

Countywide Community Revitalization Team

Meeting of June 9, 2009
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Palm Beach County Vista Center, Room 1E-60

Minutes

Present:

Bobbi Boynton, P.B.C. Code Enforcement
Shirley Cantelo, Old Trail Resident
Carol Clinton, Lake Worth West Resident Planning Group
Victor Conlin, Plantation Estates Resident
Deputy R. DeMarco, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office
Ruth Moguillansky-De Rose, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
Deputy Malora Duplantis, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office
Ed Frazier, Old Trail Resident
Steven Futch, Plantation Estates Resident
Duane Gainer, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
Tim Granowitz, P.B.C. Parks & Recreation
Andy Hartman, P.B.C. Engineering
Anne Helfant, P.B.C. Attorney's Office
Sergeant J. Hightower, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office
Brendhan Horne, Royal Palm Estates Resident
Kathy King, Lake Worth West Resident Planning Group
Marion Kirkwood, Old Trail Resident
Dave Kouns, Roan Lane/Elmwood Estates Resident
Captain Jeff Lindskoog, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office
Ilene Long, Old Trail Resident
Deputy R. Maione P.B.C. Sheriff's Office
Michael Marquis, P.B.C. Engineering
Chrystal Mathews, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
Roy McGinnis, PACE EH/Department of Health
Pam Nolan, P.B.C. Economic Development Office
Alex Nunes, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office
Reverend Wayne Padgett, Gramercy Park
Sylvia Sharps, P.B.C. Water Utilities Department
Ed Summerlin, Plantation Estates Resident
Houston Tate, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
Deputy Dwayne Thomas, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office
Thomas Totz, Plantation Estates Community Association
Gail Vorpagel, P.B.C. Code Enforcement
Deputy M. Walsh, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office
Dean Wells, P.B.C. Building Division

Claudia Williams, Schall Landing Resident
Rachel Williams, Gramercy Park Resident
Roland Williams, P.B.C. Community Services

I. Welcome and Introduction:

Mr. Gainer welcomed the group on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, County Administration, and the Office of Community Revitalization to this month's Countywide Community Revitalization Team (CCRT) meeting. He introduced himself and asked meeting participants to state their name, organization and/or neighborhood represented for the record.

II. Review of Follow Ups:

A memo summarizing items discussed at the previous CCRT meeting was distributed by William Wynn. Mr. Gainer asked if anyone in attendance was expecting information not contained in the memo. No one responded.

III. Presentation: Dr. Roland Williams, Department of Community Services. LIHEAP Initiative

- The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is designed to assist low income households, particularly those with the lowest incomes who use a high proportion of their income to pay for home energy, to meet their immediate home energy needs. The mission of the department is "To enhance and improve the health, welfare and quality of life in Palm Beach County by investing in the potentials of families and individuals in need". In 2008, the program received \$1.2 million dollars. In 2009, the program received \$4.5 million. Handouts were distributed by Dr. Williams prior to his power point presentation (see attached). A brief question and answer period followed the presentation.

IV. Department Updates:

Pam Nolan, Economic Development Office (EDO) representative, reported on the following:

- EDO is working with business owners and the City of Pahokee on a Brownfield Economic Development Initiative Grant and a HUD Section 108 Loan Program to revitalize the downtown area;
- EDO is also working on a energy grant application called the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant Program; there are nine project activities.

Tim Granowitz, Parks representative, reported on the following:

- Working with Old Trail to secure a pavilion (NPG) for their park; may need additional funds.
- Westgate Splash pad bid received; completion is 8 or 9 months away.
- Watergate park design is 90% complete;

Sylvia Sharps, Water Utilities Department (WUD) representative reported on the following:

- Completed their CWIP Report and forwarded it to Mrs. DeRose and Mr. Tate;
- The Glades Utility Authority (GUA) concept is currently being voted on by the cities and should go before the BCC for approval on June 16th;

Mr. Gainer stated that the residents of Canal Point had written a letter voicing their support for the GUA.

Michael Marquis, Engineering (ENG) representative, reported on the following:

- Cinquez Park has been bid and will be go to the BCC for contract award/property owner assessment on July 21st. The Public Information Meeting will be held on July 7th.
- Sun Court bids open on June 23rd;
- Navarre Road will be the next project;
- “A” Street is being done with CDBG funds;
- Sylvan Lane and Coconut Road design plans are 65% complete.

Capt. Lindskoog, Palm Beach Sheriff’s Office (PBSO) representative, reported on the following:

- Community Policing is alive and well at PBSO even though it has been de-centralized;
- Two “new” programs being instituted by PBSO are Linking Communities and Business Partnership; PBSO will do a presentation on these programs at a future CCRT Meeting.
- Mentioned the PBSO website for neighborhoods.

A brief discussion ensued regarding “community policing”. Mrs. De Rose asked Capt. Lindskoog if she could meet with him to go over the PBSO websites and see how these sites and OCR efforts with Neighborhood Link could be coordinated. Capt. Lindskoog agreed.

V. OCR Staff Reports:

Chrystal Mathews, OCR staff, reported on the following:

- Neighborhood Partnership Grant (NPG) applications are due on June 19th by 5:00 pm for those who submitted Letters of Intent.

Mr. Gainer stated that the Putting Kids First agenda item would go before the BCC on July 7th.

Mr. Tate thanked Ms. LaToya Ricketts for her efforts with OCR. Ms. Ricketts now works for Housing and Community Development (HCD). The group applauded.

Mr. Gainer asked if there were any more OCR staff reports. There were none.

VI. Resident Comments:

Brendhan Horne, Royal Palm Estates (RPE) representative, reported on the following:

- Recently held 1st meeting as a Florida Not-For-Profit;
- Again thanked Sgt. Hightower and Dep. Tramonte for their efforts;
- Requested an update on streetlights and sidewalks for the west side of canal;
- Requested information on all County owned properties which were part of the buyout for the Southern Blvd. Expansion project.

Kathy King, Lake Worth West (LWW) representative, reported on the following:

- On May 20th held their 12th Annual Meeting; new Board members elected include Home Depot and JP Morgan Chase.
- Armed Forces Day had 53 attendees.
- Movie in the Park will be held on June 26th (High School Musical 2).
- Harmony in the Streets Camp has 35 kids.

Illene Long, Old Trail representative, reported on the following:

- Thanked Joanna Aiken and SWA for putting up the “No Dumping” signs so quickly;
- Requested assistance from the Health Dept. with feral cats at 4717 Orlando Avenue;
- Requested assistance from Code Enforcement with illegal signs related to the feral cats.

Rachel Williams, Gramercy Park representative, reported on the following:

- Mrs. Williams is pleased to announce that they have received their neighborhood sign (NPG); they will have a ribbon cutting ceremony on Saturday, June 13th, at 11:00 am;
- Harmony in the Streets Camp (PBSO) begins Monday, June 15th (25 kids);
- Requested an update on the streetlight project; the update was provided by Mr. Tate

Mr. Granowitz requested assistance from OCR/CCRT in moving the Gramercy Park project forward (property acquisition and a programming partner).

Capt. Lindskoog asked that PBSO be kept up to date on the progress of the park/community center for Gramercy Park.

Mr. Tate stated that OCR is excited to offer a new series of innovative CCRT Meetings “CCRT Community Connection Meetings”. The new agendas’ mission is to enhance community civic engagement and public participation. The agenda will be divided into three (3) segments:

1. Commissioner Forum – County Commissioners will be invited to discuss pre selected questions in their district
2. Mini Workshop – This session is facilitated using a variety of innovative lectures and guest speakers.
3. Staff/Department Updates

- August 11, 2009 CCRT Community Connection Meeting
Commissioner Forum: Commissioner Shelly Vana
Mini Workshop – will offer Maiselin Ross, University of Florida, Cooperative Extension and will present, Managing Your Money In Tough Times
- October 13, 2009 CCRT Community Connection Meeting
Commissioner Forum: Chairman Jeff Koons
Mini Workshop: TBD

Ed Summerlin, Plantation Estates representative, reported on the following:

- Requested clarification on the status of community policing and more presence from PBSO. Capt. Lindskoog responded that community policing is alive and well, and gave a brief description current procedures;
- Requested an update on streetlights; Mr. Tate asked Mr. Summerlin for his contact information and agreed to contact him after speaking with Mr. Reid.

Mr. Gainer asked if there were anymore resident comments.

- Dave Kouns, Roan Lane/Elmwood Estates resident, recently attended a meeting with Commissioner Marcus and Land Design South in reference to a vacant lot in their neighborhood; a local church is attempting to purchase the land also;
- Crime is down in his neighborhood; thank you to PBSO.

Mr. Gainer asked if there were anymore resident comments.

- Dep. Duplantis thanked everyone that assisted her with NPG that allowed for homes to be painted in Pahokee; Dep. Duplantis has been reassigned to the Village of Wellington.

Mr. Tate thanked Dep. Duplantis for efforts in the Glades and PBSO in general.

Mr. Gainer asked if there were any more questions or comments. There were none.

VII. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:43 am.

The next meeting will be on July 14th.

Minutes prepared by: Duane R. Gainer, B.P.M, Senior Planner _____

Approved by: Houston Tate, Director _____