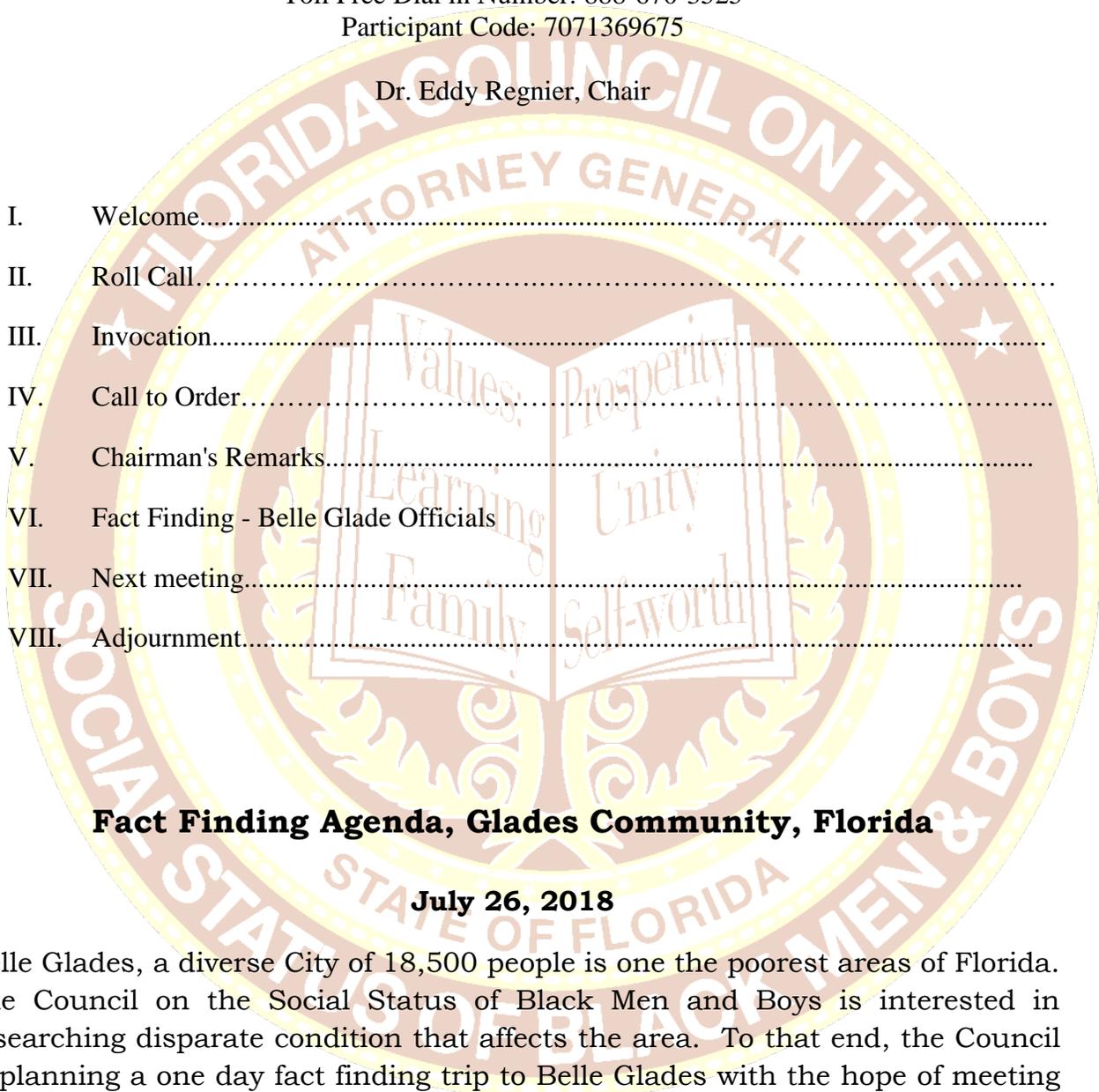


**FLORIDA COUNCIL ON THE SOCIAL STATUS OF BLACK MEN AND BOYS
AGENDA**

Belle Glade
Fact Finding Meeting/Teleconference
July 26, 2018
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
City Commission Chambers
110 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard West
Belle Glades, Florida 33430-3900

Toll Free Dial in Number: 888-670-3525
Participant Code: 7071369675

Dr. Eddy Regnier, Chair

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- I. Welcome.....
 - II. Roll Call.....
 - III. Invocation.....
 - IV. Call to Order.....
 - V. Chairman's Remarks.....
 - VI. Fact Finding - Belle Glade Officials
 - VII. Next meeting.....
 - VIII. Adjournment.....

Fact Finding Agenda, Glades Community, Florida

July 26, 2018

Belle Glades, a diverse City of 18,500 people is one the poorest areas of Florida. The Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys is interested in researching disparate condition that affects the area. To that end, the Council is planning a one day fact finding trip to Belle Glades with the hope of meeting with public and elected officials, medical, mental health and substance abuse professional and any interested parties to discuss the problem faced by the

FLORIDA COUNCIL ON THE SOCIAL STATUS OF BLACK MEN AND BOYS AGENDA

citizens of the area. The Council is bringing a small group of its members who have expertise in selected subject areas in order to facilitate discussion and improve our understanding of problems.

This small group of professionals will include the following: A member from the Surgeon General's (AG) office, two members from the Department of Children and Family (DCF) one of which will focus on mental health and substance abuse. A member from the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) will participate by phone.

Information obtained and contacts made during our fact finding trip will be used to schedule a larger and more meaningful meeting early next year to have a full discussion of the critical needs of Belle Glades with the hope of strategizing plans to remedy identified problems. The Council will disseminate information learned to resources such as the Florida Senate, House of Representative, Governor's Office and other resources that can help resolve identified needs in the Belle Glades.

In this important endeavor, the Council would like to get a better understanding of particular areas of problems identified bellow.

Health care disparities:

Meet with health care officials to learn about the following:

1. Barriers that prevent access to health care
2. Causes of Infant Mortality among African American women and women of color
3. The Council is also interested in researching health disparity related to poor nutrition, and lack of access to nutritious foods that impact health of pregnant women and possibly contribute to infant mortality rates.
4. Demographic information regarding HIV rates, age of onset, and barriers to treatment if any?
5. Demographic information regarding Diabetes, and Hypertension and sexually transmitted disease.
6. Additionally, the Council is interested in identifying barriers that prevent access to effective interventions for medical conditions that have been eliminated in other areas of the state?

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Mental Health and Substance use Disparities:

1. Is there demographic information regarding those who suffer from mental health and substance abuse
2. Availability of treatment for Substance abuse and Mental health services
3. Are there barriers to access services

Educational Disparities and Opportunities:

1. What is the experience of the school system regarding graduation rates
2. What happens to high school graduates in the area
3. If there is a relationship between dropout rates, economic opportunity and drug addiction
4. Employment disparities and the availability of resources for employment

Eddy Regnier, Ph.D., Chairman

The Florida Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys