

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

**Meeting of February 22, 2007**

**9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

**Pahokee City Hall**

## **Minutes**

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

David Broadbent, Canal Point, & Pastor of Canal Point United Methodist Church  
Dale Erickson, Erickson Farms, Canal Point  
Duane Gainer, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization (OCR)  
Roswell Harrington, Pahokee Resident, & Repr. For Canal Point  
Lillie Lattimore, City of Pahokee  
Angela Morlok, P.B.C. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)  
Pam Nolan, P.B.C. Economic Development  
Cleveland Robinson, City of Pahokee, Community Development  
William Wynn, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization (OCR)

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

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

### **2. Review of Minutes (January meeting)**

There were no corrections to the minutes.

### **3. Follow-up Issues (January meeting)**

Mr. Gainer stated that there were no follow-up issues for the January meeting. He mentioned a follow-up from a previous meeting inquiry about the number of mobile homes in the Glades. Mr. Gainer stated that he sent Roswell Harrington a copy of an assessment done after the hurricane of the mobile homes in the Glades. Roswell Harrington commented that after reviewing the spreadsheet, there were many mobile home parks not on the list. He began to name the areas with mobile home parks, not on the list. Mr. Harrington further stated that LJ Margolis also put together a list of all the mobile home parks. He stated that Ms. Margolis, with The City of South

Bay, and The City of Belle Glade are working together to come up with a list of all the mobile home parks in the Glades. Mr. Harrington suggested that once the list is done, a copy is sent to EOC.

Mr. Harrington stated that he contacted DOT maintenance office in the Glades to remind them about the GTAC meeting. He informed the group that DOT's maintenance office was burglarized on Tuesday night. He further commented that DOT would try to send a representative to the meeting but they doubted if some could attend the meeting.

**4. Discussion: None**

**5. Participant Updates/Comments:**

**Pam Nolan, Economic Development, reported on the following:**

- Entryway Designs - Pam Nolan commented in regards to the entryway designs for the scenic trail. She brought copies of information about the project, and she announced that there would be a workshop on March 12, 2007, at the Dolly Hand Center, 6:30p.m. – 8:30p.m. She further stated that this is part of Phase I of the Scenic Trail Master Plan. Ms. Nolan began to talk about the plans for the project.
- Business Frontage Program - Ms. Nolan commented that the Business Frontage Program is contracting with LORE (Lake Okeechobee Regional Economic) Alliance to do the work. She expect more projects will come from this contract. She further mentioned that the program would start in the Glades; then continue to the other CCRT areas. The group began to discuss the plans for this program; such as canal banks, boardwalks, and walkways.
- Development Regions Grant Program - Ms. Nolan reminded the group that the Development Regions Grant Program closes on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

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

### **Angela Morlok, P.B.C. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO):**

- Clewiston/Belle Glade Route – She received 100% funding from FDOT, which expires in December '07. Had discussion with Palm Tran if whether they would take over the route. The riderships have increased to over 17,000 per year. She will be doing a survey of the riders, the purpose, and the hours they are using the system. Currently the route runs seven (7) days per week; sixteen (16) hours per day. The hours were extended to 9:30pm for the students taking classes at night. Ms. Morlok mentioned that within the next five (5) years, Palm Tran is building a maintenance facility transfer station in the Glades. The group began to discuss other destinations or areas that needed to be included in the bus route.

Mr. Gainer commented regarding the east/west route on the coast. He believes the route ends in Wellington. Mr. Gainer asked Ms. Morlok to let someone know that the route should be extended further west, west to the Glades. Ms. Morlok commented that the route Mr. Gainer is referring to is the Okeechobee Corridor route. They are looking at whether it would be feasible to implement an express service going east, and west. Ms. Morlok further mentioned that she is in the process of writing a scope of services. They are going to hire a consultant to take a look at the entire region and look at the connectivity.

Roswell Harrington commented regarding people that are regularly picking up people from the Glades and taking them to jobs on the coast. He feels this type of activity should be considered in Ms. Morlok's survey. He stated that the bus helps but is still not convenient because it only runs every two (2) hours. He further stated that the ridership would increase if the bus runs hourly.

### **Angela Morlok, P.B.C. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO): (Cont'd)**

- Van Pool Coordinator – is in the process of scheduling a day to come to the Glades areas. There will be a van going from area to area. The individuals participating can come and talk about transportation and their needs. If van pooling is needed, then MPO will work toward getting more van pooling in the Glades areas.

Lillie Latimore inquired about the City of Pahokee residents having access to transportation. She mentioned an interest in providing event transportation for people that do not have transportation to get to and from events, meetings, & etc. The group briefly discussed this.

Roswell Harrington commented regarding having the Glades area representative, which is the Mayor of Belle Glade, attendance at the MPO meetings. Mr. Harrington would like for this to be mentioned at the next MPO meeting. Ms. Morlok also commented that the needs of the residents could also be brought to Commissioner Santamaria, which he is now a regular member of the MPO Board.

Pam Nolan began to comment regarding an item mentioned at the MPO meeting, such as the Local Area Program Funds. There was a recommendation being made possibly to not have to go through the same process. She stated that she needed to know what the change in process is going to be. She believes there were also some certification issues. Ms. Morlok commented that this would be part of MPO's study. When MPO looks at transit they look at all the amenities needed; for instance sidewalks, bikeways, & etc. as part of the study.

Mr. Gainer inquired if whether Ms. Nolan was referring to South Bay sidewalks to the splash park/pool. Ms. Nolan stated that at the meeting, there was discussed about the sidewalks from South Bay to the pool. Mr. Gainer mentioned that he received correspondence or an email from someone stating that FDOT was going to pay for the sidewalks as part of their resurfacing project.

Ms. Morlok mentioned putting together the TIT report. When the report is in draft form, it should show where the money is going to come from.

Mr. Harrington mentioned that the sidewalks in Canal Point that were destroyed by the installation of the water system were going to be restored. Also a new drainage system from First Street to the park is going to be installed.

**Angela Morlok, P.B.C. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO):**  
(Cont'd)

- Okeechobee Scenic Trail - FEC said that MPO could use the site. Also FEC is in negotiation with US Sugar.

Mr. Harrington inquired about the regional transportation entity, the loop train around the lake. Ms. Morlok responded that the passenger component should be part of the study. He suggested that she contact Audley Reid, OCR Staff and Coordinator for the Canal Point Visioning Workshop for his input. Ms. Morlok commented that in the study, she is asking that the Consultant incorporate all the studies done within the last five (5) years; including the Visioning Workshop, and all the minutes.

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

- City of Pahokee Agreement – He gave Lillie Latimore a copy of the agreement for the funding that OCR committed to and the Board approved back in November '06. The agreement is for emergency sewer repair. He also mentioned that he has the agreement for the City of Belle Glade.
- REAP – This is the 5<sup>th</sup> session held in the Glades. There will be a special presentation done by Chuck Tear, and Matt Cronin, Emergency Operations Center.
- Neighborhood Partnership Grant Program (NPG) – Last week at the 4<sup>th</sup> REAP Session, Chrystal Mathews distributed applications for the program.
- Leftover funds – These funds are from projects that were not completed or projects completed that had funds leftover. These funds are available for projects. You may send your request to the OCR.

Pam Nolan began to talk about the Canal Point Sanitary Sewer Project; along with Lillie Latimore. Mr. Gainer commented that he did not have to do a contract for this project; he basically gave the money to Ms. Nolan. Ms. Nolan commented that she did the contract and she distributed the money.

Angela Morlok suggested that Ms. Latimore contact Chuck Cohen, Executive Director of Palm Tran in reference to the new concept regarding event transportation, which will accommodate people when leaving the various planned events. Ms. Morlok mentioned that one of the things that worked in other cities is community shuttle buses to help accommodate the needs.

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

**Roswell Harrington, Pahokee Resident, & Repr. For Canal Point, reported on the following:**

- Revival or gospel fest - that was held on the dike went quite well.
- The long-term Recovery group – is still meeting in Canal Point. The Kings Trailer Park is getting four (4) trailers from McCullough, and three (3) trailers from the Indian Town groups the non-profit farm workers. He stated that the Indian Town group is offering a great deal. They have a grant for over \$100,000 from RDA, and they are paying the entire fee (transportation, hookup, & lot rent). The qualifications for this grant are that you have to be a FEMA emergency housing participant, and you have to be a farm worker.

**David Broadbent, Canal Point, & Pastor of Canal Point United Methodist Church, reported on the following:**

- REAP Project – He appreciates all the organizations enthusiastically endorsing the project, such as: Tourist Counsel, Recreation Department, LOST Trail, & etc. The project name is Canal Walks. This project is a program that monitor the weight loss, miles walked, & etc.

Mr. Harrington commented regarding a notice posted in the Canal Point Post Office. The notice is about the park on top of the dike is closed February 20<sup>th</sup> – April '07.

Mr. Harrington further commented that there is major excavation work being done in the fire ditch. A survey is being done but he is waiting hear from Palm Beach Canal as to what they want and do not want. He stated that property owners would be losing quite a bit of land.

## **6. Adjournment of Meeting:**

The next GTAC meeting is scheduled for March 22, 2007, 9:30a.m. in South Bay. The next Countywide Community Revitalization Team (CCRT) meeting is March 12, 2007 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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