

Glades Technical Advisory Committee (GTAC)

Meeting of May 23, 2002

9:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Belle Glade City Hall – Conference Room “B”

Minutes

Present at the meeting:

Denny Abbott, Workforce Development Board
Craig Bencz, P.B.C. Planning
Ralph Butts, City of Belle Glade Community Development
Doug Chozianin, Construction Arts Associates
Duane Gainer, P.B.C. Planning
Ruth Moguillansky, P.B.C. Planning
Tammy Moore, South Florida Water Management District
Pam Nolan, P.B.C. Economic Development Office
Wendell W. Phillips, P.B.C. Metropolitan Planning Organization
Michael Sklar, P.B.C. Housing and Community Development
Leigh Woodham, Palm Beach Community College/Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center

Absent:

Sue A. Bailey, Commissioner Tony Masilotti's Office
Henry Bittaker and Carolyn Williams, South Florida Water Management District
Dan Brown, Palm Beach County Convention and Visitors Bureau
John Brown, Business Loan Fund of the Palm Beaches, Inc.
Jerry Brownlee, Palm Beach County Library Department
Sandra Chamblee, The Glades Health Survey
Helen B. Franke, Palm Beach Community College
George E. Gadson, Florida Atlantic University
Douglas Green, Workforce Development Center
Remar Harvin, Palm Beach County Housing and Community Development
Clayton Hutcheson, Palm Beach County Cooperative Extension Service
Carol Ann Huysse, Housing Partnership
Gwendolyn Johnson, School District of Palm Beach County
Chris Jones, Palm Beach County Department of Public Affairs
Stewart Karbal, Workforce Development Center
Arthur Kirstein, IV, P.B.C. Cooperative Extension
Ken Montgomery, Workforce Development Board
Autrie Moore-Williams, Glades Community Development Corporation

Angela Morlok, Palm Beach County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Theresa Newton, USDA Rural Development
Ken Schenck, City of Pahokee
Carl Siebert, E.D.G.E. Center
Vicki Silver, City of South Bay
Barbara Spence, City of Belle Glade
Bruce Thompson, P.B.C. School District
Alice Thompson, Pahokee Chamber of Commerce
Curt Thompson, Army Corps of Engineers
Greg Vaday, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council
Leigh Woodham, Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center, Palm Beach Community College
Kay Zaccagnino, School District of Palm Beach County

Welcome and Introduction

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. Ruth Moguillansky welcomed those present, introduced herself, Duane Gainer, and Craig Bencz. Ms. Moguillansky explained that the meeting would focus on defining GTAC's role, and that staff would present potential functions for the committee based on existing policy in the County's Comprehensive Plan.

Ms. Moguillansky turned the meeting over to Mr. Gainer, who explained his role with regard to the Glades communities and asked those present to introduce themselves. Mr. Gainer went on to request comments and corrections for the committee minutes from the February 25, 2002 meeting. There were no corrections to the minutes.

Review and Discussion of Committee Role and Tasks

Craig Bencz presented a summary of the Comprehensive Plan policy regarding GTAC's role, emphasizing an opportunity for GTAC to become an advisory committee for the development of the policies of the Glades Tier in the Comprehensive Plan.

Doug Chozianin stated that he believes the committee's value is in sharing of resources of information, and that those items should remain the committee's focus and priority.

Pam Nolan suggested that GTAC begin to meet less than monthly, or on an "as-needed" basis. She went on to say that she uses GTAC to get program information out to the Glades communities, and that may be an appropriate continued use for the committee. She stated that GTAC has not previously been involved in Tier development. Michael Sklar agreed, and stated that he utilizes

GTAC to gather information and determine where needs exist for the Glades communities.

Duane Gainer discussed the Tier system's purpose and the need for an advisory committee to guide the development of the Glades Tier.

Ruth Moguillansky suggested that the Glades communities should help develop the Glades Tier policies, and indicated that GTAC could potentially serve as a cross section of the Glades communities.

Tammy Moore stated that it is necessary to have committee members present who are familiar with each community and their respective Comprehensive Plans in order for the committee to give valuable input. She went on to say that there needed to be additional representation from each municipality in the Glades. Ms. Moore said she is interested in community participating in the development of the Glades Tier, however, she said she is hopeful that if community persons participate, their suggestions should be incorporated. In addition, Ms. Moore suggested that GTAC be a community driven initiative with the County providing the technical support needed to disseminate information.

Ruth Moguillansky stated that Planning staff could assist with GTAC's outreach in an effort to increase participation, if necessary. Ms. Moguillansky mentioned that earlier this year the BCC approved the top three Glades regional priorities, which include economic development, a regional water treatment plant, and community centers, and that Planning staff could provide some assistance with these efforts if necessary. She suggested that GTAC should choose a new chair to lead the meetings and the group should decide on what its role should be. Planning staff could continue to provide assistance with minutes and mail outs, if necessary, but would unlikely play a leadership role in the committee.

Doug Chozianin stated that GTAC meetings should focus on available funding opportunities and other items of benefit to the Glades. He believes that the County is the organization that can provide incentive for attendance. Discussion ensued on the committee's role and County's involvement in future meetings.

Ms. Moguillansky reiterated that the County is working on the development of the Glades Tier. She also stated that the County will continue to share information on funding opportunities, and ongoing projects as they become available, and inquired as to whether the committee would like to hear a presentation at a future meeting regarding tier development and managed growth, to which the committee responded affirmatively.

Discussion of Potential Belle Glade Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)

Craig Bencz passed out a map of the potential Belle Glade CRA, and briefly introduced the item to the Committee. He stated that this item would go to the BCC for their consideration on July 9, 2002.

Participant Updates and Comments

Michael Sklar stated that Housing and Community Development is recommending \$700,000 in grants to three cities and \$91,700 to three businesses for the current grant cycle. There will be a meeting on June 5 in West Palm Beach to discuss these funding recommendations, and a BCC hearing on June 18 regarding the funding recommendations.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.

Minutes prepared by:

Duane R. Gainer, Senior Planner

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