



OFFICE OF COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION

ADDRESS: 2300 North Jog Rd
West Palm Beach, FL 33411

PHONE: (561) 233-5311

FAX: (561) 656-7963

E-MAIL: ocrnews@pbcgov.org

WEBSITE: <http://pbcgov.com/ocr>

Glades Technical Advisory Committee Minutes

Meeting Title: Glades Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
Facilitator: Houston Tate, Director
Scribe (recorder): Duane Gainer, Senior Planner
Date/Time: May 22, 2014 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM
Location: Canal Point Community Center

Meeting Attendance:

1. Meredith Cruz, The Corradino Group
2. Berkley Finley, Palm Beach State College
3. Duane Gainer, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
4. Eddie Rhodes, Tri-City Education
5. Houston Tate, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
6. Rashonda Warren, City of Pahokee
7. Jerome Govan, Tri-City Education
8. Felisia Hill, City of Pahokee
9. Melissa McKinlay, Legislative Affairs
10. William Keller, IBEU
11. Ralph Butts, City of Belle Glade
12. Regina Bohlen, Pahokee Chamber of Commerce
13. Anthony Sandlin Jr., City of Belle Glade
14. Frantz Gaudard, First Haitian Community
15. Leondrae Camel, City of South Bay
16. Trenesia Rozier, Bridges@Belle Glade

Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions

Comments: Mr. Tate called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. and asked for introductions. He asked the group, "How do we go about making changes to inspire residents to organize themselves, make recommendations and approvals to make changes in their neighborhood?"

2. Special Presentations

Carol Thompson – Special Projects Manager – Economic Sustainability – She gave an overview of the Glades Master Plan process (35 minutes)

There was a question about infrastructure – we just had a new water plant built but has it not been to its full potential.

Carol Thompson responded that the delivery system (pipes) is not in good shape.

Mr. Tate provided copies of the City of Pahokee and South Bay Glades Regional Master Plan/GTAC Initiative. He stated that the GTAC Initiative would not address issues related to Transit, Drainage, Drinking Water/Waste Water, Roadway Improvements and Sidewalks. Instead it would focus on matters to assist residents with identifying community improvement projects that can be planned and completed by residents as follows:

Projects that may be considered by the GTAC Initiative

Food Challenge – Glades considered a food desert

- Community Gardens

Robotic Competition

- Implementation of the FIRST Robotic Competition

Enhance Chess Park

Changing Perceptions

- Developing Coloring Books for kids
- Cleanup vacant lots
- Need greenery
Installation of landscape

Painting Homes

Recommend homes to be painted as part of the Solid Waste Authority's (SWA) Paint Your Heart Out Program

Discussions ensued about the FIRST Robotic Competition.

Mr. Tate informed everyone that GTAC and the Glades Guardian Collaborative Committee (GGCC) has met and obtained approvals to begin implementation of the robotic program with Dr. Shoemaker, West Area School District Superintendent and each of the Principals at the Pahokee International Baccalaureate schools.

A question was raised concerning how can you connect the #1 industry (AGRI) with the kids and programs that the industry has in place that are related to robotic engineering?

Mr. Tate stated that the GGCC will need to assist GTAC with getting access to our youth in the community and educating them know about what we are trying to do. Discussions with our youth will need to address the importance related to math, science and identifying new technology-based career pathways. Students will needs to know how important it is in deciding a specific major and how their major is connected directly to their desired future careers. The emphasis should be to on narrow their vision by knowing how to make good academic choices and limiting their risks by being aware of their academic preparation.

Sharon Comries, PBSC stated that she has an internship program but didn't realize they would be required pay the students to intern for you and they could possibly be employed by USDA. She thinks underexposure is the problem. They did ½ day school and ½ day work that is what the High Schools need the opportunities to get with these industries.

Mr. Tate stated that it is the power of the collective impact. There may be an industry looking for a new location to operate but did not know that Belle Glade and Pahokee had a skilled labor force to meet their job requirements. Potential employees need to know that the Glades Region is ready and that would make a good communal partnership.

Someone stated that Farming is such a big industry, it is a huge corporation. When discussing with kids about the Farming Industry, their perceptions is that the Farming Industry as just a farm. One suggestion was to introduce the kids to the farming opportunities. Arrange for a tour to allow students to meet farmers to learn more about the industry discuss their concerns.

Mr. Tate added that there may be people that may not find the value of agricultural because they worked so hard in the fields at one time. The discussion should be focused on opportunities, full time employment and a sustainable Glades economy. If there are interests in grants related to the AGRI industry from you, the Office of Community Revitalization would be happy to explore them with you.

Mr. Tate talked about one of the concerns raised by residents during the Glades Regional Master Plan related to changing the perception of the Glades. Everybody we need to help us is in our community.

The question of "how can you meet with parents that work 70- hours a week and how can parents help their children with their home work if they are working extended hours"?

Mr. Tate stated that if there is need of assistance for parents who works extended hours, then this would be a suggestion that should be brought up in GTAC so that the issue can be explored and various options are pursued.

Is there anything that was discussed today that anyone was motivated to act? Let us know.

GTAC leaves you with an ongoing assignment to provide recommendations and deciding on viable community revitalization improvement projects. GTAC and GGCC would like to thank you for interests and concerns. We will continue to be grateful for your involvement, advocacy for your concerns and in helping to build a stronger community ownership throughout the region.

We would like to further this discussion by assist you with answering the following:

- What do you want to do to improve your community?

- What actions do you need to take in order to accomplish your desired goals? and
- How do you mobilize your communities to invest their time and sweat equity to accomplish your desired goals?

Please see below the Cities of Pahokee/South Bay Glades Regional Master Plan/GTAC Initiative. We will soon be providing you with the City of Belle Glade GTAC Initiative.

3. Participant Updates/Comments

Meredith Cruz with FDOT interjected that there are a couple of DOT projects taking place. Steve Clark of AIM Engineering is the project manager and he will come to future meetings. The projects are 4 miles of resurfacing on Hooker Highway and some fog detection improvements on SR 80 and 700.

4. Adjournment

Comments: The meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m. The next meeting will be held June 26th, at Belle Glade City Hall.

City of Pahokee Glades Region Master Plan/GTAC Initiative Excerpts taken from the Glades Region Master Plan

Some of What We Heard

- Jobs and Employment Opportunities
- A Farmer's Market would be great
- We must promote what we have - promote our strengths rather than focusing on our weakness
- Empower and engage the Youth – utilize the extraordinary human resources within Pahokee and the Glades Region

Elements of the Plan that will not be considered by the GTAC Initiative

- Transit
- Drainage
- Drinking Water/Waste Water
- Roadway improvements
- Sidewalk

Projects that may be considered by the GTAC Initiative

Food Challenge – Glades considered a food desert

- Community Gardens – fresh fruits and vegetables

Robotic Competition

- Implementation of the FIRST Robotic Competition

Enhance Chess Park

Changing Perceptions

- Developing Coloring Books for kids
- Cleanup vacant lots
- Need greenery
Installation of landscape

Painting Homes

Recommend homes to be painted as part of the Solid Waste Authority's (SWA) Paint Your Heart Out Program

Building Assessment

- Type "A" Buildings – indicated via black icon
- Building in GOOD physical condition.
- Building envelope adequately protects interior.
- Exterior may need some improved maintenance, cleaning, etc.

Type "B" Buildings – indicated via yellow icon

- Building in need of minor repairs
- Exterior may need paint
- Vegetation may be overgrown
- May require site work, planting, paving, etc
- May be missing a window or two; Appearance may need general improvement

Type "C" Buildings – indicated via red icon

- Building in need of MAJOR repairs
- Roof may be compromised; Foundations may have settled and may be separating from structural wall; Walls may have structural cracks; Missing doors or numerous windows, exposing interior to elements – Substantial repairs and/or alterations required to bring buildings up to code

Building Assessment

North Section – East Main – East Second/Becom Point – North Elm Avenue

- Type "A" buildings represents approximately 60% of the building inventory
- Type "B" buildings represents approximately 20% of the building inventory
- Type "C" buildings represents approximately 20% of the building inventory
- Vacant Land represents approximately 50% of the existing land-base

Middle Section – East Second- Daniels Place/Becom Point- Banyon Avenue

- Type "A" buildings represent approximately 70% of the building inventory
- Type "B" buildings represent approximately 20% of the building inventory

- Type “C” buildings represent approximately 10% of the building inventory
- Vacant land represents approximately 40% of the existing land-base

South Section – East MLK – South Lake Avenue/Palm Blvd – South Barfield Highway

- Type “A” buildings represents approximately 60% of the building inventory
- Type “B” buildings represents approximately 25% of the building inventory
- Type “C” buildings represents approximately 15% of the building inventory
- Vacant land represents approximately 50% of the existing land-base

City of South Bay Glades Region Master Plan/GTAC Initiative

Excerpts taken from the Glades Region Master Plan

Some of What We Heard

- Include the Community In Every Aspect of Improving the Glades Region
- More Community Gardens, Police in the Neighborhood and a Green Market
- Clean Up Trash
- The Youth are the Ultimate Stakeholder of Our Community – Listen to the Youth and Work Towards Immediate Improvement

Elements of the Plan that will not be considered by the GTAC Initiative

- Transit
- Drainage
- Drinking Water/Waste Water
- Roadway improvements
- Sidewalk
- Economic Analysis

Projects that may be considered by the GTAC Initiative

Food Challenge – Glades considered a food desert

- Community Gardens – fresh fruits and vegetables
Vincent Smith and Brandin Hawthorne Resident Education to Action Program (REAP) recipient

Changing Perceptions

- Developing Coloring Books for kids
- Cleanup vacant lots
- Need greenery
Installation of landscape

Painting Homes

- Recommend homes that can be painted as part of the Solid Waste Authority (SWA) Paint Your Heart Out Program

Building Assessment - SW 12th Ave to SR 80/US 27; NW 1st Street to SW 3rd Street

Type "A" Buildings – indicated via black icon

- Building in GOOD physical condition.
- Building envelope adequately protects interior.
- Exterior may need some improved maintenance, cleaning, etc.

Type "B" Buildings – indicated via yellow icon

- Building in need of minor repairs
- Exterior may need paint
- Vegetation may be overgrown
- May require site work, planting, paving, etc
- May be missing a window or two; Appearance may need general improvement

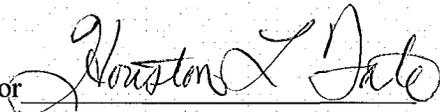
Type "C" Buildings – indicated via red icon

- Building in need of MAJOR repairs
- Roof may be compromised; Foundations may have settled and may be separating from structural wall; Walls may have structural cracks; Missing doors or numerous windows, exposing interior to elements – Substantial repairs and/or alterations required to bring buildings up to code

Building Assessment

- Type "A" buildings represents approximately 90% of the building inventory
- Type "B" buildings represents approximately 5% of the building inventory
- Type "C" buildings represents approximately 5% of the building inventory
- Vacant Land represents approximately 20% of the existing land-base

Approved by: Houston L. Tate, Director

 6/25/2014