

Glades Technical Advisory Committee (GTAC)

Meeting of March 22, 2007

9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

South Bay City Hall

Minutes

Present at the meeting:

David Broadbent, Canal Point, & Pastor of Canal Point United Methodist Church
Duane Gainer, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization (OCR)
Joanne Green, City of South Bay
Roswell Harrington, Pahokee Resident, & Repr. For Canal Point
Eric Lewis, City of South Bay
Angela Morlok, P.B.C. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Pam Nolan, P.B.C. Economic Development

1. Welcome and Introduction

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

David Broadbent commented regarding a request at the GTAC meeting about putting together a list of all the trailer parks in the Glades. He further commented about the report that Mr. Gainer had done on trailer parks in the Glades areas, which may have included trailer parks to be revitalized. At this time, Mr. Gainer explained that OCR was asked to do an assessment of all the trailer parks after the last hurricane, which he did provide Roswell Harrington with a copy of the report. Mr. Harrington stated that he noticed there were a lot of trailer parks not on the list. He further commented that on the PZ&B website there is a map showing a more complete list of all the trailer parks in the County.

Mr. Harrington inquired if whether there was any revitalization money available for assisting mobile home trailer owners. Mr. Gainer responded no.

Mr. Harrington began to talk about a meeting that he attended and he mentioned that an agency called PACE attended the meeting. Mr. Harrington requested more information about the agency. Mr. Gainer

responded that he contacted someone in the organization and asked that they contact Mr. Harrington.

2. Review of Minutes (February meeting)

Angela Morlok had a correction on page 4, parag. 5 – change TIT to TIP (Transportation Improvement Program); and page 4 under report on Okeechobee Scenic Trail – change FEC is in negotiation with US Sugar (to) Steam Locomotive Association 253 is in negotiation with US Sugar.

Pam Nolan had a correction on page 5, parag. 2 – change Ms. Nolan commented that she did the contract and distribution of money (to) Ms. Nolan commented that she worked on the contract for the Engineering Department under Charles Rich. She did not distribute money.

3. Follow-up Issues (February meeting)

There were no follow up issues.

4. Discussion: None

The group began to give updates/comments.

5. Participant Updates/Comments:

Angela Morlok, P.B.C. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), reported on the following:

- Belle Glade/Clewiston bus route – The money for the project is going to run out by the end of this December. She is doing a survey on this route and it will be submitted to Palm Tran to make a decision whether to keep the route, and whether they will provide funding.

Mr. Harrington commented on a complaint that was made in a meeting regarding bus route 48. He feels the bus should run more than once every hour. He stated that the kids attend youth activities, and with the Glades areas so spread out, it is difficult to make connections.

Ms. Morlok began to explain the assessment process for determining transportation for an urban area (land development & population), or a rural area (infrastructure).

- Ms. Morlok mentioned that she is working on a scope of services for the consultants to do a regional Glades area study.

Ms. Nolan commented regarding certification for (LAP) Local Area Program. She stated that the federal government requires that every entity get certified. The funds are for sidewalks, landscape, and lighting. The group began to discuss this program, and issues that exist in the neighborhoods; such as construction process of sidewalks in Canal Point, and FDOT road construction going on in the Glades. Ms. Nolan commented that she would contact the project manager with FDOT.

Duane Gainer, OCR Staff, reported on the following:

- Resident Education to Action Program (REAP) Sessions – The sessions have ended in the Glades. The attendance in the Glades was good. He commented that Michael Jackson, Representative from Commissioner Santamaria office attended the last session. There were four (4) American Top Neighborhood grant applications submitted, and they have been reviewed. Applications submitted were for Community Choir, signs, and an automatic door for a senior complex. The second REAP session has started on the coast. The graduation ceremony for both REAP sessions will be held on April 28th, at the Airport Hilton. The group asked questions about the program.

Mr. Harrington made several announcements: 1) The Historic Resources Review Board will be meeting in Canal Point next month; and 2) Chris Davenport, P.B.C. Planning Archeologist, is planning an airboat ride on the lake.

Mr. Gainer began to discuss a request submitted by Eric Lewis, City of South Bay, for OCR funds. Pam Nolan asked for a copy of the request for future references. Mr. Gainer also mentioned a request submitted by Pam Nolan. Ms. Nolan inquired about the status of the request mentioned and that if Mr. Gainer had any further questions to contact her.

Mr. Lewis mentioned getting funds from FIND (Florida Inland Navigation Department). The group began to discuss these funds and how it involves incorporated and unincorporated areas.

Eric Lewis, City of South Bay, reported on the following:

- Market Depot – The project is going out to bid, for the third time, on next Friday, March 30th. In reference to the funding for the project, they received \$200,000 from Commissioner Santamaria's Office. The building is fifty percent (50%) complete. The group began to ask Mr. Lewis questions and make comments.
- US 27 Project – The project should get started by June or July. He stated the project cost is approximately \$700,000.

Mr. Harrington commented that the remainder of residents living in FEMA mobile home trailers in South Bay would be moving out soon. Mr. Lewis acknowledged that there were five (5) or six (6) residents that would be moving. Mr. Harrington further mentioned that an Indiantown non-profit organization still has trailers available. One of the qualifications is that you must be a farm worker and have a FEMA number.

Pam Nolan, Economic Development, reported on the following:

- Entryway Design Community Workshop – was held on March 12, 2007. She stated that approximately twenty (20) people attended the workshop. The designs will be reviewed before it is placed on permanent signs.
- Canal Point Sanitary Sewer – Ms. Nolan had a concern about the project moving forward and she commented that the Public Works person had resigned.
- Development Regions Grant – is closed. She received approximately twenty (20) applications.
- Business Frontage Program - She mentioned that Economic Development is working with LORE (Lake Okeechobee Regional Economic) alliance in implementing this project. On April 10, 2007, the project is going before the Board of County Commissioners for approval. Also, Ms. Nolan mentioned matching funds, and the group began to talk about getting qualified contractors to the Glades areas, and fees for architect & engineer.

Ms. Morlok inquired about assistance or a loan program to help the business owner with matching funds. Ms. Nolan responded that Housing & Community Development (HCD) has Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for up to \$50,000.

Ms. Nolan inquired about organizations that handle the food distributions. Mr. Gainer responded the Share Program, and Mr. Harrington mentioned CROS Ministries. The church organizations get their support from the Share Program. Mr. Harrington further mentioned some of the Share distribution points (drop off or pick up) in the Glades areas. The group began to mention other organizations, agencies, and grocery markets that are in support of food distributions, such as: Winn Dixie, The Fine Stein Program (?), and Daily Breads. Pastor Broadbent mentioned that at the Publix Market you can only get bread, and dessert. Also he mentioned that in regards to picking up food, Publix has an issue with non-refrigerated trucks, so only the United Way has access to get food from Publix other than bread & pastries.

Ms. Nolan inquired about an upcoming event to be held in the Glades. Mr. Harrington responded that she might be talking about The Black Gold event. Someone mentioned that the event is on April 28th.

6. Adjournment of Meeting:

The next GTAC meeting is scheduled for April 26, 2007, 9:30a.m. in Canal Point. Mr. Gainer asked the group for suggestions on the location of the meeting (Canal Point Methodist Church or Community Center building). Mr. Harrington suggested having the meeting at the Community Center building. Mr. Gainer will look into if whether the Community Center is available. The next Countywide Community Revitalization Team (CCRT) meeting is April 9, 2007 10:00a.m. at the Clayton Hutcheson Building.

Minutes prepared by

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

T:\Planning\Revitalization\District 6\GLADES\GTAC\GTAC Minutes\GTAC Mins 2006\3-22-07 minutes.doc