



BROWARD VICTIM'S RIGHTS COALITION

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE INFORMED, PRESENT & HEARD

Minutes from the General Meeting held on February 21, 2024 at 11:00 AM

Plantation Police Department

451 N.W. 70th Terrace

Plantation, FL 33317

- I. Call to Order: Debbie Geller
 - Meeting called to order at 11:06am.
- II. Introductions: All Members Present
- III. Read and Approve Minutes from November Meeting: All Present
 - Elena Muñoz motions to approve the minutes. Michael Calderin seconds. Motion passes.
- IV. Treasurer's Report: Debbie Geller
 - RLK Fund Account
 - Starting Balance: \$1,063.62
 - Earned \$0.01 interest
 - Ending Balance: \$1,063.63
 - Leadership Broward Account
 - Starting Balance: \$2,555.94
 - Ending Balance: \$2,555.94
 - No changes for the month of January
 - General Account
 - Starting Balance \$36,416.88
 - \$70 payment to Sunbiz
 - \$4.60 paid in service charges to Truist Bank
 - \$24.25 received in membership dues
 - Ending Balance: \$36,366.53
 - Jill Fogel motions to approve the Treasurer's Report. Victoria Sexton seconds. Motion passes.
- V. Speaker: Shavonta "Starr" Davis, Esq.
Speaker/ Author/ Nonprofit Leader
The Starr Institute
 - The organization was founded by Mrs. Shavontana "Starr" Davis, Esq. in Atlanta, GA in 2017. Moved to Florida in June 2020.
 - Workshops are offered to teach children anatomical terms, body autonomy, how to identify a trusted adult, as well as what is or isn't appropriate in relationships.
 - The core programming workshop is, My Safety Starts with Me. It is a 5 week program, broken up into 60 minute sessions. The sessions include Sex Trafficking Awareness and Safety 101, Internet Safety. Self Esteem, Goal Setting, and a final Celebration/Graduation. The workshops

are age-appropriate and culturally appropriate for boys and girls ages 12 to 17.

- The program has been screened and approved to be given in Broward County Schools.
- Trainings offered to adults include Sex Trafficking Awareness, Internet Safety, and Being a Trusted Adult.
- Workshops are free to attendees at this time, as they are grant funded.
- Referrals for workshops have come from churches, advocates, and social workers. It is preferred to have 25-30 kids in a group, however workshops have been done assembly style in schools before.
- For more information, follow on Facebook: The Starr Institute or on Instagram: thestarrinstitute_.

VI. New Business

- Board Vacancy
 - Nomination & elections – Deva Cats-Baril
 - a. An announcement was sent out to inform the membership that there is a vacancy for the Vice President position.
 - b. Nomination received for Jenifer Mejia Coronell.
 - c. Opened the floor for additional nominations. No additional nominations were received.
 - d. Jill Fogel motions to appoint Jenifer as the Vice President. Rosemary Baker seconds. Motion passes.
 - e. Jenifer Mejia Coronell appointed as the new Vice President.
 - f. The floor was opened for nominations to fill the now-vacant Corresponding Secretary position.
 - g. Nomination received for Elena Munoz.
 - h. Jill Fogel motions to appoint Elena as the Corresponding Secretary. Rosemary Baker seconds. Motion passes.
 - i. Elena Munoz appointed as the new Corresponding Secretary.
- NCVRW
 - Garden Committee – Tara Arena
 - a. The vigil will be held April 23rd, 2024 at 5:30pm.
 - b. We have received a lot of nominations for wall engravings. The application for wall engravings can be found on the website, however the deadline has passed for this year.
 - c. Those who work for pd's, please encourage officers to attend in class A's. A reminder e-mail is forthcoming.
 - d. The bagpiper, Davie horse, and multi-agency honor guard will be in attendance.
 - Awards Committee – Ashley Conon
 - a. There are 5 award categories this year. Victim Advocate of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, Prosecutor of the Year, and BVRCA Agency/Member of the Year.
 - b. The tentative deadline for nomination submissions is March 22nd. Please think about nominating your colleagues.
 - c. The nomination form will be sent out soon to the membership.
 - Training Committee – Debbie Geller
 - a. The annual training will be held on Thursday, April 25th from 9am-12pm.
 - b. We have spoken with TTAC regarding scheduling a training. The topic is Culturally Responsive Services.
 - c. Lunch will be served after the training.

VII. Old Business

- Code Pink – Debbie Geller
 - Code Pink is money that we received from Leadership Broward to house survivors who are unable to obtain shelter at WID.
 - Code Pink is on hold temporarily.
- Website – Tara Arena
 - The website is live.
 - Membership dues may be paid on the site.
 - Registration for NCVRW events will be available on the website also.
- RLK Victim Assistance Fund - Elena Muñoz
 - The RLK fund is available to crime victims for basic needs, food, or other expenses related to the crime. Applications must be submitted by BVRC members in good standing.
 - A proof of crime is needed for eligibility.
 - The fund is a means of last resort.
 - Maximum of \$500 can be requested.
 - The RLK supplication is available online, however supporting documentation must be sent directly to Elena.
- Social Media Committee - Paulina Alzate
 - No updates.
 - If anyone has anything they would like to have posted on social media, please e-mail Paulina at PAalzate@sao17.state.fl.us.
- Speaker's Bureau/ Community Outreach – Ashley Conon
 - Please e-mail Ashley if you mention BVRC at any speaking engagements aconon@margatefl.com. BVRC mentions are tracked for grant purposes.
- Membership – Tara Arena
 - Members have access to vote and request RLK funds.
 - Please contact Tara with any questions regarding membership Tarena@coconutcreek.net.

VIII. Announcements

- BACA – the board has decided to focus on 2 or 3 children tops per year, due to a lack of referrals. Will focus on meeting with community organizations. Recently, set up a tent at the Pompano Beach Seafood Festival.
- NJCC Victim Advocate Networking Event scheduled for February 29th at NJCC.
- WID – Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month – In Their Shoes event taking place at the Broward College Library in Coconut Creek from 5 to 6:30.

IX. Adjournment

- Judy Nesbitt motions to adjourn. Aisa Gonzalez seconds. Motions passes. Meeting adjourned at 11:56am.

Next meeting March 20, 2024
Plantation Police Dept.
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Plantation, FL 33317
www.browardvictimsrights.org
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