

# **Glades Technical Advisory Committee (GTAC)**

**Meeting of February 27, 2003**

**9:30 – 11:00 a.m.**

**Belle Glade City Hall – Commission Chambers**

## **Minutes**

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### **Present at the meeting:**

Duane Gainer, P.B.C. PZ&B, Planning Division  
Felecia Everett, City of South Bay  
Douglas Green, City of Belle Glade, Workforce Development Center  
Denny Abbott, P.B.C. Workforce Alliance  
Alejandro Ulloa, P.B.C. PZ&B, Planning Division  
Wendell Phillips, P.B.C. Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Raoul Pierre-Louis, Business Loan Fund (Representative for John Brown)

### **Absent:**

Caroline Tompkins-Blell, Glades Community Development Corp. (GCDC)  
Tammy Moore, South Florida Water Management District  
Michael Sklar, P.B.C. Housing & Community Development (HCD)  
Pam Nolan, P.B.C. Economic Development  
Don Brown, P.B.C. Convention and Visitors Bureau  
Steve Cramer, Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Kelly Johnson, Glades Initiative  
Andrea Stephenson, Glades Initiative  
Kay Zaccagnino, P.B.C. School District  
Lori Hart, The EDGE Center  
Doug Chozianin, Construction Arts Associates  
Barbara Spence, City of Belle Glade  
Alice Thompson, Pahokee Chamber of Commerce  
June Howard, EDGE Center  
Theresa Newton, USDA Rural Development  
Lelia Menefee, Workforce Development Center  
Sue A. Bailey, Commissioner Tony Masilotti's Office  
Henry Bittaker and Carolyn Williams, South Florida Water Management District  
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  
Remar Harvin, Palm Beach County Housing and Community Development

**Absent: (Cont'd)**

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  
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  
Curt Thompson, Army Corps of Engineers  
Greg Vaday, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council  
Leigh Woodham, Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center,  
Palm Beach Community College

**Welcome and Introduction**

The meeting was called to order at 9:45 a.m. Duane Gainer introduced himself and attendees introduced themselves. In regards to the February minutes, he asked if anyone had corrections. No one had corrections.

**Review and Discussion of Committee Role and Tasks**

Mr. Gainer mentioned that he has been involved with working on the CCRT Funding Recommendations for the Fiscal Year 2003. The CCRT consists of various County Departments, Community Representatives, other organizations and Planning Division Staff. He described a typical CCRT neighborhood to the group. The CCRT is in the process of reevaluating those neighborhoods that were identified by the County as distressed neighborhoods. Based on the funds allocated, the CCRT selects what projects will receive funding. Mr. Gainer stated that the recommendations would be presented at the P.B.C. Board of County Commissioners March 25<sup>th</sup> workshop. He commented that the group is welcome to attend the workshop.

Mr. Gainer stated that one of his major concerns is for the Glades to be represented proactively at the Monthly CCRT meetings and also approach the CCRT with projects. Mr. Gainer commented that he is not familiar with all the different neighborhoods in the Glades; therefore this would be an opportunity for someone to represent the Glades and request the CCRT to consider these areas for assistance. There are areas in the Glades being assisted but not nearly what it could be. Douglas Green inquired how to go about getting the different neighborhoods participation at the CCRT meetings. Mr. Gainer responded that if the City is incorporated then they operate on their own. But there are a lot of pockets in the Glades that are not incorporated. As an example, Mr. Gainer mentioned Lake Worth West and San Castle neighborhoods having community leadership. Mr. Green stated that he would contact people from several areas

that may be interested in acting as a community leader and attending the CCRT meetings.

Mr. Gainer stated at this time Alejandro Ulloa will give a brief presentation regarding the CCRT's functions. Mr. Ulloa stated that the CCRT is in the process of revising the Methodology, Mission Statement and redefining the CCRT areas for the Countywide Community Revitalization Team (CCRT). Mr. Ulloa made a power point presentation to the group. He showed a map of the CCRT areas. He mentioned that the CCRT's focus has been in the Lake Worth West and San Castle Communities. At this time, the mission of the CCRT is to give specialized support to the neighborhoods and focus on resident driven improvement efforts. Some of the efforts that the CCRT focuses on are revitalization, sustainability, crime and blight reduction, residents participation and neighborhood leadership.

Mr. Gainer intervened and mentioned the Residents Education to Action Program (REAP). Staff created this program to develop resident's skills in neighborhood leadership. Mr. Ulloa further reviewed the purpose of the CCRT, which basically is to bring together resources from different agencies of the County, representatives from the community or other organizations. The following are some of the projects that the CCRT can assist with: water, paving & drainage improvements, street lighting installation (the County allocates sixty (60) lights per year for crime reasons), comprehensive code enforcement issues, neighborhood centers, and park construction (picture of Kenwood Park).

Mr. Ulloa also gave an overview of the Neighborhood Partnership Grant program (NPG). Chrystal Mathews is the staff person that has been handling the task of this program. For FY 2001 & 2002, the CCRT allocated \$100,000 per year. This year the CCRT is requesting \$150,000. Mr. Gainer & Mr. Ulloa mentioned CCRT projects involving the Glades area.

Mr. Ulloa reviewed components that show a successful neighborhood revitalization effort: 1) community ownership; 2) comprehensiveness; 3) concentration of efforts and resources; 4) leveraging resources and long-term commitment; and 5) partnership and true cooperation.

Mr. Gainer asked Denny Abbott if Carolyn Tompkins-Blell submitted a proposal to the Workforce Development Center in reference to the youth training. Mr. Abbott responded no, he has not seen a proposal.

Douglas Green commented that he was very impressed with Mr. Ulloa's presentation. The presentation was informative because he did not know much about the CCRT. Mr. Green mentioned that once a month, a large group called the Glades Employer Advisory Community Leaders meet. Mr. Green invited Mr. Ulloa to attend and present the presentation to this group. The GEACL's next meeting will be held on March 19<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 a.m., Palm Beach Community

College, Room 122; Belle Glade. Mr. Gainer accepted the invitation and commented that himself or Mr. Ulloa would be present to do the presentation.

Mr. Raoul Pierre-Louis inquired that if more applicants applied for the NPG Program, if the funds allocated by the County will increase. Mr. Ulloa responded for FY 2003, the CCRT is requesting \$150,000. The previous year's \$100,000 was requested.

### **Participant Updates and Comments**

**Wendell Phillips**, P.B.C. Metropolitan Planning Organization reported on the following:

- Tourist Railroad Project – is still hot. They are working with Big Sugar to allow them the use of their railroad tracks.

Mr. Gainer inquired about the status of the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail. Mr. Phillips responded he has no information.

**Raoul Pierre-Louis**, Business Loan Fund (Representative for John Brown) reported on the following:

- Last year the Business Loan Fund loaned approximately \$400,000 to businesses in the Glades at a small percentage rate. A presentation was held last week and approximately twenty (20) business people attended.
- He visits Glades technical programs to get the youth involved and make them knowledgeable of the program.

**Douglas Green**, City of Belle Glade, Workforce Development Center reported on the following:

- Focusing on finding jobs and training for applicants.

**Felecia Everett**, City of South Bay reported on the following:

- Currently moving forward with the Boat Ramp Improvements with South Florida Water Management District. Two (2) or three (3) ramps exist already.
- In the process of completing the South Bay Railroad Cottage project. This will be a historical museum.
- In the process of developing the South Bay Commerce Park.
- A new Service Center is being placed at the Old Fat Boys, off State Road 27.

- In the process of having designs drawn-up for the South Bay entrance signs. Commissioner Masilotti gave money from the non-discretionary funds for three (3) signs. He also gave an additional \$65,000 for the Parks & Recreation program.

Mr. Gainer commented that he needed to follow-up on Mr. Green's inquiry about the Belle Glade's entrance needs.

Mr. Green inquired if Ms. Everett had been working with the Plastic Pellet Factory, across the street from Pep Boys. Ms. Everett responded, no.

Mr. Green inquired about the Head Start Program. Ms. Everett responded that she just issued the second permit for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase of the Sally Fields Palm Beach County Head Start. Mr. Green asked if they would be employing more people. Ms. Everett responded she does not know. He would need to contact Palm Beach County.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:03 am.

Next meeting is on March 27, 2003 at 9:30 am.

Minutes prepared by:

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Joyce Harrell, Secretary  
P.B.C. PZ&B, Planning Division

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