

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA
DIVERSITY COMMITTEE MEETING
April 2, 2015**

SUMMARY

Members Present

Andy Ansola	Charlie King
Rebecca Dahl	Thomas Lauder
Gaspar Garcia	Esther Mizell
Reverend Luc Harrigan	Beverly Perkins
Lillie Harris	Ernestine Price
Douglas Harrison	Bryan Wilson

Members Absent

Harve Brosten
Francesca Blanchard
Jamie Cutler, Student Representative
Susan Edwards
Andrea Gundersen
Aaliyah McCrary, Student Representative
Frederick Perry
Michael Sirbola
Mary Williams, Student Representative

Student Support Initiatives Staff: Michaelle Pope; Terri Jones; Latricia Lauture

Diversity, Prevention & Intervention Staff: Marion Williams

Parliamentarian: Patricia McDougle

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:49 p.m. by **Mr. Lauder**.

ADOPTON OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Garcia objected to the presented agenda stating there is a motion on the floor from the last meeting. The motion should be the first order of business. **Ms. McDougle** said, “according to Robert’s Rules, the order of business is the minutes, reports of officers, reports of special committees, then unfinished business. To change the order of business a motion is needed with a two thirds vote.” After discussion, the Agenda was adopted as presented.

APPROVAL OF THE SUMMARY MINUTES

The March 5, 2015 Minutes were approved as presented.

CHAIR’S REPORT

Mr. Lauder said, “in the interest of time he would forgo his report.”

VICE-CHAIR’S REPORT

Vice Chair absent - No report given.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Ms. Pope provided the following updates: “In regard to the Committee’s request for fact-finding visits to three elementary schools: Walker, Virginia Shuman Young and Harbordale.” The Superintendent is not in support of the request. The fact-finding visits are not aligned to the Committee’s roles and responsibilities as outlined in policy and are not connected to the eight conditions outlined in the CCC Settlement Agreement. The District has addressed the issue with OCR and the Pre-K entry criteria with policy change. **Ms. Pope** said, “the next item is regarding the following motion: **“That the Diversity Committee be informed of any and all current, pending and new complaints regarding issues of any civil rights discrimination practices, lawsuits, investigations, proceedings filed by any entity and that fall under**

the purview of the Diversity Committee’s jurisdiction. Timely notification but no longer than 30 days.” She said, “District Legal Counsel advised that the Chair bring the request forward to the Board directly at the chair report segment of a Regular School Board Meeting.” The Board can then direct General Counsel to provide the information requested. Ms. Pope said, “regarding the impact on demographics at Harbordale due to the boundary change: the Director of Demographics said there is no impact other than what was reported as part of the boundary process.” The Director will be providing the information in writing. Ms. Pope will forward that information to the Committee.

PARLIAMENTARIAN’S REPORT

Ms. McDougle quoted General Henry M. Robert, author of Robert’s Rules of Order, “*It is very material that order, decency, and regularity be preserved in a dignified public body.*”

Ms. McDougle reviewed the following with Committee members:

All members have the same rights including the officers. Members should utilize the power given by:

- Introducing a proposal for an action or position you want the Committee to take.
 - Speaking in strong terms on proposals or actions which you oppose or consider not in the jurisdiction of the Committee.
 - Raising a point of order whenever a rule of order is violated or if you disagree with a ruling of the chair.
- Any and all decisions or actions to be taken by the Committee must be approved by a majority vote and must fall within the scope of Policy 1.5-Diversity Committee.

No one individual may act in the name of the Committee without prior majority approval.

Ms. McDougle reviewed decorum with Committee members:

- When the meeting is called to order, give full attention to the chair.
- Seek recognition from the chair before making a motion or speaking.
- Once the chair has recognized another member the rules of decorum are violated if a member seeks preference in recognition by waving his/her hand before the member recognized has relinquished the floor. It is likewise out of order to interrupt except to raise a point of order.
- Members address only the chair, or address each other through the chair.
- One member speaks at a time, one subject at a time. Be sure remarks or debate are germane to the motion or topic of discussion.
- Avoid the use of members’ names. This helps depersonalize the issue when a vast difference of opinion exists.
- Refrain from attacking the motives of another member. It is the issue or proposed action that is the topic of discussion, not the member or motives.

DIVERSITY COMMITTEE BYLAWS

Motion on the floor from the March 5, 2015 general meeting: Motion by Mr. Garcia, seconded by Ms. Gundersen, “That “as a substitution for the present Bylaws the Bylaws submitted by the [sub] Committee be adopted by the Diversity Committee and submitted to the School Board for final approval.”

Review started at Article IV, Section 3.

Article V, Section B, revision of ~~pro-temp~~ to pro tempore.

Article V, Section C, Governance. **Motion by Bryan Wilson, seconded by Tom Lauder “To move Article V, Section C and reinsert said section to Article VII, Section B and be renamed as such. Motion passed 12-0.**

Article V, Section D, Agenda. ~~if requested~~ was removed.

Article V, Section E. Discussion followed about “shall”, “input” and splitting the paragraph two sentences. Text remained as is.

Ms. Dahl said, “She sent an email to **Ms. Pope** asking about the Community Report section of the agenda. Would that be input on part of the agenda?” **Mr. Lauder** said, “You asked what a Community Report was.” “The report and presentation had to be cancelled. The person could not make it. Considering it was on the back end of the agenda, I did not feel the need to respond.”

Article VI: section 1, Guests. The Committee discussed language allowing guests to speak at general meetings.

Motion by Ms. Harris, seconded by Mr. Wilson: “that the last line of Article VI, Section 1, read: If time permits, guests shall speak, at the discretion of the chair, for a time period not to exceed two minutes.” Motion passed 11-1.

Motion by Ms. Dahl “to extend meeting by 15 minutes.” Motion passed 12-0.

Article VI, Section 3, Minutes. Discussion followed on “all requests for information shall be germane to the business of the Diversity Committee and/or subcommittee and may require Committee approval.” **Ms. Mizell** said, “An example is, she previously requested a full transcript of minutes for the May 2014 general meeting; she has not received it.” **Ms. Dahl** said, “An example is, if I wanted all the information about Virginia Shuman Young and the way the enrollment is now at the school. I believe the Committee should vote on it before anyone seeks out the information.” **Mr. Lauder** said, “Is that you or Mary who thought of that idea?” **Ms. Dahl** said, “Point of order.” “Why did you bring her name up?” **Mr. Lauder** said, “I must have miss-spoken.” **Ms. Dahl** said, “I believe, at the last meeting, I asked that you not bring my personal information forward in a meeting. It is intolerable and I am embarrassed by it.” “I am requesting the Committee acknowledge that I am asking the Chair to stop asking about and discussing personal information.” **Mr. Lauder** said, “We acknowledge, thank you.”

Motion by Mr. Garcia, Seconded by Mr. Lauder, “That the last sentence of section 3 be numbered as a separate section, perhaps section 4.” “All request for information shall be germane to the business of the Diversity Committee and/or subcommittee and may require Committee approval.” Motion passed 12-0.

Mr. Lauder said, “By unanimous consent the meeting is extended by five minutes.”

Motion by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. King, “Official requests for information shall require Committee approval.” Motion passed 12-0. (New section 4, renumbering all sections after.)

Ms. Mizell said, “The Superintendent cannot supersede a court order. He does not have that power.”

Mr. Garcia suggested a special meeting to finish the revision of the Bylaws. Discussion followed.

Ms. Dahl said, “She would like the Bylaws as first thing after the pledge and attendance.” **Mr. Wilson** said, “A member can make a motion at the meeting to move the item up on the agenda.”

Motion by Mr. Lauder, seconded by Ms. Harris, “To put the Bylaws as the first item on the agenda, for the next general meeting. Motion passed 12-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

**The next meeting is scheduled for May 7, 2015, at 6:30 p.m.,
in the Board Room, Kathleen C. Wright Administration Building.**

These minutes are summarized and were recorded at the April 2, 2015 Diversity Committee meeting. For more information a Public Records Request may be submitted by contacting Public Relations & Government Affairs Department, SBBC, at 754-321-2300.