



OFFICE OF COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION

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Glades Technical Advisory Committee Minutes

Meeting Title: Glades Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
Facilitator: Houston Tate, Director
Scribe (recorder): Duane Gainer, Senior Planner
Date/Time: August 22, 2013, 2013 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM
Location: South Bay City Hall

Meeting Attendance:

1. Johanna Courts-Bryant, Pahokee Resident
2. Duane Gainer, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
3. Jerome Govan, Glades Guardian
4. Carol Thompson, P.B.C. Department of Economic Sustainability
5. Rashonda Warren, City of Pahokee
6. Brantley Sisnet
7. Dana Little, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council
8. Leandrae Camel, City of South Bay, City Manager
9. Angela Morlok, Metropolitan Planning Organization
10. Jermaine Ford, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office
11. Houston Tate, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
12. Pam Nolan, P.B.C. Department of Economic Sustainability
13. Felisia Hill, City of Pahokee, Vice Mayor
14. Nina Wills, Bridges at Pahokee
15. Franz Gaudard, Glades Guardians

Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions

Comments: Mr. Tate called the meeting to order at 9:48 a.m. and asked the group to introduce themselves.

2. Special Presentation- Carole Thompson, Department of Economic Sustainability

The Glades Demolition Program

Palm Beach County, through the departments of Economic Sustainability, Risk Management, and Facilities Development & Operations, has partnered with the cities of Belle Glade, Pahokee and South Bay to demolish approximately 70 vacated and unsafe structures and remove them from Glades neighborhoods.

The project is being funded by \$1 million from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Neighborhood Stabilization Program 3 and Community Development Block Grant programs. Project activity includes structural demolitions, abatement of asbestos where needed, and removal of debris.

The purpose of the program is to remove abandoned structures that negatively impact neighborhoods and can become havens for unlawful activity. One of the goals of the project is to encourage redevelopment and reinvestment in the communities.

Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office deputies for the western communities see the program as helpful in achieving their community policing efforts by cleaning up areas that attract and conceal the criminal element.

Ms. Thompson stated that it was still early as far as work done so far with the grant for her to have statistics.

3. Participant Updates/Comments

Dana Little, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Committee, reported on the following:

- There will be a two week long Public Workshops held in October and November, to seek public input for the Glades Master Plan.

Carole Thompson, PBC Department of Economic Sustainability, reported on the following:

- On August 13th, the Core Planning Committee will meet at the Workforce Alliance

Houston Tate, PBC Office of Community Revitalization, reported on the following:

- The Resident Education to Action Program (REAP), has been scheduled for the Glades for October 1-29, 2013. REAP is a free hands-on educational program established by our Board of County Commissioners which provides community revitalization and civic leadership development training. The program is designed to help community residents be more knowledgeable about County government, community resources and services that are available for neighborhood improvements. REAP supports the formation of neighborhood associations and empowers residents to seek a better quality of life. Through the course participants will be given the

opportunity to apply for a grant to complete a small neighborhood improvement project through the “America’s Next Top Neighborhood” Award Grant Program.

- The Back to School Bash. OCR is partnering, and leveraging funding, with the Community Back to School Bash (BASH), a 501.c.3 organization, PBSO and other nonprofit organizations as well as agencies throughout Palm Beach County that serve disadvantaged students pre-K through 12 by providing supplies, backpacks, information and resources to empower children to begin the school year with confidence.

Through the partnership, we will be able to reach about 15,000 kids at 4 proposed distribution locations in Palm Beach County, including the following: Glades area (at Pahokee, Belle Glade and South Bay); Central County (at the Convention Center); South County (at Village Academy in Delray Beach); and North County (at the Roger Dean Stadium). The idea is that at each location will provide greater convenience for each child to get free backpacks and supplies, and potentially school physicals, immunizations, health screenings, new and used school uniforms and haircuts. Services to be provided will be upon resource availability. All family members will get a free meal as well.

Angie Morlok, Metropolitan Planning Organization, reported on the following:

- The new operators of the Pahokee Marina have applied to operate “water taxis”.

Discussion ensued regarding transportation, mobility issues in the Glades and grants.

4. Adjournment

Comments: The meeting adjourned 10:52 a.m.

Approved by: Houston L. Tate, Director _____