Florida Faith and Community Advisory Council – Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 7, 2026, 2:00pm-4:00pm

Location:

Florida Capital Senate building, Room 110
Tallahassee, FL

Note: The following is a summary of the highlights of the proceedings and is not intended to be construed as a transcript.

ATTENDANCE SUMMARY

Florida Faith and Community Advisory Council Members in attendance:

- Jason Cullum – Chair
- Mr. Chad Garmon
- Pastor Greg Peters
- Pastor Pam Olsen
- Mr. Calvin Martin
- Mrs. Megan Rose
- Mr. Chad Poppell
- Pastor Scott George
- Mr. Michael Sheedy
- Secretary Michelle Branham
- Mr. Joe Knittig
- Rabbi Yosef Weinstock - Virtual
- Pastor Gerard Duncan - Virtual

Florida Faith and Community Advisory Council Members unable to attend:

- Pastor Rob Pacienza
- Mr. Erik Dellenback
- Mr. Mel Ponder
- Senator Kelli Stargel – Vice Chair
- Dr. Jerry Haag
- Mr. Mike Watkins
- Pastor Tom Messer
- Pastor Marylin Rivera
- Mr. Jake Smith

FLORIDA
Faith & Community
ADVISORY COUNCIL

PROCEEDINGS

Agenda Item	Summary
Call to Order and Roll Call	• Chair Cullum called the meeting to order (2:10 pm). • Roll called by Secretary Branham—quorum present with 13 members in attendance.
Speaker: Commissioner Anastasios Kamoutsas	• Commissioner Kamoutsas – spoke on the updated guidance from the federal administration governing prayer and religious expression.
Chairman's Report Update	• Chair Cullum read a summary statement including part of the council statute to remind everyone why the council exists. • Chair Cullum announced the resignation of Tess Dewhirst from the council. • Chair Cullum highlighted CM Peter's work in supporting the First Lady's Pastor Luncheons, and CM Martin for his work on the Annual Faith-based Mental Health Conference with CM Weinstock and CM Rivera.
GFCI Report	• Secretary Branham gave updates on staffing within the GFCI Office, the meaning behind the First Lady Pastor Luncheons, and the growth of CarePortal in Florida. • Secretary Branham announced the June 1st Helping Our Pastor's Engage CarePortal training event.

Council Discussion	• Chair Cullum opened the discussion about the council's two-year strategic plan.
	  ○ CM Poppell shared discussions with various agency heads and is solidifying relations with them and the council and hearing about areas where partnership and growth can occur.
	  ○ CM Peters showed work being done on the new council website.
	  ○ CM Martin shared on making the council more available to other council members and a mentor and onboarding program for new council members.

Public Comment	• No public comments made

Closing	• Chair Cullum
	  ○ Motion to adjourn: CM Garmon
	  ○ Seconded: CM Martin
	• Meeting adjourned. (3:45 pm)

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