## **8-2-208 Advocacy Committee minutes**

Present: Alan Preston, Paul Berg, Evelyn Bless  
Absent: Craig Nowicke

Called to order: 12:05 pm. Chair and minutes: Evelyn

**Major Advocacy objectives** **for 2018 and forward**. These were identified by the BOD in its July strategic planning session. Most involve meeting with state political figures and community groups.

We anticipate starting the invitations to political figures in October. To prepare, we need to:

1. Update ‘Political figures and arts/cultural interests’ table.
   1. Hillsborough County Commissioners, State Senators and State Representatives: need arts voting record, contact email and phone # for aides, and a call to aides to determine which is designated as handling arts/culture.
   2. For all political figures that do not have information, we need background and talking points plus all of the above.   
      **ACTION**: Evelyn will send draft to Alan, who will work on it as available in Aug-Sept.
2. Prepare a fact sheet. We need a summary sheet. The Center’s Annual Report will be the long version. Both will be given to political figures and groups.  
   **ACTION**: Evelyn will start a draft fact sheet and send to Paul.

**Advocacy actions from June:**

**\*\*\* Internet site for sharing BOD documents**: Alan has developed a shared Google drive to which each Board member will have access. It should be ready by the August Board meeting. \*\*\*

Two event objectives have been met:

* Board attendance at June 19 meeting at Center. Sheriff, Dana Young, Jamie Grant and Rick Valdez were present. 3-5 Board members attended.
* Board thank-you’s to summer camp volunteers. In progress: Two Board members have been bringing cupcakes and talking with volunteers each Friday.

Still outstanding:

* Thank-you’s to our community groups. Chorus, Carrollwood Winds, Carrollwood JukeBox, Jim Burge. ACTION: Evelyn will obtain more information. (Tabled to October)

**New ideas for community involvement**:   
Partner with Tampa’s large Indian community for cultural event? Alan requests name of Indian volunteer with whom he talked. We previously invited dance troupe here; Evelyn has a contact with whom she can reconnect.

African American arts groups: Evelyn will talk with possible contact in Fall.

Adjourned: 1 pm. Next meeting: October 4, 2018.