

Young, Bernie C

From: Creech, Whitney
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 8:55 AM
To: Comments, BCC Agenda
Subject: FW: Statements for the Board regarding next meeting

Please add the below email to the next SLOE agenda item for the next BCC County Commission meeting.
Thanks.

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From: Kimberly Joly <kimberlyjoly2@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 7:59 AM
To: Seel, Karen <kseel@co.pinellas.fl.us>; Gerard, Pat <pgerard@co.pinellas.fl.us>
Cc: Long, Janet C <JanetCLong@co.pinellas.fl.us>; Burton, Barry <bburton@co.pinellas.fl.us>; Justice, Charlie <cjustice@co.pinellas.fl.us>; Eggers, Dave <deggers@co.pinellas.fl.us>; Peters, Kathleen <kpeters@co.pinellas.fl.us>; Welch, Kenneth <kwelch@co.pinellas.fl.us>
Subject: Statements for the Board regarding next meeting

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My name is Kimberly Joly and I reside on Larboard Lane in Largo. I would like to submit a couple of statements to the Board for consideration for your next Board meeting.

With regard to the "State of Emergency" currently enacted within our County, the "numbers" have been good for 4 consecutive weeks. Positive case numbers are low, deaths are low, and available beds are at around 18-20%. I would like to know what specific parameters is the Board looking for in order to lift this State of Emergency. What exactly has to happen? Is it when the numbers get to a certain threshold? If so, what is that number? Do you intend to keep this State of Emergency and the mask mandate for months, until a vaccine becomes available? Continuing with this month after month is not sustainable. At some point, we need to look at moving past this. I understand that perhaps this week or even next week may not be the appropriate time to make changes as it remains unseen how impactful the reopening of the schools will be in the community. However, at what point are you going to say we are no longer in an emergency situation? I believe that time has long passed. I also believe it is important for the Board to hear from a variety of experts such as mental health counselors or psychologists, reporting on the mental effects of Covid19 within the community. There are more aspects of this pandemic than what is being reported by the DOH.

Pinellas County Dashboard reports Health care capacity: Available beds at 18.2%, Available ICU beds 20.1%, Available ventilators 77.5%
<https://covid19.pinellascounty.org/dashboard/>

Pinellas reports fourth consecutive week of fewer new COVID-19 cases:
https://www.tbnweekly.com/coronavirus/article_fe9f4aba-dfe0-11ea-8996-ebe7a95fd381.html

The psychological impact of COVID-19 on the mental health in the general population:

<https://academic.oup.com/qjmed/article/113/8/531/5860841>

Additionally, I would like to say for the record how inappropriate it is for Commissioner Welch to continue to display a background image promoting the Black Lives Matter organization. Of course black lives matter. My husband is a Haitian American and our 3 boys are multiracial and multicultural. Their lives matter. No one should dispute or disagree with this statement. However, the BLM as an organization is marxist and goes against the American values our country was founded upon and any reference to it is a sign of support of what the organization stands for. Unfortunately, in this current climate, the words Black Lives Matter references this organization whether it is intended to or not. For a County Commissioner to continue to show support for this week after week, even after some concern from the public and the Board has been raised regarding it, is appalling and offensive. If the Board intends to continue their meetings virtually, I would ask the Board to clarify what background image is appropriate to be used by all Commissioners.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this statement to the Board. I continue to pray for each of you during these unprecedented times.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Joly
727-637-8094