

**OFFICE OF COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION**

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## Glades Technical Advisory Committee Minutes

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Meeting Title: Glades Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

Facilitator: Houston Tate, Director

Scribe (recorder): Duane Gainer, Senior Planner

Date/Time: June 28, 2012 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Location:

### Meeting Attendance:

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1. Ralph Butts, City of Belle Glade
2. William Clark, Glades Resident
3. Wardell Coleman, City of Belle Glade
4. Theresa Fordham
5. Duane Gainer, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
6. Jerome Govan, City of Pahokee
7. Jerkita McClorin, NewKita Group
8. Deputy Jesse Moreland, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office
9. Angela Morlok, P.B.C. Metropolitan Planning Organization
10. Derrek Moore, City of Pahokee
11. Rondell Newson, NewKita Group
12. Erika Redmon, City of Pahokee
13. Eddie Lee Rhodes, Tri-City Education
14. Chief Curtis Rice, P.B.C. Fire Rescue
15. Jeff Tarr, P.B.C. Resident
16. Houston Tate, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization

# Meeting Minutes

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## 1. Welcome and Introductions

Comments: Mr. Tate called the meeting to order at 9:46 a.m.

## 2. Special Presentations

### **NewKita Group Inc. – Rondell Newson**

NewKita Group will be hosting its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual “Walk for Change” event in the City of Belle Glade, Florida, on August 18, 2012 and they are inviting the public to participate. NewKita Group is currently in need of walkers, volunteers, sponsors, and vendors.

Walk for Change is a one day event for the entire family. The walk will kick-off at Lakeshore Park heading down Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. And back to Lakeshore Park where there will be a variety of vendors, fun, entertainment, food, games, activities, health and wellness education. This event is from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Registration for the walk is FREE. NewKit Group and the community will be showing their pride for Education, Crime Prevention, Health and Fitness, Economic Development, Job Creation, and Bring Communities Together. T-shirts for the event are only \$10.00, non-profit vendor space is FREE (literature only), food vendors are \$65.00, and other vendors are \$50.00. Sponsorship packages start at \$100.00. All donations are tax deductible and all proceeds will benefit the construction of a much needed public facility in the Glades area.

The NewKita Groups’ mission is to enhance personal enrichment and community unity through recreational activities, sports, health and fitness, entertainment, and education.

There vision is to provide a public facility (Community Center) that empowers the youth, adults, and families into education, health, employment, and community activities in an innovative and exciting environment.

For more information, please contact NewKita Group, Inc., (561) 829-6419, email-enhancing@newkitagroup, or their website, [www.newkitagroup.org](http://www.newkitagroup.org).

## 3. Participant Updates/Comments

**Ashley Tripp, Lake Okeechobee Regional Economic Alliance (LORE) – Torry Island EcoArt Project**  
LORE of Palm Beach County is teaming with EcoArt South Florida to enlist a lucky group of 17 Glades youth interns ages 17-21 from Workforce Alliance, and over 100 summer campers ages 7-11. To learn first-hand, through art and science, about the native plant and animal species of the Lake Okeechobee region. This one-of-a-kind EcoArt project commenced on June 25 and is scheduled to be completed by August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Project Manager and EcoArtist, Jesse Etelson, is mentoring and supervising the Workforce Alliance youth interns who will develop and install the wildlife habitat sculptures while fine tuning their communication skills through project documentation, marketing and exhibition. Additionally, Etelson is teaching children from three Pahokee Summer Camp programs under the auspices of the Center for Creative Education. These campers will create EcoArt Bird Nesting Habitats as well as masks, large puppets and costumes depicting native plants and animals of the Lake Okeechobee region, and will perform a dance procession on Torry Island, at the City of Belle Glade’s dedication of the demonstration site at the end of July.

To date this project has received in excess of \$100,000 worth of goods and services and \$8,000 in cash contributions but is still lacking funds to cover the remaining project expenses. The project completion date is only a few weeks away therefore it is time sensitive that they raise the remaining \$20,000 needed to complete this project. It is the hope of LORE that the community will make generous contributions toward this community project

The LORE Alliance is the local community sponsor of this project and is a not-for-profit 501© (3) organization whose mission is to promote high quality economic development in the Lake Okeechobee region of Palm Beach County by building community consensus on regional projects, ensuring quality project design that creates a more attractive community and providing early stage conceptual project planning that result in greater economic opportunity for residents, current and potential businesses.

**Ralph Butts, City of Belle Glade**, reported that the City has received over a \$100,000 for demolition of buildings.

**Derek Moore, City of Pahokee**, reported on the following:

- The City of Pahokee has also received funding for demolition
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration Fireworks and Bar-B-Q will be sponsored by the City, and
- The City of Pahokee Back To School Bash will be held on August 18th

**Houston Tate, OCR**, reported on the following:

- OCR has information on “overseas” Employment and Volunteer Opportunities
- Dress for Success has assistance for resume preparation as well as clothing for employment
- On July 29<sup>th</sup> there will be an event held at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial
- There will be a pre-construction meeting today for the State Road 15 Road Project
- On September 19<sup>th</sup> there will be a community meeting in Canal Point to discuss the boardwalk/pocket park
- OCR has information concerning the latest KABOOM Grant
- The City of South Bay will have a community meeting on July 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Chief Curtis Rice, PBC Fire Rescue**, reported on the following:

- Construction has begun on the new South Bay Fire Station
- Returning to 3 man crews; will be hiring new staff
- The Pahokee Fire Station should be complete in September 2013
- Cpt. Prusansky is still working on correcting addresses

**Dep. Jesse Moreland, PBSO**, reported on the following:

- PBSO in conjunction with Bridges, will be hosting on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., a Safety Day, featuring a bike rodeo, free infant car seats, and free school supplies
- PBSO is also partnering with Christ Fellowship for a community cleanup/back to school event

#### **4. Adjournment**

Comments: The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m. The next meeting will be held on July 26<sup>th</sup> at the City of Pahokee Wellness Center

Approved by: Houston L. Tate, Director \_\_\_\_\_