

July 6, 2023 Flagler Hub Meeting Notes (Thank you Gail Danhoff!)

Thank you to African American Cultural Society for the event venue!

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The HUB was created with a gathering of representatives from “like minded” organizations with an initial meeting in September, 2021. We determined that we would be a communication vehicle, and would gather quarterly to determine how best to work together. We determined that the HUB mission would be:

To communicate and collaborate with like-minded citizens and organizations of Flagler County in a way that supports all while allowing leaders to retain control of their organization's message and activities, so the works of the involved organizations can be broadened.

Members of The HUB share “distribution ready” content via email to Shelley Ragsdale who communicates the information to The HUB email list. Members determine whether the information is something they wish to share with their membership, and if so, distribute via email, Facebook, etc.

At our last HUB leadership meeting, we decided that we would like to host an event with the membership of all included groups invited. I am pleased to say that our first gathering was blessed with **53 attendees!!**

Leaders from involved organizations in attendance introduced themselves and their organization:

PARTICIPANT GROUPS:

Sally Hirst - Flagler Beach Democratic Club & Weekly Blue Forum
Phyllis Pearson - NAACP
Carl Jones Flagler County Democratic Black Caucus
Cynthia Dodzik SURJ – Showing Up for Racial Justice
Mike Cocchiolo - Flagler Free to Read and Americans United for Separation of Church and State
Joseph Jones – African American Cultural Society
Donna Harkins – Palm Coast Democratic Club
Ellen Teller - Democratic Executive Committee for Flagler County
Members of Flagler County Democratic Women’s Club were also in attendance

GROUP ACTIVITY:

We mingled and broke into groups, encouraging people to get with people/organizations they did not know. The groups brainstormed ideas that would help move us forward in our common purpose. Readouts from each group included:

Group 1 Joe Giardino

1. Every attendee join a 2nd group they are not currently affiliated with
2. Quarterly or monthly HUB meetings

3. Create a consolidate calendars of events

Group 2 Colleen McFarlane

1. Use Social media such as TicToc, Instagram, Twitter to connect to the youthful community with a positive message on topics such as Voting, Affirmative Action, LGBTQ+, Education
2. Get access to youth via sports teams
3. Next Meeting “each one bring one”

Group 3 Sybil Dodson-Lucas

1. Elevate values over politics—No R's/D's/NPA's, common values. Have a rally supporting common values to bring in “the 40% of uncommitted voters.”
 - a. Values could include seniors aging with dignity, reading, book access, criminal justice reform, career assessment/skills and values assessment for youth
2. Invite speakers to rallies
3. Bring youth to the Hub including getting internship participants involved
4. Connect and use libraries as a resource.
5. Each club should bring Youth to their Executive Committees

Group 4 Dr. Phyllis Pearson

1. Get Clarity on the message that we have to prevent distortion on Social Media. Using pictures can help.
2. NAACP is absolutely Non Partisan.
3. Enable Youth to be successful in Social and Political activities.
4. Training for all on code enforcement: Legal responsibilities and rights.
5. Link Voter Registration to Voter ACTION
6. Caring about how people are successfully getting out the youth vote

Group 5 Myra Middleton

1. Develop common purpose, agenda (work together) to clarify that our actions can change people's quality of life
2. HUB Meetings more often to motivate and energize.
3. Use rallies to be visible to the community and pull in the independent voter.
4. Common goal of unity and inclusion.
5. Share a common calendar
6. Spread word that NAACP is not just for black people

Group 6 Angela Smith

1. Civil Rights Tours in Flagler County (such as that which was hosted by SURJ, AACS, NAACP, and Seeking Insights for Solutions (SIS), (an interest group within the University Women of Flagler))
2. Teach hope to youth through entrepreneur skills.
3. Workforce development needs to be addressed

Group 7 Jackie Rector

1. Educate our youth about the key issues
2. Register youth to vote, vote by mail

3. Develop talking points re: common issues
4. Collaborate clubs and organizations together so we can support each other
5. Know FACTS

Messaging is critical. We need to develop messages.

Rallies will raise visibility.

Need to focus on common core principles and don't get caught up in topical "Buzz"

NEXT STEPS:

All participants expressed a desire to meet again. The next meeting will be scheduled within the next 2 months (with participants equally split between meeting in 1 month or 2 months). Communication will be via Leadership of the HUB organizations that invited people to the July 6th meeting.

Joint calendaring was a popular suggestion. Groups that wish to share the calendar currently being shared by PCDC, FBDC and DEC, including update capability, please contact Sally Hirst, 925-200-6164. The up to date calendar can be viewed on FBDC and PCDC Calendar Links of their respective Websites: FlaglerBeachDemocraticClub.com and PalmCoastDemocraticClub.org