



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): Derrek Moore, Senior Planner
Date/Time: September 24, 2015, 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM
Location: Pahokee's Marina

Meeting Attendance:

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| 1. Mayor Joe Kyles | City of South Bay |
| 2. Michael Aronson, Principal | PBC School District Pahokee Middle School |
| 3. Laura Bessinger-Morse | Education Foundation |
| 4. Comm. Allie Biggs | City of Pahokee Commission |
| 5. Regina Bohlen | City of Pahokee's Chamber of Commerce |
| 6. Melicia Charleston | PBC School District Area 3 ISTL |
| 7. Bradley Eley | Bridges of Belle Glade |
| 8. Florence French | Enroll America |
| 9. Dana Godek | PBC School District |
| 10. Barbara Haider | On Love, One Community |
| 11. Clara Hessing | PBC Youth Services Dept. |
| 12. Comm. Nathaniel Holmes | City of Pahokee Commission |
| 13. Angela Johnson | Epilepsy Foundation |
| 14. Margaret Kallman | PBC School District, Grants – Federal |
| 15. Derrek Moore | OCR Senior Planner |
| 16. Jessica Moore | The Sun Newspaper |
| 17. Adrian O'Campo, Principal | PBC School District – Pahokee High School |
| 18. Johnathan Rendon | Florida Training Services |
| 19. Melissa Beltz | The Sun Newspaper |
| 20. Donia Roberts, Esq. | LORE |
| 21. Houston Tate | Dir. of OCR |
| 22. Meredith Trim | Education Foundation |
| 23. Trenesia Rozier | Community Partners (Bridges Of BG) |
| 24. Erica Whitfield | PBC School District 4 Board Member |
| 25. Lisa Wilson | PBC (Comm. McKinlay's Office) |
| 26. Comm. Diane Walker | Pahokee Commissioner |
| 27. Eddie Lee Rhodes | City of BG Resident/Tri-Cities Education Comm. |
| 28. Tammy Jackson-Moore | Deputy City Mgr. – Pahokee |

Some attendees did not sign the attendance sheet.

Meeting Minutes

1. Prayer & Pledge:

Comments: Mr. Tate called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. Commissioner Nathaniel Holmes (Commissioner for the City of Pahokee) lead us in prayer. He also led us in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, as well.

2. Welcome & Presentations:

Mr. Tate welcomed the attendees and asked Bishop/Comm. Holmes to do a special prayer for Mrs. Marcia Andrews. She was scheduled to speak to the GTAC group today; however, she had to cancel because of an ill relative. Comm. Holmes asked that everyone bow their heads for a moment of silent prayer.

Mr. Tate briefly reminded everyone of the upcoming list of exciting speakers scheduled to speak/present at the upcoming GTAC meetings and encouraged everyone to come out and support the speakers. He also asked that everyone provide the names of anyone that we should invite out to participate in the meetings. Some may want to connect with others attending our meetings. It's all about collaboration and connecting neighbors, organizations and communities together. He thanked everyone for coming out and went on to mention a few other items listed below:

- a) He thanked everyone for coming out to Mrs. Verdenia Baker's "Meet & Greet" at Pahokee's Marina on Sept 14, 2015 from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. He applauded the community's initiative in requesting her to come out to the event. She was invited by Mr. Javin Walker and the Concerned Citizens of South Bay to come out to the Glades for the "Meet & Greet". The Concerned Citizens of South Bay hosted the event. Special thanks to Comm. Allie Biggs, The City of Pahokee, City of Belle Glade, City of South Bay & the Office of Community Revitalization. The event was very successful and OCR was very proud to be a part of the initiative.
- b) The Robotic Engineering Club was mentioned and the group was reminded that it will begin at Pahokee Elementary School sometime this year. OCR will be meeting with Dr. Abrams, (Pahokee Elementary School Principal) & Dr. Matthew Shoemaker (Area 3 Superintendent) to begin the Robotic Engineering Club soon. This year's robotic engineering program will initially start as a robotic club. Next year's plans are to organize and put into operation a First Robotic Competition, an international robotic competition that gives students real-world engineering experience.
- c) OCR's support and partnership with PBC's Youth Services dept. to secure mentors for male students of color is continuing. This effort continues as the "My Brother's Keeper" initiative started by President and former County Mayor Priscilla Taylor.

3. Special Presentations

Mr. Tate introduced Mrs. Erica Whitfield, Palm Beach County's School District 4 Board Representative. Mrs. Whitfield discussed several initiatives and made reference to the videos prepared by PBC School District's staff of the new schools recently built in the Glades. The videos are depicting Gladeview Elem. and Rosenwald Elementary. Mrs. Whitfield discussed some of the recent accomplishments by the School District in the Glades including:

1. Gladeview Elem. School (Belle Glade)
2. Rosenwald Elem. School (South Bay)
3. Gove Elementary School (Belle Glade)
4. New Principal at Lakeshore Middle School (Belle Glade)
5. West Technical School revival (Belle Glade)
6. Pahokee School's International Baccalaureate program(s)
7. Improvements in hiring and attracting teachers to the Glades have recently been very successful.

Upcoming Important Dates:

Sept. 29 - President Ava Parker's Open Forum - PBSC Belle Glade campus 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Sept 30 - Corporate College Breakfast - PBSC (TEC 109) 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Sept 28 - Meeting at Vista Center - 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Oct 1 - Pahokee Rotary Mixer - 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Oct 2 - Bridges Expansion Ribbon Cutting - 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Oct 3 - Glades Family Fun Fest "Growing a Community of Healthy & Strong Families" Pioneer Park 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Oct 24 - REACH Health Fair - Belle Glade - 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

4. Participant Updates/Comments

Mr. Tate recognized the non-profits in the audience and gave each of them an opportunity to speak for a few minutes. They included the following

1. Ms. Laura Bessinger - Morse & Ms. Meredith B. Trim, Education Foundation
2. Mrs. Barbara Haider - One Love - One Community
3. Florence French - Enroll America
4. Ms. Trenesia Rozier & Mr. Bradley Eley - Bridges of Belle Glade
5. Ms. Clara Hessing - PBC Youth Services Dept.
6. Mr. Johnathan Rendon - Florida Training Services

Ms. Jessica Moore, Sun Sentinel, spoke for a few minutes explaining the services that the Sun provides and informing the group about their area of coverage.

Mr. Tate thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting. He re-emphasized the calendar for the upcoming CCRT & GTAC meetings and invited everyone to come out to participate in future meetings. He also asked for any names of individuals or groups that should be invited to the various meetings.

5. Adjournment

Comments:

Comm. Allie Biggs thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting. She also thanked and commended Mr. Tate and OCR for quality of speakers and discussions generated during and from the meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m. The next meeting will be held October 22, 2015, at the City of South Bay's City Hall. Mr. Patrick McNamara will be the guest speaker.

Approved by: Houston L. Tate, Director



10/5/2015
Date