

**Glades Technical Advisory Committee Meeting  
10/25/01 Belle Glade City Hall**

**PARTICIPANTS:** Doug Chozianin, Sylvia Cohen (FAU), Karis Engle, Dale Erickson (Lyn-Dale Fruit and Gifts), Roswell Harrington (Sam's Investment Corp.), Michael Jackson, Herb Marlowe (Analytica, Inc.), Pam Nolan, Ken Schenck, Carl Seibert, Michael Sklar, Alice Thompson

**STAFF:** Vicki E. Silver, AICP, Chair

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE**

Ms. Nolan gave an overview of the federally funded area wide business plan being prepared by Analytica consultants, and she introduced one of the consultants, Herb Marlowe. Mr. Marlowe explained that interviews with stakeholders will take place in November and December, the range of projects will be identified, and an economic summit will be held in January to rate projects' feasibility using set criteria. The goal is to surface highly viable economic development projects, so that National Development Council can work with 4 projects to complete them by March. Ms. Nolan also noted that the Florida's Heartland Rural Economic Development Initiative was awarded a state Toolkit grant and their Executive Director Betty Neale will meet with all the lakeside communities soon to discuss various opportunities such as expanding Enterprise Zone boundaries.

**PAHOKEE**

Mr. Schenck reported that he has met with state staff regarding approval of a sub-lease to redevelop the Marina/Campground, and it looks promising. A development team is still considering renovating or rebuilding on the site of, the former hospital for teacher residences. Other uses being explored for this site include a prison nursing home. Mr. Chozianin reported that his aquaculture facility has 80% of its needed financing.

**FAU OKEECHOBEE DIKE EVACUATION AND SHELTERING PLAN**

Ms. Cohen reported that the FAU/FIU Joint Center for Environmental and Urban Problems has been preparing an Evacuation and Sheltering Plan under contract to Palm Beach County through a state grant. The contract stems from a 1998-99 report by the Army Corps of Engineers that concluded the Herbert Hoover Dike could be breached by high water; the final engineering report is due in December or January, following which mitigation, construction, and repair will follow. The Plan will be completed by June 2002, and it involves much public outreach and participation. The next meeting is 11/14 at 10 am at PBCC Glades Campus. An advisory committee may meet quarterly and subgroups will work on specific issues such as evacuation and shelter and public outreach.

**BELLE GLADE**

The City's housing resource fair cosponsored with HUD, dealing with financing and availability of affordable housing, attracted 20 vendors and 150 attendees. The second phase demolition of downtown derelict buildings is underway, to be completed by the end of November. The beautification program is also underway, and meetings are being organized for clean up of various areas of the city. An infill program will begin by the end of December. A successful Tri-Cities recreation meeting was held with city and County participants forming partnerships to enhance Glades recreation. The City has submitted a grant request for Lakeshore Park equipment, restrooms, and fencing. Two community meetings have been held on the Downtown Master Plan, and the City has been accumulating trees from the South Florida Water Management District's removal of trees in canal rights-of-way for use in street plantings. Staff will soon meet with business owners regarding downtown demolitions, pursuant to strategies

being developed in the Downtown Master Plan. The Tri-Cities' CERP task force will meet this afternoon. The City provided information to the County's Economic Development staff for preparation of the Rural Renewal Communities application.

#### **GLADES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORP**

Ms. Engle reported that Project CORK, a homeless program, continues moving forward. Acting on the Vision (AOV) is producing a community calendar, and they welcome all news. AOV has held several community-based forums with State Representative Harper. The meeting referenced by Ms. Spence regarding parks attracted 25 people and may become a quarterly meeting. The Glades Initiative Management Board is hiring a staff coordinator.

Additional comments from the group: Mr. Brown mentioned that at a recent meeting of the Board of County Commissioners, he was very impressed by the BCC members' support for Lake region tourism and the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail. Various other members expressed a desire to view results of the Glades communities' charrettes during the past 7 years in one place, such as a website.

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 am.