

Executive Roundtable of  
Indian River County  
August 27, 2020 @ 9AM  
Meeting Conducted Via Zoom

Minutes

**Members Attending:** Paul Carlisle, Heather Parker, Carrie Maynard-Lester, David Currey, Kyleigh Savoie, Angelia Perry, Peter O'Bryan, Caryn Toole, Dan Acosta, Bob McPartlan, Eric Kohrhamer, Carrie Lester-Maynard, Michael Kint, Keith Touchberry, Sabrina Sampson, Teri Barenborg, David Currey, Aimee Hill

**Guests:** Barbara Schlitt Ford, IRCares, Carol Ludwig, Crystal Morris, Linda Barker, Eric Flowers, Laura Kelly, Cindy Mercado, Joe LaGuardia, First Church Vero Beach

**I. Chairman Carlisle opened the meeting at 9AM**

**II. Chairman Carlisle led the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**III. Introductions were made and all were welcomed.**

**IV. Community Presentations- Barbara Schlitt Ford, Indian River Cares-** Ms. Ford explained that IRCares is a group of nonprofit leaders that came about organically in February of 2020. The group stemmed from a nonprofit appreciation luncheon which was such a success, they decided to host a luncheon quarterly. IRCares has now been holding meetings for five months. Natural collaborations have come about as a result. Over 100 organizations are participating in IRCares. The purpose is to build bridges between nonprofits so that we can cross refer, collaborate between organizations, and learn about all of the services available in the community and to connect community members and businesses. Members include United way, Chambers of Commerce, faith-based community, interfaith coalition, etc. The group started identifying community issues and decided to work together to solve them. Racial Justice reform in IRC is one of the issues. Board leadership connect has grown out of this. If a nonprofit is in search of board members, they can fill out a form. If a community member that wants to join a board, that person can fill out a form. Then, a match can be made. IRCares has a website that houses all of this information. They also started a senior connect program and have created a list of all the places in town that house seniors. The group has reached out to local groups to make room brighteners like cards, poems, etc. They are delivering them to seniors so they know they're not forgotten. They also have service clubs participating in IRCares. So, if someone wants to participate in a service club, they can do that. Now connected to the Roundtable.

Crystal Morris and Laura Kelly- When George Floyd happened, they saw an opportunity to identify what can be done. IRC has the tenth largest income gap between the top one percent and the bottom 99 percent. There is a vast difference between income and access to resources. They have decided to take a strong step with increasing awareness and building capacity with collaborating nonprofits to impact some of this. IRCares released a statement on racial equity, diversity and inclusion. They are in the strategic planning process to figure out how to employ change. Ms. Morris stated that even though IRC does not have the rioting, we have the same feelings here and need to have the uncomfortable conversations, committing to do something about it. Ms. Morris stated that we are in a great place to show what IRC can do to promote that sense that we are all one community by having collaboration and making it so that all groups feel that they belong.

Members were asked by Ms. Morris to take this back to their spaces and reflect on this. To take time to think what the culture of their organization is and to use this as an opportunity to make uncomfortable conversations comfortable. Committing for the long term work to change the organizational culture that will cause trajectories to change, because you see individuals more than anything else.

Ms. Ford stated a need for people to be involved in the committee from law enforcement, health, education, and other groups to address the issue systemically. September 8<sup>th</sup> at 11AM is the next meeting and she invites anyone who wants to participate. Ms. Ford stated a need to address this as a community.

Teri Barenborg thanked IRCares for the presentation and asked how IRCares will be connected with MCAN? Ms. Ford answered that Cares will be collaborating with MCAN, United Way, IRC Community Foundation, etc. They will only fill in the spaces that they feel are not being covered. IRCSD finally has an African American plan that will be moving forward as well as an equity plan.

**V. Approval of Minutes (March 12, 2020) – Chairman Carlisle-** Motion to approve by David Currey with second by Bob McPartlan.

**VI. Treasurer’s Report- Kip Jacoby- Not Present**

**VII. Old Business**

**A. Juvenile Justice Update - Wydee’a Wilson-** Ms. Wilson stated that she has a dual role now. The new assistant Chief Probation Officer is Nathan Peterson. DJJ has had to alter how they do business due to COVID. 111 kids are on some type of supervision with the Department. DJJ was able to hold a back to school bash, thanks to Life Builders. This was a drive-through event that provided school supplies to their kids. This event has taken place for six years now, in collaboration with Life Builders. There is currently a 29% utilization rate for civil citations. In June, DJJ started the Florida race equity challenge. Series of webinars individually presented by nationally known people. Purpose is to educate the stakeholders on racial equity. This series will run through December. They are working together as a circuit. School district is involved.

Michael Kint asked how the 29% compares to past years. The rate is down. The total number of arrests are on a decline. IR used to be the highest in the whole circuit at one point. Carrie Maynard-Lester stated that the Substance Awareness Center receives the referrals and they usually come from school resource officers.

**B. US Census Complete Count Committee - Chairman Carlisle-** Chairman Carlisle gave the current response rates and stated a need to get the word out to residents that Census workers are coming door to door if they have not yet responded to the Census. The City of Sebastian will be supporting that effort by doing a letter. He encouraged members to help spread the word.

**VIII. New Business – Chairman Carlisle**

**A. Nominating Subcommittee** – Chairman Carlisle discussed the need for a nominating subcommittee for the new fiscal year. Michael Kint, Peter O’Bryan and Keith Touchberry volunteered for the committee.

**B. 2021 Rail Trail 5K Discussion/Subcommittee** – Chairman Carlisle explained the results of a survey sent out to past 5K participants. The vast majority of people who responded wanted an in-person race. They were very complimentary of the past races. Run Vero has given us options of an in-person race and a virtual race. We do not have to decide yet.

Teri Barenborg stated that she participated in a virtual run. May want to ask what the turn-out was for the virtual event. Caryn Toole stated that she thinks there were about 400 people, Carrie Maynard-Lester stated that SAC was pleasantly surprised by the virtual run they participated in where there were just under 200 runners.

Keith Touchberry asked what info we have on the effect of 5K races from COVID. Paul Carlisle stated that we need to start talking now about getting sponsorships. Maybe we can move forward with the run and have the virtual scheduled in case.

David Currey stated that he participated in the virtual run. He stated that there were people from other states that participated. When he went to get the shirt and medal, he talked with Jim from Run Vero. The virtual races have been successful. The 10k that the Vero Beach PD hosts will be virtual. This allows people to do the race in different ways. He thinks that the Roundtable needs to do the virtual run this year.

Chairman Carlisle asked for volunteers for the 5K subcommittee. Paul Carlisle, David Currey, Kyleigh Savoie, Carrie Maynard-Lester and Caryn Toole volunteered. We will schedule a 5K subcommittee meeting in the very near future.

Keith Touchberry asked how connected the run organizations are to the actual runners? Is there a core group that really wants to get out and run? David Currey stated that Jim from Run Vero indicated that it doesn't seem the current situation is going to change any time soon. He stated that the virtual race was a neat experience, better than he thought it would be.

Caryn Toole stated that she is in her third virtual race and loves it. Run Vero has been sharing this on social media. The athletes are still participating every single weekend. They're competing with one another but in a different way.

David Currey stated that the virtual race may be something that doesn't go away. The virtual run may stay, or a hybrid run, it's been pretty successful.

Keith Touchberry stated that if we can get data for people that want to run, we could do a hybrid model. Paul Carlisle stated that the 5K is important to our group and to the groups we were able to give the money to.

Michael Kint asked if the groups are still able to get the sponsors they have gotten in the past with a virtual run.

David Currey stated that there is a virtual run and another component is the fundraiser on their website. Chairman Carlisle suggested getting sponsors for miles, for example, ten cents a mile.

- C. **Letter of Commitment-** Chairman Carlisle stated that funding is down, and we need to rely on the members and community leaders to help get the funding back up so that the organization is successful and can be maintained. Urged members to look at their budgets. Would appreciate anything that members can do.

#### IX. **Member Matters**

Eric Kohrhamer stated that in addition to what Life Builders has done with DJJ, they did five back to school bashes. They participated with the Fellsmere Action Community Team for an event.

Keith Touchberry stated that they gave out over two hundred backpacks and thanked Eric Kohrhamer for their support.

Kyleigh Savoie discussed the new ordinance in Vero Beach that raised the age to buy tobacco products from 18 to 21. Will send a flyer to Aimee to send to the group. She has free decals for the new ordinance that she can give out.

- X. **Adjournment-** The meeting adjourned at 10AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aimee Hill, Executive Director