



PALM BEACH COUNTY OFFICE OF COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION

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COUNTYWIDE COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION TEAM MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Title:	Countywide Community Revitalization Team Meeting
Facilitator:	Houston Tate, OCR Division Director
Minutes Prepared by:	William Wynn, OCR Senior Planner
Date/Time:	March 18, 2025
Location:	2300 N Jog Rd., Room 1E-60, West Palm Beach, FL 33411

MEETING ATTENDANCE

1. Angela Cleare	Haverhill East Resident
2. Angelique Pickett	PBC Criminal Justice Commission
3. Anna Stewart	Drowning Prevention of PBC
4. Audley Reid	PBC OCR
5. Chrystal Mathews	PBC OCR
6. Cyndi Longley	PBC Cooperative Extension Service
7. Deputy J. Williams	PBSO
8. Doris Davis	PBC Community Services Department
9. Elizabeth Harfmann	PBC Community Services Department
10. Fadi Nassar	PBC Traffic Engineering
11. George Schott	PBC OCR
12. Houston Tate	PBC OCR
13. Isabella Watts	Rep. Weinberger District Aide
14. Joanna Aiken	SWA Retired
15. Joyell Shaw	School District of PBC
16. Katharine King	CAM Estates Resident
17. Lana Blackman	SWA
18. Lana Martinez	San Castle Resident
19. Lorna Stamp	Gramercy Park Resident
20. Mai Bui	Westgate CRA
21. Maria Fernandez	Epilepsy Alliance Florida
22. Michael Gauger	PBSO Retired
23. Myron Baa	Gramercy Park Resident
24. Natalie Balaguer	ARM Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge
25. Niccole Smith	Area Agency on Aging of Palm Beach/Treasure Coast, Inc.
26. Nicole Prieto	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service ARM Loxahatchee Nat'l Wildlife Refuge
27. Patricia Valdeperas	Family Impact PBC
28. Paul Pickett	PBC Code Enforcement
29. Rae Milmore	ARM Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge
30. Richard Sena	PBC Attorney's Office
31. Robert King	CAM Estates Resident
32. Ruth Moguillansky	PBC OCR
33. Stefania Russell	PBC HED

34. Susan Foley	PBC Behavioral Health Coalition
35. Tenecia Sproull	CAM Estates Resident
36. William Wynn	PBC OCR

MEETING MINUTES

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Houston Tate, OCR Division Director, called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. CCRT members, OCR staff, and meeting attendees introduced themselves.

II. PRESENTATION

Houston Tate, OCR Division Director, introduced the presenter, **Doris Davis, Training Program Coordinator with Palm Beach County Community Services Department (CSD)**, as our guest speaker. Ms. Davis discussed the Community Services Department: "Helping People Build Better Communities."

Ms. Davis began her presentation by introducing herself and the Community Services Department executive and leadership teams.

The CSD has six advisory boards.

1. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, SUBSTANCE USE, and CO-OCCURRING DISORDER (BHSUCOD)
2. CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (CAC)
3. COMMUNITY ACTION ADVISORY BOARD (CAAB)
4. HIV CARE COUNCIL
5. HOMELESS ADVISORY BOARD (HAB)
6. VETERAN ADVISORY BOARD

Ms. Davis stated that all six boards have input into the services Community Services provides.

Health and Human Services Element

- The purpose of the HHS Element is to assist in the development of an infrastructure to ensure the availability of health and human services sufficient to protect the health, safety, and welfare of Palm Beach County residents. There are several domains within this element. Palm Beach County is not the lead agency and is not primarily responsible for every domain. The Element identifies the County's role in funding, providing, and/or supporting the delivery of health and human services. It also defines the County's relationship with other funders and providers of services to maximize the resources and benefits available to Palm Beach County residents.

CSD Strategic Priorities

1. Economic Development
2. Housing Development
3. Unsheltered Residents
4. Public Safety
5. Substance Use & Behavioral Disorders

Three Major CSD Initiatives

1. Securing Our Future Initiative www.SecuringOurFuturePBC.org
2. Leading The Way Home www.TheHomelessPlan.org
3. Facing The Crisis www.FacingTheCrisis.org

Services provided to Seniors and Veterans

1. Senior Centers
2. Nutrition Program
3. Volunteers
4. Adult Day Care
5. In-Home Services/Case Management
6. Outreach
7. Emergency Home Energy Assistance for the Elderly (EHEAP)
8. Adult Protective Services
9. Veteran Claims
10. Veteran Resource Coordination

Behavioral Health & Substance Use Disorders Support Services

1. Recovery Community Centers
2. Addiction Stabilization Center
3. Care Coordination
4. Recovery Leadership Academy

HIV Support Services

1. Ryan White Program
2. Minority AIDS Initiative
3. Housing Opportunities for People with HIV/AIDS
4. Ending the HIV Epidemic
5. Syringe Services/Needle Exchange Program

Human Services and Community Action

Human Services and Community Action Three Core Programs

1. Homeless Intervention,
2. Homeless Prevention/Housing Stability
3. Securing our Future- Economic Mobility Program

The CSD provide direct services and has a network of more than 200 agencies of public and nonprofit sector agencies that provide an array of different services, based on the needs of families and the community.

The CARES Treasury funding and Emergency Rental Programs

These programs provided rental assistance, utility assistance and food to eligible Palm Beach County residents who have experienced loss of income, reduction in hours, or unemployment as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the Pandemic, the CSD has served more than 30,000 residents and disbursed close to 150 million in assistance.

* A copy of the full presentation is included as an attachment.

Questions/Comments

- Susan Foley with PBC Behavioral Health Coalition inquired what is the current status of the ASU at JFK North. Ms. Davis replied that she does not have the answer and would have to follow up on this question. Ms. Davis gave her email for Ms. Foley to contact her.
- Tenecia Sproull, CAM Estates resident asked how long can people live in the cottages. Ms. Davis replied as of now they can stay for two year. The next thing is getting them ready for home ownership.
- Fadi Nassar, PBC Traffic Engineering stated that he deals with traffic safety, pedestrian and bicycle crashes are 1 % of the total crashes they are 50 % of the serious crashes. The homeless are overrepresented in these crashes. How can Traffic work with the CSD? Ms. Davis replied that one of the things is Traffic can join the CSD portal and every time they encounter a homeless person the person's description information can be added to the system.

The hot team will go out and locate that person to engage them, trying to give them to accept

- services or to help them get on the list to get into shelters so we can get them off the street.
- Fadi Nassar, PBC Traffic Engineering asked what percentage of the panhandlers in PBC are homeless. Ms. Davis replied she did not have this information; she would have to follow up. Whenever staff encounter someone on the street and ask if they are homeless, if they are they are given a homeless card that gives them information on how to contact the CSD. The person is entered into the CSD system. The hot team will go out to that person and engage them to try to see if they are homeless and get them on the CSD homeless list.
- Joyell Shaw with the School District of PBC asked about the hot teams and when they going out. If the hot team tries to get the homeless to come to the center, does CSD provide transportation? How does the hot team assist with that? Ms. Davis replied that CSD collaborates with Palm Tran and provides bus passes. If a person needs to come into the center, CSD does have vans to transport. Ms. Davis advised that she would find out more information. Ms. Shaw advised that she would like to connect because of the populations around the schools for safety reasons.

III. DEPARTMENT UPDATES

- Daniel Duenas, PBC Parks & Recreation
 - The Mack Bernard Park community center, formerly the Gramercy Park community center, is still under construction. Due to construction delays, the new completion date is mid-July 2025.
 - Community Block Development Grant Applications have been recently submitted for shade structures for the playgrounds at the following CCRT area neighborhood parks.
 - Affron Park
 - Lake Worth West Park
 - Sanders Drive Park
- Anna Stewart, Drowning Prevention of PBC
 - April is drowning prevention awareness month in PBC. Drowning Prevention will be getting a proclamation on April 1st, April Pools Day.
 - Drowning Prevention is offering to give free land-based water safety presentations to HOAs, businesses, schools, and other groups.
<https://survey.pbcgov.com/s3/DPC-Presentation-Request-Form>
 - “How to Escape a Sinking Vehicle” Presentation
 - ABCDs of Water Safety Presentation
 - On March 1st, the free and reduced swim classes for children ages 2 through 12 began. <https://discover.pbcgov.org/drowningprevention/Pages/FreeLessons.aspx>
- Lana Blackman, SWA
 - SWA Runaway 5k Run/Walk on April 5th starting at 7:30 am
 - The Recycled Paint Program is a one-time donation of exterior latex recycled paint that is available for qualified homeowners who live in a single-family home. Apply at <https://swa.org/formcenter/customer-service-4/recycled-paint-donation-program-applicat-89>
 - Paint Your Heart Out Palm Beach County and Rebuilding Together of the Palm Beaches are actively working to revitalize homes.
 - Upcoming projects in the following CCRT areas
 1. March 1st - painted a home in Gramercy Park
 2. March 5th - painted a home in Gramercy Park
 3. March 22nd – will be painting a home in Forest Hill Village South
 4. April 11th – will be painting a home in Gramercy Park
 - For applications or to volunteer, email lblackman@swa.org or lmoreno@swa.org or call, 561-697-2700, ext. 4701 or 4717.
 - SWA twice a year has Lithium Battery Collection & Document Shredding Events. The next event will be August 9, 2025, from 8 am to 12 pm at 6751 Jog Rd., West

- Stefania Russell, PBC HED
 - The HED Strategic Planning section is currently working on its 5-year consolidated plan.
 - Public meetings will be held on March 18th and 19th to discuss the 5-year consolidated plan and the one-year action plan.
 - Foreclosure Prevention Program, contact the Mortgage and Housing Investments Division, located at 100 Australian Avenue, 5th Floor, West Palm Beach, FL, or by phone at (561) 233-3600 (Receptionist)
- Fadi Nassar, PBC Traffic Engineering
 - Traffic Engineering is currently working on speed hump projects with Audley Reid, OCR Senior Planner.
- Joyell Shaw, School District of PBC
 - Feel free to contact her with any school-related inquiries.
Joyell.shaw@palmbeachschools.org
- Angelique Pickett, PBC Criminal Justice Commission (CJC)
 - Registration is open now for the upcoming Citizen's Criminal Justice Academy to be held on Wednesdays, from March 26 - May 14, 2025
 - Class meets 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
 - West Palm Beach Police Department
 - 600 Banyan Blvd., West Palm Beach, Florida
Rosalind Murray, CJC Community Engagement Coordinator
301 North Olive Avenue, Room 1001
West Palm Beach, FL 33401
(561)355-4943 • FAX: (561) 355-4941
Email: RMurray@pbc.gov

IV. OCR UPDATE

- George Schott
 - Reminded everyone about the 2025 Back to School PBC! event
 - Registration Deadline Date: Thursday, May 1, 2025,
 - Event Date: Saturday, July 26, 2025
 - Register at www.backtoschoolpbc.org

V. UPDATE

- Susan Foley, Palm Beach County Behavioral Health Coalition (PBCBHC)
 - PBCBHC aims to stop the Start of substance use in our community and support healthy behavioral health. Prevention@pbcbhc.org.
 - The PBCBHC thanks OCR for support in outreach invitations, printing prevention stickers, and building a healthier community.
 - The PBCBHC plans to participate in the Back To School PBC! event and would love to have the newest poster stickers printed again - if possible.
- Cyndi Longley, PBC Cooperative Extension Service
 - UF/IFAS Extension is currently in full swing with homebuyer education classes. The classes are 8 hours and participants receive a certificate of completion after completing the class. HUD recognizes the certificate. The next class is scheduled on April 17th and 24th 5 PM- 9 PM, virtually.
 - A Take Control of Your Money series for Renters will be upcoming. Dates TBD.

VI. RESIDENT QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

- Angela Cleare, Haverhill East Resident
 - Ms. Cleare asked for an update on the homeless issue in the area. Houston Tate

replied that OCR contacted PBSO regarding addressing the homeless population, and PBSO has assigned their Homeless Deputy to coordinate PBSO's action plans. Deputy Darrell Russian, Homeless Intervention Team at PBSO is the contact. Doris Davis with CSD asked for the location of the homeless issue so that her department can send out their hot team to make contact with the homeless in this area. Ms. Cleare replied the location is in the rear of the Good Samaritan Medical Center, 5028 Okeechobee Blvd.

- Houston Tate advised Ms. Cleare that the canal with the overgrown vegetation is not the responsibility of the county. A meeting will be held soon to find out what government entity is responsible for the canal.
- Ms. Cleare stated that she contacted FPL about the streetlights being on Haverhill Rd. between Okeechobee Blvd and Elmhurst Rd. She advised that the lights are now working.
- Ms. Cleare asked for an update on the streetlight project. William Wynn replied the last update from FPL estimates the completion timeframe to be closer to the end of May to mid-June 2025.
- Katharine King, CAM Estates resident
 - Ms. King inquired about the status of the sidewalk project in CAM Estates. Fadi Nassar with county engineering replied that the sidewalk is scheduled for completion sometime this year.
 - Ms. King inquired about the status of the tree on the north side of Belvedere Rd at the main entrance to CAM Estates that needs to be trimmed. She believes the tree is on county property and if so she is requesting that the county have it trimmed. Mr. Tate advised that OCR would follow up with PBC Road and Bridge on this matter and advise Ms. King of the outcome.
 - Ms. King inquired about lighting. She advised that Chrystal Mathews had sent an email of solar lighting pictures. Houston Tate advised that the OCR is looking into alternate lighting for areas that have underground utilities.
- Lana Martinez, San Castle Resident
 - Ms. Martinez inquired about the power pole in San Castle that has the solar panel and cameras on it. She would like to know what it is for exactly. PBSO advised that might be a tag reader, but not sure.
 - Ms. Martinez inquired about the retention pond that is not being well maintained in the area. Houston Tate replied that the retention pond is within the city of Boynton Beach not in the county. The city of Boynton Beach has a grant for around 20 million dollars or so that they have to utilize. Mr. Tate stated that the city would have to let the county know what the plans are for the 20 million and will the maintenance of the retention pond be included. The county will have to wait and see.
- Tenecia Sproull, CAM Estates Resident
 - Ms. Sproull thanked the county for keeping the common areas of the community maintained.
- Myron Baa, Gramercy Park Resident
 - Mr. Baa stated he contacted OCR to report that the groundwork during the construction of the Mack Bernard Park, caused significant vibrations, which led to cracks forming in his hallway ceiling. Houston Tate replied that he forwarded the complaint to the appropriate department and the issue was taken care of. Mr. Baa thanked the CCRT for handling this issue for him with promptness.

The meeting adjourned at 11:38 a.m.

Approved by: Houston L. Tate, OCR Director _____