be met by making introductions to other companies within that industry sector; and he noted the importance of the Beacon Council, the

County, or himself in his role with the State, to facilitate network opportunities.

Mr. Johnson said Florida was a fiscally conservative state and did not provide money to companies upfront, thus, the companies were paid after their performance. He opined that Florida had an opportunity to sell the key industries, such as manufacturing, as it was the logistic center of this hemisphere; and would create wealth and new, high-paying jobs for the State. He commented on the importance of EFI's partnership with its local partners, such as the Beacon Council, and Broward Alliance.

Mr. Johnson referred to the 2014 Annual Incentives Report, a copy of which was submitted for the record, and commented on seven incentive agreements in Miami-Dade County. He noted these projects would have created 1,000 new jobs; \$6.1 million in incentive funding; \$300 million of capital investment; and \$115,000 of local funds. Mr. Johnson said EFI and its partners must continue working together for the next Legislative Session, as it related to the priority list. He noted the Research Development Tax Credit Program for the State was increased from \$9 million to \$23 million in the last Session, and all companies that applied would receive a proportionate share. Mr. Johnson encouraged the Council members to have their staffs review this program. He suggested as less incentive monies were available in certain areas, that the County consider the Florida Department of Transportation, and the opportunity to utilize other State grants; and training grants for incoming companies. Mr. Johnson said some of these deals would require a Special Legislative Session. He advised EFI was currently working on 301 transactions with global companies and had 15 global offices; and wanted to work with the County's economic development agencies to properly identify opportunities, and attract companies to Florida.

In conclusion, Mr. Jonson commented on 3P (Public-Private Partnership), noting Florida led the nation and had one of the most successful 3P projects in the nation, the PortMiami Tunnel. He also commented on the need for a good working relationship with the unions and truckers. Mr. Johnson expressed appreciation to the Council members for inviting him to today's (7/27) meeting.

Chairman Monestime said the Council tasked with

seeking and proffering ideas that would help in filling the income inequality gap. He noted many areas of the County with great potential were undeveloped; and it was his understanding that the County and the State had not properly addressed the issues of economic development in these areas. Chairman Monestime asked Mr. Johnson if he had specific suggestions that might be able to replace the Enterprise Zone; and what could be done by local government to attract businesses in these areas.

Mr. Johnson said he did not have specifics, but suggested that until legislation was enacted at the State level, the County Commission and the Council work closely with the universities and colleges, in partnership with the Beacon Council. He commented on areas with poverty rates of 20 percent; unemployment exceeding 25 percent; and noted the Governor's total sincerity for improving the quality of life for all Floridians, particularly those who were unemployed. Mr. Johnson also commented on strategic areas for potential, and noted his job was to ensure that his transactional agents were aware of opportunities in other special, unique locations within a community.

Commissioner Jordan directed questions to Mr. Johnson regarding the possibility of restoring the type of incentive program needed to attract the film industry; Miami-Dade County's ranking as a safe county and the impact on economic development for corporations; how the \$43 million added to the toolkit would be measured and monitored as it related to job creation; and whether the increase from \$9 million to \$23 million in research and development was tied to universities or other private entities.

Mr. Johnson said the legislation that was filed regarding the film industry had been presented to the Governor's Office, and if the Florida Legislature made a policy decision that EFI should be the entity to administer the new program, his staff was prepared to do so. He noted the Governor was very focused on process; therefore, anyone who had monies that were vetoed needed to review the process that was undertaken. Mr. Johnson advised checks and balances, as well as safeguards, existed for the State's toolkit; and safety within the community, and education were paramount. He highlighted the educational improvements, particularly within the public education system, and noted State dollars were going towards education. Mr.

Johnson noted his understanding that the incentive money for research and education was open for everyone; and not just for academia and universities.

Mr. Johnson expressed his condolences upon the passing of former Miami-Dade Police Director Bobby Parker.

Chairman Monestime noted he was pleased that Commissioner Suarez had been present and was hopeful he would return with questions.

Commissioner Levine Cava asked Mr. Johnson to provide the Council with information regarding EFI's efforts to target areas of high unemployment, as well as strategies to address broader economic development. She commented on the proposed creation of an Agricultural Innovation Zone; and inquired about EFI's efforts regarding agriculture, and whether the County could tap into these efforts.

Mr. Johnson said agriculture was not one of the key industries that came under the EFI's oversight; however, EFI worked closely with the Department of Agriculture inasmuch as agriculture was one of the largest economic drivers. He noted the importance of working with no walls, both internally within EFI, externally to local stakeholders, and to other state agencies. Mr. Johnson advised that EFI had oversight and coordination of the military, as well as sports; however, the key industries that EFI self-promoted were: manufacturing; life sciences; trade and logistics; and research and design. Mr. Johnson commented on the importance of an integration of the County Commission with the economic development agency, and all segments of this community. He noted he was hopeful that during his tenure as Secretary of Commerce, he and his staff would address issues through effective communication and effective partnerships. Mr. Johnson also mentioned that diversity was also one of his priorities, and assured the Council members that he would be fair in selling the State of Florida.

Chairman Monestime thanked Mr. Johnson for his presentation.

2B

151741 Special Presentation

VANESSA BENAVIDES
DIRECTOR, FINANCIAL STABILITY
UNITED WAY OF MIAMI-DADE, INC.
TOPIC: FINANCIAL STABILITY AS ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT

Presented

Report: *Chairman Monestime introduced Ms. Vanessa Benavides, Director, Financial Stability, United Way of Miami-Dade, Inc. He noted her credentials and experience.*

Ms. Benavides made a presentation on financial stability as economic development. She explained that financial stability at United Way comprised access to jobs; financial management; and homeless prevention services. Ms. Benavides noted this included financial investments, programs and initiatives; public policy work; collective impact initiatives, and other collaborations and partnerships to assist in making an impact in the community. She discussed the United Way Center for Financial Stability (Center), which was housed and operated by Branches. Ms. Benavides noted the Center was created over five years ago with the assistance of Commissioner Levine Cava prior to her election as a commissioner, and its goal was to create an infrastructure of services that would be layered on top of existing services in the community. She advised the Center worked with individual clients to provide personalized financial assessment; assisted clients to establish goals and identify benchmarks in reaching their goals; and was conducted in partnership with a network of service providers.

Ms. Benavides stated the Center also worked on a larger level to address other issues that affected clients. She noted, for example, that the Center had worked with the United Way in Palm Beach and in Broward to address some of the banking issues being faced by clients; and continued to perform some of that work. Ms. Benavides commented on the Center's recently launched Collective Impact Partnership between United Way, Branches, Catalyst Miami, City of Miami and Florida International University (FIU) as their research partner. She advised this was to establish quality standards for these financial coaching services; and to assist in improving the communication and coordination between all of

the program and services within the community. Ms. Benavides said the Center's goal was to empower people to learn how they could be a catalyst for change in their own lives. She mentioned that she met with Mr. Marcus Dixon, Chairman Monestime's staff, to explore ways in which they might be able to partner and work together going forward with some of these initiatives.

Chairman Monestime thanked Ms. Benavides for her presentation and for working with his staff. He noted eventually, the Council in conjunction with United Way of Miami-Dade, Inc., would be able to proffer legislation that could be presented to the County Commission for approval.

Chairman Monestime directed the following questions to Ms. Benavides, on behalf of Commissioner Jordan, regarding the process that was in place to help agencies achieve financial stability since United Way funded a number of community-based organizations (CBOs); and whether United Way provided linkages for smaller CBOs to pair with other organizations as fiscal agents or incubation.

Ms. Benavides responded that United Way had always had initiatives and programs; offered financial support to agencies that needed assistance in building capacity; and was seeking to identify more strategic ways to continue providing this service. She said United Way had also helped smaller agencies to merge to improve the network of organizations working in the community.

Commissioner Levine Cava commented on initiatives that were related to United Way's efforts. She advised that FIU Metropolitan Center received a grant from a city to perform work around wealth-building strategies which was supported by the Council. One of the topics, Commissioner Levine Cava said, related to children's savings accounts, and she asked Ms. Benavides to consider this issue in the mix of opportunities. She noted the Council was also working on housing and job programs, and it would be a great opportunity to combine those efforts comprehensively. Commissioner Levine Cava also commented on the proposed ban-the-box legislation which was proceeding through the County's legislative process, and which she believed, was scheduled for Commission Committee consideration on August 27, 2015. She

suggested Ms. Benavides or other United Way representatives attend the Committee meeting. Commissioner Levine Cava noted she spoke to representatives of some cities who had experienced success with this legislation and had added County contracts to the legislation.

In response to Commissioner Levine Cava's inquiry as to whether the proposed legislation could be amended to include County contracts, Assistant County Attorney Cynthia Johnson-Stacks noted she would have to determine whether this could be done.

Commissioner Levine Cava suggested the United Way expand its outreach by coordinating with the Miami-Dade County Economic Advocacy Trust regarding initiatives that were focused on target areas that were facing difficulty in achieving economic success.

Chairman Monestime asked about the number of families currently participating in the programs throughout the County; and whether United Way was working with other CBOs.

Ms. Benavides explained that overall the Center saw approximately 5,000 people annually; however, not all of those individuals received in-depth financial coaching. She noted the more in-depth coaching was provided to approximately 600 to 800 individuals annually, and each year the number of people served increased. Ms. Benavides said the Center was located at Branches in Chairman Monestime's Commission District; and in January, a second Center was opened in Florida City, operated by Branches.

Commissioner Levine Cava said a network of organizations existed that provided similar services, and suggested Ms. Benavides obtain a list of these organizations. She mentioned the tax preparation service component, which she noted was important, as many families were unaware that they were eligible for the earned income tax credit, and this was the major anti-poverty program in the country. Commissioner Levine Cava commented on the possibility of the Council exploring a State-earned income tax credit.

In response to Chairman Monestime's inquiry regarding the financial program's structure, Ms. Benavides said Branches operated and housed the centers; and the financial coaches were Branches staff. She noted Branches then connected clients

to the larger network of organizations. Ms. Benavides said there were clients who came to the Center, there were group sessions, financial coaching and education services were provided at the workplace and park locations, as well as to other non-profit organizations.

Commissioner Levine Cava noted the importance of services being provided at the workplace, and mentioned the Bethlehem project, which also involved providing immigration assistance at the workplace. She noted the Mayor's proposed budget included a proposal to add a position for non-profit capacity building to assist with the grants process. Commissioner Levine Cava indicated she would like to meet with Ms. Benavides regarding collaborating on this issue. She noted District 8 had an active capacity building program and a dedicated staff person whose focus was on non-profit capacity building, and providing information to potential grantees.

Chairman Monestime thanked Ms. Benavides for her presentation.

Commissioner Levine Cava mentioned that FIU's Research Institute for Social and Economic Policy (RISEP) produced an annual report for Labor Day on Florida Labor Statistics. She noted she had discussed with RISEP the potential of co-releasing the report; however, she had not received a response. Commissioner Levine Cava inquired whether an item could be placed on the September 1, 2015 County Commission agenda regarding co-releasing the report with the Council or the Commission.

Chairman Monestime noted it would be an honor for the Council to co-release the report, and he looked forward to working with Commissioner Levine Cava to facilitating this effort.

3 DISCUSSION

4 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Report: Chairman Monestime announced that the Council would not meet in August; and the next meeting would be held on September 28, 2015, and the topic for discussion would be economic development.

5 TOPIC FOR NEXT SESSION: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

6 CLERK OF THE BOARD

6A

151742 Report

APPROVAL OF CLERK'S MEETING MINUTES FOR THE APRIL 27, 2015 CHAIRMAN'S COUNCIL FOR PROSPERITY INITIATIVES (Clerk of the Board)

Accepted
Mover: Cava
Seconder: Monestime
Vote: 2-0
Absent: Jordan

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Cynthia Johnson Stacks advised that a motion could be made to accept the minutes from the previous meetings.*

Hearing no objections, the Council accepted the minutes as presented.

6B

151743 Report

APPROVAL OF CLERK'S MEETING MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 3, 2015 CHAIRMAN'S COUNCIL FOR PROSPERITY INITIATIVES (Clerk of the Board)

Accepted
Mover: Cava
Seconder: Monestime
Vote: 2-0
Absent: Jordan

Report: *Hearing no objections, the Council accepted the minutes as presented.*

8 ADJOURNMENT

Report: *There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 11:28 a.m.*