FLORIDA
OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM
ADVOCATING FOR QUALITY LONG-TERM CARE

MEETING MINUTES

South Central
District 17
August 13th 2026
01:00pm
Bartow Public Library 2150 S Broadway Ave, Bartow Fl

COUNCIL MEMBERS			
Kathy Knowles	Present ☒	Elaine Paradise-Comeau	Present ☐
Alexander Philiphose	Present ☒	Shannon Bippen	Present ☐
Jim Lynch	Present ☒	Barbara Ardell	Present ☐
Sidneyse Emmanuels Louis	Present ☐		Present ☐
Nichole Robertson	Present ☐		Present ☐
Wanda Harrison	Present ☐		Present ☐
Selena Andres	Present ☒		Present ☐
Susan Trotter	Present ☒		Present ☐
Sara Munoz	Present ☒		Present ☐

GUEST NAME	ORGANIZATION
Lee Threats	Senior Connection Center

OPEN SESSION

- Called to order at 1:00 Pm Quorum Established: ☒ Yes ☐ No
- Open Session Statement Selena Andres Minutes Approved: ☒ Yes ☐ No

UPDATES/REPORTS

No New Updates.
Open Session statement was read by Selena Andres Administrative Assistant

TRAINING

- Senior Connection representative Lee spoke about how Senior Connection center is a private, not for profit organization that provides services and resources for older adults, caregivers and individuals with disabilities. Their main focus is on Elder Helpline Assessments for Funded Services, Medicare Counseling, Health and Wellness Classes, Elder Abuse Prevention. Information

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next open council meeting is scheduled for November 12th at 1:00pm at 2150 S Broadway Ave, Bartow Fl

Public comments

No Public Comments.

ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting adjourned at 3:00pm