

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

**Meeting of June 22, 2006**

**9:30 – 11:00 a.m.**

**Pahokee City Hall**

## **Minutes**

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

Jim Braum, Director of Public Works  
Duane Gainer, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization  
Sgt. Linda Hamilton, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office  
Roswell Harrington, Canal Point Resident  
Lillie Latimore, City of Pahokee  
Lt. Ed Luty, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office  
Deputy Natasha Mitchell, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office  
Deputy Jessie Moreland, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office  
Pam Nolan, P.B.C. Economic Development  
Audley Reid, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization  
William Wynn, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization

### **1. Welcome and Introduction**

Mr. Gainer introduced himself and asked everyone to introduce her or himself.

### **2. Review of Minutes (May Meeting)**

Mr. Gainer asked if there were corrections to the May 27, 2006 minutes. There were no corrections to the minutes.

### **3. Follow-up Issues – May Meeting**

Mr. Gainer reviewed the follow-up issues from the last GTAC meeting:

- 1) Dale Erickson commented regarding calling 911. He stated that someone complained about calling 911 several times and there was no answer – Sgt. Hamilton stated that she spoke with Capt. Michael Andrews and he indicated that all 911 calls come directly to the Sheriff's Office main telephone number. Then from this point, all 911 calls are dispatched. There was a group discussion regarding this issue.

### 3. **Follow-up Issues** – May Meeting (Cont'd)

- 2) Dale Erickson requested a fire hydrant within a certain distance from his property - Mr. Gainer stated that he spoke with Randy Brame, Administrative Chief for P.B.C. Fire Department and Mr. Brame stated that there is a water pressure issue in Canal Point, and will not allow for a fire hydrant at this time. Mr. Erickson further explained an insurance issue.

Pam Nolan inquired about the status of the regional water facility. Mr. Erickson stated that a new line was run within ½ mile of his property. Ms. Latimore asked to meet with Ms. Nolan after the meeting; along with Jim Braum.

Mr. Gainer introduced new OCR staff, Audley Reid, Senior Planner. He stated that Mr. Reid would be coordinating the Visioning Process in Canal Point.

Lillie Latimore commented that she invited Jim Braum to the meeting to discuss the water pressure issue in Canal Point. Mr. Braum stated that the following are causing the issue with the water pressure being low: 1) mainly it is too full; 2) the old infrastructure located in town has several leaks; 3) the horse power pumping out into the system; 4) and the altitude valves at the water towers don't work properly. The County has agreed to assist financially with the cost of repairing the altitude valves. The group asked questions and made comments.

Mr. Gainer asked Ms. Latimore to incorporate the above issues in a letter to Water Utilities Department requesting assistance. Mr. Harrington asked if whether the Fire Department should also be notified. Mr. Harrington mentioned that two (2) houses and three (3) families lost their homes to fires. Mr. Erickson commented that although both high service pumps connecting to the fire hydrants were on, the distance was too far and the valves could have contributed to this issue.

- 3) Mr. Harrington expressed a concern for a resident in Canal Point in regards to getting a roofing permit – Mr. Gainer stated that he contacted the Building Department's permitting section. He further commented regarding State Statute, Chapter 4A.91. This statute deals with who can pull permits to do construction. Mr. Gainer brought a copy of the permit and explained the processes for hiring a contractor or applying for an owner builder permit, material/product approval, Power of Attorney, & etc. The group discussed the need to assist residents through the process or system with getting building permits.

#### **4. Discussion: LOST Trailheads, Pam Nolan**

Pam Nolan talked about the kickoff meeting held to discuss The Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail. Ms. Nolan stated that the Landscape Architect provided five (5) entryway designs for the cities to look at. The cities are asked to make a selection by July 20<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Nolan further stated the following items that the cities are working on: The City of South Bay needs to complete the market depot & railroad cottage, off Highway 27; The City of Belle Glade is anticipating looking at an amphitheatre; and The City of Pahokee has a need for restrooms. Ms. Nolan mentioned that the application has to be submitted by June 23, 2006, Friday. Chris Davenport, Planning Division, suggested looking at Canal Point as being a trailhead.

Ms. Nolan also talked about the Public Market (farmers market). On July 13<sup>th</sup>, a meeting is scheduled to discuss this project. She began to discuss the different amenities for the project, such as: restaurants, retail shops, etc. On July 11<sup>th</sup>, there will be a field trip to look at available or proposed sites.

Ms. Latimore and other participants commended Atlanta's Public Market. Mr. Harrington mentioned that people use to pick vegetables directly from the crop, and he thought this would be a unique feature to bring into this project. Next, the group began to discuss business loans, and marketing/publicizing the project.

Ms. Nolan talked about the Regional Economic Entity, which is being developed. This project will help the cities with the design plans.

Mr. Harrington inquired if the EDGE Center had hired the new Director. Ms. Nolan responded that the new Director was just hired.

Ms. Latimore inquired about a memo sent to her regarding GCDC office closing.

Ms. Nolan talked about the Sanitary Sewer Project in Pahokee, which provides service to Canal Point. She stated that \$1.6 million dollars was designated for the project. She will be requesting funding from the CCRT to assist with implementation of this project. The multi-family units, and businesses in Canal Point will be required to connect to the low-pressure system.

## **5. Participant Updates/Comments:**

### **Sgt. Linda Hamilton, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office, reported on the following:**

- 1) Putting Kids First Program - The CCRT allocated the largest amount toward the event. This is a back to school program for kids. There will be school supplies for all grade levels, immunizations, eye & ear exams, haircuts, etc. This program will reach over 3,000 children in the Glades area. The event will be held at the Glades Central High School.

Deputy Jessie Moreland, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office commented that although GCDC will be closing, Ms. Autrey Williams would be working along with him on this project. Another agency that the Sheriff's Office is partnering with is the Glades Inter-Agency Network. Deputy Moreland further commented that they have been networking and establishing partnerships with all the local businesses, organizations, and residents from all cultures in the Glades for their support. He feels this effort will allow the event to be a success.

Sgt. Hamilton is asking for support from the Department heads, the CCRT, OCR Manager & staff in joining the Sheriff's Office with a press conference on behalf of this event. The date of the press conference will be July 28<sup>th</sup>; but the time and location has not been determined yet. Ms. Nolan asked her to email Mr. Gainer with the details, for him to forward an email to the CCRT members.

### **Duane Gainer, OCR Staff, reported on the following:**

- Funding Recommendations FY '06/'07 – Mr. Gainer stated that he would be presenting the Board with the recommendations between September and December.
- Focus Area Assessment/Study – Chrystal Mathews is handling this project. This project focuses on reassessing CCRT areas.

Deputy Mitchell announced that this year the National Night Out event would be held on August 4<sup>th</sup>, in Pahokee, at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Park, at 6:00p.m.

In reference to streetlights, Mr. Harrington mentioned that FP&L are in the processing of placing new poles; starting at Canal Point, and running down 441 to State Road 729.

**5. Participant Updates/Comments: (Cont'd)**

Audley Reid commented regarding the Canal Point Visioning Workshop. He stated that he anticipates the workshop to be held in October or November. He is in the process of putting together the Steering Committee.

Mr. Harrington commented that the community building is still not open yet. Hopefully it will open soon but if not, the Canal Point Methodist Church will be the site for the elections.

Lillie Latimore mentioned that State Road 441 would open in 44 to 45 days.

Mr. Harrington commented regarding the volunteers that came to the community to do cleanups, etc. He commended the volunteers for doing a great job.

**6. Adjournment of Meeting:**

The next GTAC meeting will be held on July 27, 2006, 9:30a.m., in South Bay. The next Countywide Community Revitalization Team (CCRT) meeting is July 11, 2006, 10:00a.m., at the Clayton Hutcheson Building.

Minutes prepared by:

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Joyce Harrell, Secretary  
P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization

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