

Mr. Gainer: Called meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. and asked for introductions .

Mr. Joseph Horvath – DOSS: People know where Southern and SR 15 is, behind where you get the driver license plates, and I don't know why that is called the County Barn (Bond).

Mr. Tate stated yes if you refer to anything other than that no one knows what you are talking about. Many properties are referred to as whoever the original owner was. The name stays with the property I guess it how we speak it is just a collo cal view.

Mr. Horvath- Senior Services is under Community Services – They administer a *Continuum of Care* for seniors 55 years of age and older and their families/caregivers in Palm Beach County. Also, they provide older adults with places to go to ask questions and find answers with locations in Lake Worth, West Palm Beach, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade. Senior Services has been serving older adults in Palm Beach County for over 37 years. Staff is multi-lingual in Creole, Spanish and English. Case Management staff has a Bachelor or Masters degree. They administer programs for the elderly from the Area Agency on Aging/Your Aging Resource Center and receive State and Federal Funding from the State Community Care for the Elderly and the Federal Older Americans Act, to provide programs to assist older adults attain independence and promote quality of life. DOSS also operates Senior Centers that serve over 2500 older adults. The Senior Centers provide:

- **DIVERSE PROGRAMS** to fit boomers while ensuring that longtime visitors are not alienated by change. Incorporate traditional bingo, bereavement support groups with high-energy exercise classes, Nintendo Wii.
- **EDUCATIONAL AND COMMUNITY EVENTS** are collaborated with other local agencies and organizations such as universities to offer educational opportunities. AARP, SHINE and Veterans Services are provided office space to assist the older adults, Social Security representatives help "young" participants make transition from working life to retirement; and interns from FAU, Academy for Nursing and Health Occupations participate.
- **HEALTH PROMOTION** by providing a variety of education sessions and screenings on prevention. Included are Fall Prevention education; blood pressure clinics, blood sugar screening, Health & Safety Fairs, and more.
- **ACTIVITIES PROGRAMS** provide creative events such as book discussions, arts and crafts, creative writing, language classes, drawing, china and one-stroke painting, ceramics, wood carving, quilting, crochet, embroidery, knitting, sing-a-longs, mahjong dances and holiday events bridge, card playing, billiards, etc.
- **TRAVEL** provides day trips and luncheons to local restaurants, cultural events.
- **RECREATION/FITNESS:** provide multi-level based strength and conditioning fitness designed for participants. Tap ballroom and line dancing, international folk, yoga, zumba and chair exercises offered.

They also provide Adult Day Care where Families/Caregivers are provided with hourly assistance with care giving for Alzheimer's, cognitive and chronic physical impaired participants and Services include health monitoring, nutrition counseling and education. Meals are served. North County capacity is 15 and Mid-County capacity just increased to 76. DOSS has formed a partnership with Alzheimer's Community Care to operate a dementia-specific unit, enhancing services. Also, they have caregiver support groups. Other services they provide are Case Management for in-home or facility and community based services. Funding from the State Community Care for the Elderly; Home Care for the Elderly (assists caregivers who care for loved ones in their home) and Alzheimer's Decease Initiative (serves clients with Alzheimer's/Dementia). Mandated by grant, DOSS collaborates with the Department of Children and Families Adult Protective Services (APS) to provide seniors who are victims or at risk of elder abuse and/or neglect with crisis resolving services. Their Hoarding Task Force combats hoarding among older adults by identifying funding sources; tapping into existing community agencies with expertise (i.e. mental health services and cleaning/organizing services) and staffing allow for discussion on challenging hoarding cases with APS Staff.

Senior Service also provides nutrition services. They have 23 meal sites and also have home delivery of meals. They are a program of the **USDA Food & Nutrition Service Adult Care Food Program**, which enables DOSS to receive reimbursement funds to serve lunch, snack and breakfast to Adult Day Care participants which lowers the cost of serving meals to meet the needs of seniors.

They also have two (2) Home Energy Assistance Programs. They are:

- **Emergency Home Energy Assistance Program (EHEAP)**. Assists older adult applicants in crisis (i.e. electric power off/jeopardy of being cut off) with paying electric bill.
- **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)**. Assist low-income households who include at least one individual age 55 and older and are experiencing a home energy crisis and/or those who need a credit (one time for low-income).

There is also an Information, Referral and Outreach Program. They get information and referrals daily through telephone and website inquiries and have a Senior Academy. It is a 6-week, community-based outreach program, conducted through-out the County to educate older adults on available resources. The 6th Senior Academy will begin October. DOSS also has community events, fairs and conferences. They have locations in Palm Beach Gardens, Lake Worth and Belle Glade.

Ms. Aiken stated that they have Paint Your Heart out and it is one of your clients we are not allowed to say you guys refer a lot of people to us for home needs how involved in 211

Mr. Horvath said 211 is a referral source, they take referrals then a social worker will be sent out to see if they can help.

Mr. Gainer asked if DOSS has a list of how many seniors are registered at the center.

Mr. Horvath replied 102. Mid-County has 2100. The difference is Belle Glade is a one room school house, the other centers have several rooms where they can have different activities at the same time. He gets the same people every day. That is what makes it more of a family out west.

Ms. Aiken commented that it helps with loneliness.

Mr. Horvath replied that they call it socialization.

Mr. Gainer thanked Mr. Horvath for his presentation and stated that OCR wanted to discuss recommendations for community projects that could be tied into the Glades Regional Master Plan (GRMP) and for that purpose we invited Ms. Joanna Aiken to speak on one area, beautification.

Two people came in after the introductions. It is great to see DOT representative Jacques Beaubrun after a long absence. Also welcome to Rashonda Warren of the City of Pahokee.

Ms. Aiken introduced Ms. Linda Moreno her “partner in good crime”. They distributed handouts for a lot of different programs for community improvements.

They offer the Adopt-a-Spot Program which is a clean-up program. Their newest team member is the City of Pahokee. They have been cleaning up litter with a lot of volunteers and also have Recycled Paint Donation Program.

Ms. Moreno stated that resident take their old paint and drop it off at their facilities (SWA). They then send it up to Sarasota where it is recycled. They have 12 colors to choose from and will do a onetime donation. It is for anyone in Palm Beach County but it has to be single story and 2500 square feet or less. You have to call because they do not have the information on the website.

Ms. Aiken added that there is no income limitation for this service. They also have the Neighbor to Neighbor Program. They want to give paint to those who own their homes. There is the actual application to participate in Paint Your Heart Out. There is an income criteria but the beautiful thing is that they have so many volunteer groups that they fight over days and locations. The home has to be owner occupied. They use the honor system with the application and do not ask for proof of income. They are painting 9 houses in the Glades; 4 in Belle Glade; 3 in South Bay; and 2 in Pahokee. They are hurting quite a bit for home repairs and are struggling with the soil issues.

Ms. Moreno added that the Neighbor to Neighbor Program is going to promote community leaders. They go into the communities and tell them about SWA programs.

Mr. Gainer asked Mr. Tate to introduce the City of Belle Glades’ Master Plan GTAC Initiative.

Mr. Tate: Since the Master Plan came through the Glades and everyone participated, he thought it would be a good idea to take from that, and the pieces that are more important to us are the things that the residents can do. What we have tried to look at is the piece what residents can do, listen to the wonderful things that can be done for the community like Ms. Aiken says we need support and we do need as community has adopt a spots like in Pahokee you have 2 homes that is going to be painted, that is the perfect time to talk to the residents about wanting to get together and work because there is many issues and many are uninformed as to what should they do. Here in

the Glades it is all about who said what. It is important that we take that opinion and put that opinion with facts. Residents can get more done than the government will ever because you have more residents than you do staff. What I am really asking as we look at the Master Plan let us work with our partners and let's instead of having a house painted and say that's done the same person will have to call somebody up that is the time to organize a community and that is when they can develop a group when I was here things would happen down the street and you wouldn't even know what is going on if they don't know you I don't care what if it is important they are not going to take the time to look it up we need to empower our residents with the ability to be organized and they can do more for their selves than you can ever do for them if they have this information trust me they will make sure their aunt down the street or cousin they can do a better job of spreading information than we can as we look at our master plan there is so much more we can do if we empower our residents you will see they will be healthier and happier I'm not saying all the problems will be erased but what I am saying is they will see the help if you do not have participants so what I really want you to do I given each city one I literally took the excerpts of what you said and provided you with a Charter and eventually there will be a binder. We need to look at the project, who is going to initiate the project and what resources do we need to carry through. Then we will have a sense that things are being discussed and things are being completed. The Charter as we go through the action points then we can say what are we going to do then you can look at it pick up the phone what are projects that can be done by residents.

Education is absolutely the most important thing that we need to look at. What assets do you have that you can take your community under another level. I have been doing it undercover. Regina Bohlen came up to me and said that is important all Pahokee community schools are IB Schools. Robotic Engineering will go to all schools. Can you think about what that will do for the students who are thinking about NASA. It is reachable and attainable. All we have to is tell the story. I have gotten support from each of the schools and everyone is ready. Now we are going to be talking about funding. I was in a meeting the other day for the Back to School Bash and Marta came to me and said Houston, I didn't know you was trying to do this thing in Pahokee, put me down and then I sent an email out yesterday to Regina and someone from IBM to talk about the technical piece so Regina brought 2 pieces of funding and technical assistance. Now Comcast is coming in and now we are going to talk about. Can you imagine our kids getting on a plane for the first time flying to Boston to compete in one of the robotic competitions? You ought to see what the kids eyes look like when they are doing something special. We need to bring that to the Glades. We can focus on the assets our kids will graduate very soon. In fact we have an astronaut who called us he said Mr. Tate if you get this thing going I will be happy to come out. Then the kids will say yes I will do my homework yes, I will pay attention to my mom. If this happens the community will turn itself around and I am going to be asking everybody that is really the focus we can't do it all like he mentioned we have 1 room when we read we read pushup we all do pushups that is what communities do when you put them together but you spread them apart we need to empower them if there is a problem with the youth if someone says I really want to work on the youth program and we have 4 things going on don't drop one thing for another we are really getting thing done we just don't see what they are we need to narrow our vision and then you focus on the few things that can get done I am not going to get into the specifics of it Mr. Tate what do want us to do we will not be talking about traffic,

drainage, drinking water, or roadways but thank God roadway will be talking to the City Managers. OCR works to improve the livelihood of the residents, we are not going to talk about sidewalks because we do not have the funding to do that one thing we can do is the food challenge. All this agriculture in the Glades, that it delivers, but the Glades are considered a “food desert” because residents don't have the vegetables. It is expensive to eat fresh when it is easier to go to Wendy's and get a salad already put together for a \$1 so. One thing is to help communities with community gardens. If you are able to get enough land to bring it up to the Cities. Can you imagine if we can put together a garden of significant size that can render veggies and fruit? Maybe you can talk to restaurants in terms of distribution. How do I do things that will benefit me as a better resident? I personally need a better diet, how do I do things to benefit the economy? We have to change ourselves and replace things out there that are gone. That is why we are focusing on little things like community gardens. Boys and Girls had a project in Belle Glade, a major project, and Pahokee is doing something that is great project. Ms. Aiken painting houses and they are already telling the someone else needs paint. Change the perception. I am still looking at master plan. What do we do to change the perception?

Ms. Aikens' said that Adopt-a-Spot the one sport has trash now you have volunteers cleaning it advocates are now spreading it did not change the road it changed the perception. I remember when I was Belle Glade City Manager and I met Jacques. I said we need street lights and plants and now I am happy to see that the perception I had was approved. Those things government can do now we drive through the Glades you see sidewalks everywhere. There a lot of things if you sit and talk to the kids you see a different perception is that an unemployed youth or someone that wants to help this is going out to the residents that is really where the investment starts when you teach them you get the greatest return they are doing things that pass my bar of expectations it does not take a long time but it takes work you have to think what are we going to do first you can't paint a house at the same time do you really want to see sustainably changes I don't have a budget to do what I want to do but the residents can complete the 501C3 but now we have residents saying what they have done themselves if we want things done next year training residents why don't we flip the script we can say we not going to painting the house first come out and say what are we else we can do agencies are having trouble funding we need to look for other agencies to help with funding here is just the beginning now you can see what we are doing you may know somebody that can help with the garden having a tractor gtac is not just about a meeting place but we need to make a change I can't keep this going I need 1/2 people in community to take it all I do it recommendation I want to talk about good the back to school bash 08/09 6 locations to happen at one time this is the most unbelievable activity he said the locations kids go back to school and you go back preparing yourself some kids going back to school is frustrating we make sure every location you get a haircut I haven't went to all the sites but the ones I go through they get to pick out their own book bags everything that we are using is good quality we che3ck the school and they will get enough to start the schools they are having doctors come out and physical screening in BELLE GLADE this is a program we are trying to better every year last year it was great last year I had PGA to come out to Roger Dean and they had a Godzilla and I almost cried seeing the kids with it if you know of a resource face painters anything that will mark that day to that child let us know the other sites it was amazing how

everything came together they feed them also this year I am going to try to get with Career source so that when parents come if you have ideas let us know

What we have done to keep parents involved, we reached out to hospitals to do the mammogram test.

Mr. Tate: you have FAU

Not this year, we are trying to entice the parents and this year we have several of them to come aboard.

Mr. Tate stated that you wouldn't believe everything fell together the week before if you remember how wonderful it was

Mr. Tate: truckloads come in the point I'm making is people do it are really satisfied with giving you going to think you are not going to finish filling those book bags - I'm begging barbers to take off to volunteer their time this year I want to submit an agenda time it takes a lot of work to pull this off you don't want people to say well I did it for 2 years

Ms. Warren stated that Pahokee has barbers but they don't have credentials.

Mr. Tate: that is smart - let's talk to see how we can work with the office of small businesses I am glad that we have these discussions anything else

Mr. Gainer: basically the main thing is to make sure the kids are sign up on the master sheet

Mr. Tate: the answer to the test is Mrs. Williams we are trying to make decisions that we have no information about - you have people look at it and say wow look at this I'm not getting involved - maybe people may say all I can do for you is a sandwich is no lettuce people may say I don't want that when we put it in the budget we have to say we used everything that we have now we need your help - the reason why I want to talk about this now is when reap comes around the problem is everybody take too long to put the pieces together we have a 5 week workshop that we do and at the end of the workshop participants are able to submit a grant for \$5000 if you never did it you don't know how to do it is not me turning it down I have purchasing contracts and attorneys because it is a contract when the County gives you \$5000 it is the same as giving you \$500000 no we have to reduce some of the things so that it is not so difficult the problem is I don't have anything to do with that so what I'm hoping to do as we look at the projects we can do I don't know about your chess park but I heard it was damaged well it is a good thing to organize people as if the chess park is important do you guys got Kaboom we are getting a Kaboom that goes into lake worth west the reason why you get those things because partners found out what you really want to do they gloat and say you are so wonderful that is what they do that is what we have to do is have the residents out front not you guys you government you are paid to do that we have the residents out front and the sponsors will come but you got to get them ready to get out and talk for you so real quickly this is a disproportion minority contract especially our residents well city too what this is this is with the juvenile justice dept I have been working with them along with the school district and in the county we have disproportion amount o minorities that have been retained in the system rather it been arrested that disproportion amount is in relation to the

location so many kids are detained because their mother got upset with them and called the police there is a number of things that once they get in the system all of a sudden they don't stay in school or if they go to college they have something on their record now all of a sudden they are impacted by something that happen 10 years ago our youth is extremely important by the way we go so we started last year with a intergenerational workshop to interact with youth and seniors because Pahokee has a wonderful building by the time that building shift all these programs in a way having said that I am asking you to do but I need parents to look at this when I was in the meeting as I was looking as this I said this is ridiculous for me to even review this because we need to find out directly from parents what are they impacted by and then work on trying to bring some activities is the problem the child being behind in their work and you found out there is not one problem okay what I am really asking when I leave here I am going to boys and girls and I am going to ask bridges and the organizations that work with families to help me fill this out I would like to have one major meeting where we can sit down and get our youth involved we can take that child that is unemployed and may perceive as being disobedient let them paint homes do you know that are communities that are strong are communities that exchange gift I may have a bad heart but I'm a good plumber how do you look at me oh that is Mr. Jones he got that bad heart and sometimes he be in the house no Mr. Jones is a good plumber we just had a abc workshop that child that we describing can participate with the things that they do or they may have problems they need to talk to somebody about we need to stop answering things and sit down and make sure we get it right how do we get it right

Jason Larimore – more so the ones that are in organizations it is hard for them I suggest empowering the community – people need jobs volunteering don't give them any income you talking about a 4-family living off 12000 year everyone come in but no one is helping really

Mr. Tate: you are correct it is not just you here today you are right the only way we need to find out the problems no can express themselves for everyone – where is our money going to do – we need to make a decision based on the input of the communities I will give more to the community who put more – there is no one here that I can think of can change that – you can work hard to bring a business they make decision on what is best for their business you don't want to lose the number of youth that we have the discussion can say there are no jobs we know the kids have to stay in school we know our kids need to produce and perform in school if can just get kids to do that it gets them into college and jobs that is why you work on your assets SWA don't have jobs but they engage their youth but maybe there is a contractor out there that might say they want to hire them you can't put a labor force together the they have to be mentally physically strong if not it is your first day on the job man I can't be getting up at 7 people make those decisions and don't go to work we want to talk about the kids in a caring way it ain't all the kids it enough to influence we have to take on one problem at a time Jason it is difficult to put all things in place

Mr. Larimore: you may have a lot of companies here that may can hire ½ people instead of going out – you are trying to depict that we are doing good – you need to look at us instead of outsourcing everything – Belle Glade, Pahokee and South Bay has the most resources – you have to bring to people because they keep getting overlooked over and over again – don't give them no surveys because they have done it over and over.

Mr. Tate: you are right about 1 part when you talk to the college you get the college to agree to have the class and we can't get people to sign up Jason you have only view the problem is simple and we get them working you would see a difference

Mr. Larimore: how many times do you recruit – you want people to volunteer that you people are getting paid for at the same time – we have this meeting going to them saying we just want your opinion

Mr. Tate: you got part of the information the one day we tried to do is create a committee right now if you leave this meeting next time say Mr. Tate I am going to bring 10 people to this meeting – we can't do it we come to 4 residents and we ask residents for their access to the community – when I went I said I need access to the Haitian community that is where the problem is Jason we need you to help government is not going to do by itself to come up with thing we can do eventually I will run into the right person who changes it for me - residents are the missing piece and the key we are not giving a misconception that we are going out to do it

Meredith Cruz: we are trying to get out they need some trainees they are working through Workforce Alliance.

Mr. Tate: how many jobs do you think could be available?

Jacques Beaubrun: the contractor decides we are not going to tell them to hire so many people – they do the screening, it's up to the community to step up.

Mr. Tate: I have known this young man since he was 12 and I am happy to see how far he has come, how can we help him when he leaves here he may influence a number of people.

Mr. Tate: can you give me the list of the contractors?

Mr. Beaubrun: no we cannot say that.

Mr. Gainer: Jason I will give a call to Mr. Walker, all we can do at this point, we have a name and contractors, you get a few guys, they are set up in South Bay.

In reference to the pre-construction meeting, where is it?

Mrs. Cruz: We will have an open house in Belle Glade.

Mr. Tate: If you guys move right, now don't wait for open house, when you leave today find someone who is employable try to get good candidates.

Mr. Beaubrun: when we do the screening make sure they are available.

Mr. Larimore: How can a local contractor bid on the job that is what I am saying.

Mr. Beaubrun: there are a lot of steps, you have to be qualified, the contractor has to be qualified to do the job, they need to go to the District Office and ask, what do we need to do to be qualified.

Mr. Beaubrun: that is district office in Ft. Lauderdale.

Meridith Cruz: District 4 FDOT – website – we work at a district office.

Mr. Tate: do they have the list of eligibility.

Mrs. Cruz: yes they should.

Mr. Tate: get those that are qualified to work so we will get that to you.

Mr. Gainer: is this what you are talking about, SR 80.

Mr. Beaubrun: the pipe is collapsing so they need employees to reinforce the pipe, it is a small job.

Mr. Gainer: we can't get 1000 people a job, you can only let them know.

How is Belle Glade doing?

Great

Mr. Tate: Give her a hand I been fighting for robotics – it has to be residents working – these are Principals, City Managers, we have strong group that is going to support this that is why I want you to read my charter. I may be working on robotic engineering and maybe somebody can take on something else. We need to work on the kids that are truant.

Mr. Gainer: next meeting 07/24 – city of Pahokee in wellness center

Mr. Tate: make sure you get the master plan for your city so we can finish the discussion what you can do I would like to see 50,000 leave from out of here employment has to be ready when it comes – Ms. Aiken knows she been awarded grants year after year you need to know what to do – it is really to make yourself eligible and pray that it would be you this time.