## Advocacy Committee, minutes June 7, 2018

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

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

**Stories for advocacy**. When we prepare for advocating, we need stories that show how the Center has impacted people. For example, a foster kid that comes to camp and opens up to staff… Every program has a story. Every production has a story. The stories make what we do come alive.  
  
What is the one story for all of them? We’re still trying to articulate clearly how we make a difference in people’s lives—how we satisfy the need for both personal growth and social connection.

Advocacy can start immediately, before strategic planning has coalesced our “vision” and plans.

**Political people to approach**: we have a list of political figures with summary information to use as a reference tool.   
ACTION: Evelyn will continue to update with arts voting record (see Senator Report Cards, Arts Advocacy group)) and with political affiliation. Alan will help as available.

**Statistics on Center** to use as reference when advocating. Many politicians ask hard questions about economic stimulus, growth.

* Best source of statistics is the yearly report.
* What we do for HOAs.

ACTION: Paul will email copy to Evelyn, who will post it with Board documents.

ACTION: Alan will work on making an internet site with all Board documents available on Center website for Board members.

**Advocacy events:**

1. **Meeting at Center June 19: meeting on public safety** **hosted by the Center**. Victor Crist, Dana Young and other officials will be there with Sheriff, chief deputies.

ACTION: All Board members who can should attend, wear their pins, schmooze.

1. **Center thank you to commissioners**. *Cancelled by Board on 6\_20\_2018*.
2. **Invitation to individual commissioners**. Start with the ones who are known to us. First will be Ken Hagan.   
   ACTION: Paul will plan this invitation: 2-3 Board members should join.
3. **Board thank-you’s to our community groups**. In person thank you’s, appear at performance or other gesture (to be decided).   
   ACTION; Evelyn will obtain more information about 5 groups to be directly thanked by Board:

* Chorus
* Carollwood Winds
* Carrollwood JukeBox
* Summer camp volunteers
* Jim Burge

Adjourned: 12:50 pm.

Next meeting: July 5. Noon.