

**Outreach Committee Meeting
City of Bonita Springs Official
Minutes
Liles Hotel - upstairs
27300 Old 41 Rd
Tuesday, November 13, 2018
6:00 pm**

I. Call to order - Chairman Jesse Purdon

Present

Michael Robinson
Lester James
Melchor Briceño
Andres Paz
Jesse Purdon
Altony Lee

Staff

Lora Taylor
Mayor Peter Simmons

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Robinson to lead the Committee in Pledge of Allegiance

III. Public Comment

No public present.

IV. Photo to commemorate One Year Anniversary as a committee

Mr. Purdon announced that the Outreach Committee is celebrating its one-year anniversary. The Outreach Committee celebrated a very productive first year with many accomplishments.



Mr. Lee asked if the Committee could jump to item VI. Fiesta Bonita Discussion, Mr. Lee seconded, Committee unanimously agreed.

V. Update on Toy Drive – Michael Robinson

The Committee discussed the Toy drive. Ms. Taylor stated they need a big box to put the toys in. Mr. Robinson has a 40-gallon box he could provide.

Mr. Purdon asked if someone could put a flyer together. Ms. Taylor will have a City staff member design a flyer.

Mr. Robinson said they are expecting more children, about 200 to 300 children. They toy event will be held on December 22.

Mr. Robinson reported the Café of Life is having an event on Wednesday, November 21 at 10 a.m. to talk to the children about safety. Officer Hunter will be there to talk to the children. Mr. Robinson invited Committee members and the Mayor to attend.

VI. Fiesta Bonita Discussion

Mr. Lee will call an Outreach Sub-Committee meeting to begin Fiesta Bonita planning for the request for bids/proposals (RFP) sometime in the month of December. Ms. Taylor advised they have a draft of the RFP in their packets. Ms. Taylor asked the Committee to please review the RFP and get back to her with comments. Ms. Taylor advised that the Outreach Committee will review and revise the RFP and then it goes to Council for approval.

Mr. Lee stated that all are invited to the Sub-Committee meeting to provide input before the RFP goes to Council for approval.

VII. Review and Approve Minutes from Past Meeting

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the October 16, 2018 meeting.

Mr. Paz moved to accept the minutes of the October 16, 2018, Outreach Committee Meeting, Mr. Briceño seconded; motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Misc. discussion – other items

Mr. James asked about the tree lighting. Ms. Taylor replied Holiday in the Park is scheduled for Tuesday, December 4 at 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. They will light the tree when it gets dark.

Mr. Purdon wanted to reflect on the Committee's accomplishments over the last year. Mr. Purdon spoke about the Committee's many accomplishments over the last year:

- The Fiesta Bonita event, Mr. Purdon stated this is something that will be going on annually.
- The first Sister City Agreement with Isla Mujeres in Mexico.
- The Mayor's Cup, which is organized by the Soccer League, and which the Committee supports and endorses. The Mayors Cup is now a staple in the City. Mr. Purdon stated this will forever unify the city of Bonita.

- The Committee did the PSA for the soccer tournaments.
- The Committee endorsed term limits for City Council thereby effecting political change in the City.
- The Committee started the “Get out and vote” initiative working with the Supervisory of Elections for the Hispanic vote. The Committee was able to move that forward.
- The Committee will be participating in the First Annual Toy Drive with the Café of Life, which the Mr. Purdon hopes will become an annual event. This event reaches out to the children in Bonita Springs who really need it.
- Mr. Purdon stated the Committee was able to give people a voice and referenced Marni fields as an example.

Mr. Paz thanked Mr. Purdon, the Mayor and Ms. Taylor for their time and contributions to the Outreach Committee.

Mr. Purdon thanked Ms. Taylor for her help with the Committee. Mr. James agreed and thanked Ms. Taylor for keeping them on track.

Other Outreach Committee Business

Mayor Simmons brought up the vacancy on the Committee with Ms. Valentine’s resignation. The Committee has one seat to fill, maybe two.

Other News

Mr. Paz reported that they are having Latin Grammy Awards this Thursday, November 15, 2018, 7 p.m. at the Society restaurant at the Bell Tower Shops in Fort Myers. There is no admission fee.

Mr. Robinson said, in his experience, when he first got here six years ago, he found the Café of Life by chance driving through Bonita one day and that was a great experience. Everything has evolved around that. People know his car and say hello. Small steps led to big steps and he is proud to be part of this.

IX. Adjourn

Mr. Purdon adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED OUTREACH COMMITTEE:

Date: _____

Nadine Chiaramonte,
Office Assistant

AUTHENTICATED:

Jesse Purdon, Chairman

NOTE: Two or more members of the Bonita Springs City Council may be present and speaking at the meeting.

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NOTE: THIS MEETING IS TELEVISED ON COMCAST, CHANNEL 98. AGENDAS ARE AVAILABLE FOR VIEW, AND THE MEETING CAN BE VIEWED AT WWW.CITYOFBONITASPRINGS.ORG