

**Meeting of WMNF's
Community Advisory Board
May 22, 2019**

ATTENDEES

:

-Richard Manning, Concerned Citizen, Professor of Philosophy, USF. Former Board Member of WMNF

-Jessica Lewis, Environmental Activist, Employed by Audubon Society, Previous Director of S.E.L.F. (Solar and Energy Loan Fund, a non-profit clean energy financing provider), Serves on boards of Sierra Club and Suncoast Surfrider Foundation.

-Maurice Vernon, Director of JTEP (Joining Together Eliminating Poverty, a 501c(3) non-profit organization that works with over 300 families a month assisting families in a vast range of ways).

-Nancy Johnson, WMNF Board of Directors, Acting Secretary and Chair of CAB.

-Call to order at noon by Nancy Johnson.

-Review of the Citizens Advisory Board intent. Direct reading of Article Six of the WMNF by-laws to educate new members of CAB'S purpose. Goal is to give organizations a voice that otherwise may not be heard, as well as highlight issues not being adequately covered by media.

-Members shared personal backgrounds with questions and discussions for the full hour of meeting. Jessica is an environmental activist who has served, and continues to serve on many boards. Her employment with S.E.L.F. (above) could be a talking point for educating the WMNF community of the loan opportunities. Maurice shared the many goals of JTEP. Children in the Tampa Bay area are serviced with clothing, diapers, as well as numerous parenting skills classes. Fathers' role in parenting is a major focus of Mr. Vernon's. He speaks all over the country assisting and guiding fathers with their roles and responsibilities as fathers. Lots of passion within this organization. A new facility is forthcoming in West Tampa, a historical neighborhood that use another voice for its causes and ongoing projects.

Richard is discouraged by the political climate, and the continued corporate control of our society. The group broached many examples of this, including the dilemma of this country's recycling efforts. The lack of incentives for recyclable packaging is one example of the stymied recycling efforts. Mr. Manning would like to see more direct examination of the pitfalls in our government through the media.

Nancy shared her goals of CAB. This Board should be a pro-active organization to include our in-house abilities to give voice to the community. Jessica questioned the significance of this group's purpose as she has had a lengthy history of sitting on Boards, and some have a purpose, others don't.

Attendees were asked to share names of people who could potentially join this CAB. Nancy has approached the News Director about people/organizations that might have interested parties. Maurice had a great suggestion to have a Forum on the Website for people to open conversation on issues of concern that need a voice.

Discussion of the next meeting included a 3-month window. Nancy will set up the next meeting, which hopefully, will include more people in the community. Continued discussion with current members is encouraged.
Meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.