



LB GRIP Advisory Council Meeting

June 14, 2010
5:30 pm -8:00 pm
Minutes

Location: Center for Working Families, 1900 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach

Attendance

Advisory Council Members: Patrick Dyson, Brent Fremming, Gus Frias, Annie Greenfeld, Dr. Lydia Hollie, Brenda Knepper, Dr. Farah Khaleghi, Reverend James Lewis, Jeanetta McAlpin, Lillian Parker, Sara Pol-Lim, Karen Reside, Hillary Rivers, Robert Robinson, Marc Rothenberg, Jim Ruggirello, Dr. James Saucedo, Jud Schoendorf, Sandra Scott, Jerlene Tatum, Betty Jean Thompson, Claire Vermillion, Charles Wade, Cecile Walters, David Wong, Marco Lopez (proxy), Katie Virant (proxy), Lupe Velasco (proxy), Steve Stough (proxy).

Staff, Presenters and Affiliates: Kezia Daniels, Tim Goddard, Teresa Gomez, Randall Hausauer, Angela Reynolds, Yvonne Robinson, Kathy Berry, Jordan Shefrin, Fanya Baruti, Eli Romero, Lupe Velasco, Bernice Barnares, Terolyn Phinsee.

1. Welcome and Introductions: Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Marc Rothenberg. Introductions were done. At the start of meeting we were one shy of a quorum. Later Chair Rothenberg announces there is a quorum.
2. **Chair Remarks:** Marc Rothenberg introduced the “GRIP Clip” presented by Deborah Kearn, “Practice What You Preach, Where is the Love.” Board Members Lillian Parker and Jerlene Tatum were presented a parting gift card from the Chair. He also thanked City staff for their services. Mark gave an autographed book to Dr. Hollie as a gift. Special guest, Long Beach Police Chief McDonnell was introduced.

Chief of Police-The Chief thanked all volunteers and GRIP participants for their hard work, dedication and commitment to the community, and to the City of Long Beach. He believes children need good examples and that gangs are the default families of the lost children. The Chief stated that all kids really want is support and to be able to go to and from school safely. They want to be able to graduate and get jobs. He believes that investing in our children is the way to turn things around. Statistics show illiteracy is the primary factor for non success. Seventy percent of the people incarcerated are illiterate. If literacy programs are in place or become a condition of parole, it reduces the repeat offender rate from 70 to 20 percent. The Chief believes communication is also a main factor. He states, “We must break down the walls and communicate effectively with one another.” The Chief would like the police to be a catalyst in bringing corporate sponsorship, working with the school district to open up the schools after hours, and having college students and retirees mentor youth a few hours a week. He believes this will have a huge impact. Fire and Police should be available to provide a level of safety.

Q. Member Karen Reside asks, “How do you see youth playing a role in interrupting the gang

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circle.” **A.** By sharing leadership principles with the youth, and helping make them be successful. We need to showcase the kids who have come from a desperate situation and have overcome obstacles. Karen shares she’s identified funding for that.

Q. Board member Lillian Parker asks, “What is your plan to win the confidence of the community which has lacked in the targeted areas.” **A.** PD has tried to do it alone. We have to stop saying “WE” are doing this, it’s our program. We should get an umbrella plan to bring everyone to the table to play a role to create a web where we are rewarded for coming together rather than everyone competing against each other. PD needs to reach out to community and let them know they are the solution. Power is in the numbers. Lillian Parker asks that the Chief look into the current Neighborhood Watch Program and consider restructuring it. **A.** Chief agrees and indicates he will stay in touch on that.

3. **Action items:** Approval of the minutes of the May 10, 2010 special meeting. Motion approved unanimously.
4. Dr. Hollie, Chair of Ad Hoc Committee of the Strategic Plan announces the completion of the draft. The name of the plan is Redeeming, Renewing, and Transforming Our Community. She asks that the members review and provide input within four weeks. The committee will come back with the final draft.
5. Staff Teresa Gomez, announces there are copies of the budget available. If there are any questions give her a call.
6. **Elections-** Rene Castro was elected as Chair, Jerlene Tatum elected as Vice Chair and Karen Reside as Secretary. The council voted by confidential ballots. Ballots were tallied by staff Gomez, Reynolds, and Daniels.
7. **Action item:** Karen Reside of the Boys and Girls Club, request \$300.00 discretionary funds for A Day for Kids event. The event is for celebrating family spending quality time together. The event will take place at the 14th street Park on September 11. Motion to approve unanimous.
8. **Action items:** Terolyn Phinsee of the Titus Single Family Mentoring foundation gave an overview of the program and how they conduct single family workshops. The workshops cover topics such at domestic violence, male mentoring, and being careful in dating. Their focus is on building the strength of the family. Titus is requesting \$300.00 discretionary to fund the youth banquet. Motion approved with one abstention.
9. **Discretionary Fund Report Out** -Anthony Flores reports he attended the ELLA’s Conference. The conference helps students break down stereotypes and gives them a different perspective on different races and issues.
10. **Discretionary Fund Report Out** -Peace for Long Beach Rally reports that with funds provided they purchased food for the groups at the dialog at Cesar Chavez Park on March 25.
11. **Community Organization Report-** A brief overview of Centro CHA was given and the success they have had. The organization did a closeout report in March 2010 to the Governor’s office.

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12. LBPD- Reports that the Summer Night Lights program is coming. They will be having a meet and greet on the blue line and a curfew program for this summer. Detective Robinson reports the girls after school program attended the Titus mentoring workshop. The girls ventured out on Second Street. Most of the girls had never been past Cherry Avenue and they were reluctant to get out of the car. The girls and boys group attended a concert and dinner at Rancho Los Alamitos. They dressed up and were required to use proper etiquette. Board Member Lillian Parker has been coming out to speak to the girls and attended the workshop to give the girls support.
13. **LBUSD** – A written report will be emailed to everyone.
14. **Work Force development-** Will be holding interviews for the beautification project this Saturday at the MLK Park. They are currently looking for additional beautification proposal for projects in the 04, 06, and 13 zip codes. They are also preparing for the 2010 youth summer employment plan.
15. **Weed and Seed-** Are finalizing plans for the Summer Night Lights program at MLK Park. They are working closely with the Boys and Girls club to integrate leadership classes for the youth. They received \$14,000 to implement that program.
16. **Family Engagement and Violence Prevention-** The group has been meeting and working on a truancy program. Poly High reports of the 12,800 students, 1500 of those students whereabouts can not be accounted for. The group is looking at a timeline of October. Students and family will dialog and students will report what happened that made them change their lives.
17. **Media Subcommittee-** The group has contacted the principals at four high schools to have students selected to create a campaign for the de-glamorization of gangs and for promoting peace along with the subcommittee. Students will be from Wilson, Poly, Cabrillo and Renaissance. The students will be getting specific training in communications, journalism, elements, digital photography, as well audio and video pod casting.
18. **Research and Resource Development-** The group is making sure that our long term strategic plan fits neatly with the other big agency efforts like the California Endowment. For the record, Fremming noted, the briefing did not mention that the Board Members Lillian Parker and Jerlene Tatum both did attend some of those meetings.
19. **Agenda items-** Board member Jerlene Tatum request that Staff put together an executive summary report to educate the council on the ending of the current grant, beginning of the new grant, and the differences in the new grant. The council needs to be made aware of its responsibility as well as Peace Builders being our consultant in this current grant. The council needs to be educated on everything. Gomez indicates yes that is possible.
20. **Workforce Development-** Since March they have been looking at what has been successful. They heard from LAPD on what is successful in their communities. The group conducted a workforce development and Expungement workshop. In April, they had the award announcement of the technical assistant grant. The subcommittee acknowledged their intern

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Eric Loya for his hard work. In May they attended the Weed and Seed retreat.

21. **Announcement-** Dr. Khalegi received her second doctrine.

Juneteenth Celebration – June 19th

The WOW Jam is June 26th

For the record, Secretary Lillian Parker announces the previous action item proposed by Dr. Hollie regarding the vetting process on the discretionary funds be placed on the August 9th agenda.

22. Next meeting August 9, 2010

23. Meeting adjourned at 7:16pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Lillian Parker, Secretary