

City of Wilton Manors
Advisory Board



Life's Just Better Here

Community Affairs Advisory Board
Goals and Objectives for 2025-2026

Mission:

The Mission of the Community Affairs Advisory Board is to provide a vehicle to maintain a high quality of life through greater citizen participation by providing a conduit for cooperation and communication between the city commission and community; by making recommendations to the commission as appropriate of ideas for community improvement, civic projects and supporting various community events through CAAB funding, participation or full production.

Members: Gene Stinson, Chair Carvelle Estriplet, Vice Chair
Members at large: Stuart Bowers, Joanne Diederich, Jose Guzzardi, William Richardson,
Mia Rodrigues
Johnnie Goodnight, Staff Liaison & CAAB Secretary

2024-2025 Accomplishments

- Promoted (2024) LGBTQ+ History Month program; CAAB selected honoree The Pride Center at Equality Park, with proclamation presentations at the Commission Meeting on October 8, 2024.
- Reviewed and updated nomination forms for Women’s History Month, Black History Month, and the Skip Stadnik Community Spirit award. Established new scoring process and score sheets to better rate nominees.
- Participated in the December 2024 Holiday Lighting event by leading the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Promoted Black History Month program. CAAB reviewed nominations and made the recommendation of honorees to the Commission. The Commission selected New Era Masonic Lodge and Jameer Baptiste, who were presented with proclamations at The Cookout on Saturday, February 1, and Commission Meeting of February 11.
- Promoted Women’s History Month program. CAAB reviewed nominations and made the recommendation of honorees to the Commission. The Commission selected Kristen Browde, Rebecca Bradley, Dr. Susan Gritz, and Roberta Moore as the honorees and presented city proclamations at the Commission Meeting on March 11, 2025.
- Promoted CAAB’s annual Skip Stadnik Community Spirit Awards (call for nominations) to honor individual(s) and/or business/organization(s) for their volunteer efforts of 2024. The honoree was Robert Hadley. This was announced with presentation of City Proclamations at the Volunteer Appreciation Reception of April 24, 2025.
- Completed update of the City’s Senior Resource Guide – issued in Spring (March, April, May) 2025 Town Crier.
- Welcomed new CAAB members Stuart Bowers, Carvelle Estriplet (returning), Jose Guzzardi, and William Richardson (returning) September 1, 2025. Chair/Vice Chair/Secretary appointments were made at the 9/3/25 meeting with Gene Stinson as Chair, Carvelle Estriplet as Vice Chair, and Johnnie Goodnight as Secretary.
- Promoted (2025) Hispanic Heritage Month program. CAAB selected honoree Daniel Sedano with Proclamation presentation at the Commission Meeting on September 25, 2025.
- Promoted (2025) LGBTQ+ History Month program. CAAB selected honoree Ronnie Larsen for fiscal year 2025/2026 with City Proclamation planned for the October 14 Commission Meeting.

2025-2026 Goals and Objectives/ Activities

- Complete projects assigned by the City Commission – such as the past projects of recommending a city definition of diversity and steps to increase diversity on city boards and committees and recommending a process to identify honorees for Black/Women’s History Month.
- Enhance the board's advisory role by proactively identifying one key community concern not currently on the City's immediate agenda. The board will research this issue and present a formal, data-supported recommendation to the City Commission by the end of the fiscal year (September 30, 2026).
- Brainstorm to improve promotion of call for History Month honoree nominations and establish procedures. For example, reach out to Latino Salud for nominations for Hispanic Heritage Month, Pride Center and other LGBTQ+ organizations for LGBTQ+ History Month nominations, and other organizations supporting these groups and others for Women’s History Month (Lesbian Thespians, EmpowerHER, Sage Women, Women with Pride (Pride Center), Women in Network, etc.), and Black History Month (Ujima Men’s Collective, Onyx Deep South (ODS), HotSpots, and Legacy Builders Consulting (producer of Caribbean PrideFête event). Reach out to Neighborhood Associations for Skip Stadnik Community Spirit Award honoree nominations. Increase community engagement with the honoree programs to ensure a diverse and robust pool of candidates. The board will aim to receive at least 7 unique, valid nominations in each honoree program for the 2025-2026 cycle. This effort will be supported by a targeted promotional plan, including a minimum of three dedicated social media posts published by the city for each nomination period.
- Support various community events through CAAB sponsorship, funding, participation, or full production, and recommend new events to the city as appropriate (such as bike safety, public art installations, food festivals, etc.). Review the current funding criteria and modify if needed, with draft criteria to be created and presented for board review, with the objective of final vote for approval in early 2026.
- Continue to promote/hold presentations of services available to Wilton Manors residents and partner to better communicate the availability of these services to our residents.
- Promotion/recommendation of 2026 Black (February)/Women’s (March) History Month honorees.
- Promotion/selection of the 2026 Skip Stadnik Community Spirit Award honorees (in April 2026, for 2025 volunteerism).
- Promotion/selection of honoree(s) for 2026 Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15 – October 15, 2026).
- Promotion/selection of honoree(s) for 2026 LGBTQ+ History Month, October 2026.
- Establish a formal CAAB Liaison Program to foster direct, ongoing communication with community groups. By the meeting of December 3, 2025, a board member will be assigned as a primary liaison to at least one Neighborhood Association. Liaisons will be responsible for contacting their assigned group a minimum of twice during the fiscal year and providing a brief report back to the board during 'Board Member Reports'.
- Successfully implement and assess the effectiveness of the newly adopted community outreach script. Following its adoption, the board will ensure the script's framework is used for all official community presentations. A formal review of the script's effectiveness, including feedback from board members, will be placed on the agenda for the June 3, 2026, meeting to make any necessary improvements for the following year.