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Glades Technical Advisory Committee Minutes

Meeting Title: Glades Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
Facilitator: Houston Tate, Director
Scribe (recorder): Audley Reid, Senior Planner
Date/Time: August 22, 2019, 2013 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM
Location: City of South Bay

Meeting Attendance:

Leandre Camel-City Manager City of South Bay
Napoleon Collins – City of South Bay
Vicki DelBosque-City of South Bay
Y. Grantlir - resident
Fashara Hill – Pahokee Housing Authority
Antoinita Ifill-Bridges at Belle Glade/Healthier Glades
Fanny Jackson-Komen South Florida Breast Health Navigaotr
Mayor Joe Kyles-Mayor – City of South Bay
Willie Lawrence- Federation of Families
Hazel Lucas –Florida Rural Legal Services
Natalie Malone – City Clerk South Bay
Cartheda Mann-Boy Scouts of America/DST sorority
Cylenthia Mann – Director Bridges at Pahokee/Community Partners
Dr. Latanya McNeal-Palm Beach State College
Sergeant Johnny Ortiz-PBSO
Kimberley Perez-PBC Youth Services
Robert Rease-Office State Rep. Tina Poslky
Eddie Lee Rhodes – Belle Glade resident
Carlton Smith – Legal Aid Society of PBC
Sergeant Barry Staats-PBSO
Collin Walkes – Bridges of Belle Glades
Floyd Williams

Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions

Comments: Mr. Tate called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m. Those assembled recited the Lord 's Prayer and then the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor of the City of South Bay, Mayor Joe Kyles welcomed all attendees and special guests to the City of South Bay.

OCR Director, Houston Tate spoke about the success of the Back To School Bash. He also announced that GTAC will be focusing on educational preparedness in this and upcoming GTAC meetings.

Mr. Tate then introduced Dr. Latanya McNeal, Executive Dean-PBSC Belle Glade as the featured presenter.

2. Special Presentations

Dr. McNeals' presentation included Powerpoint slides which are available from OCR upon request. Dr. McNeal made it clear that education and the interests of students are her passion. She is committed to ensuring that the educational services available at other PBSC campuses also be available at the Belle Glade campus.

Dr. McNeal provided in-depth information on programs and services at PBSC including:

- Dual Enrollment beginning in 6th Grade
- Cosmetology and Barbering programs for aspiring students at the Belle Glade Campus
- Certificate programs in Vocational areas of study
- Scholarships and grants geared towards students studying at the Belle Glade Campus
- Specialization in Health-related programs available at the Loxahatchee Campus
- Partnerships with US Sugar, Brightline, FAU and others that provide training and internship opportunities in the specific industries associated with those organizations.

Dr. McNeal also outlined the positive economic impact that PBSC has had on PBC. Over \$1 billion has been added to the County economy through PBSC educational training programs.

PBSC Belle Glade is also a very racially and ethnically diverse institution and college leaders make it a point to ensure that the student body knows that this is a point of pride and strength. There are a variety of programs and services available to students that focus on helping them navigate the challenges and pressures of obtaining their degrees and moving successfully onto their chosen career path.

Following Dr. McNeals' presentation, Student Development and Outreach Advisor Mr. Edward H. Tucker, provided more information regarding PBSC Belle Glade.

PBSC Belle Glade provides flexible class schedules for working students and one of the most affordable pathways to higher education among community colleges in the State of Florida. Mr. Tucker emphasized that students at PBSC do not have to go in debt to earn a good education. There are Pell Grants as well as several scholarships that are available to those at PBSC Belle Glade.

In addition, PBSC provides academic support and career assessment services for students. There are professionals who will assist students in creating a strategy for career advancement during and following graduation from PBSC. PBSC students are seen as part of a living and educational community. PBSC offers A.A., A.S, Post-Secondary Adult Vocational, and B.A. degrees and accreditation. Mr. Tucker emphasized that the BG campus places a priority on building relationships with students and transformation of students into successful graduates and working professionals.

He also stated that PBSC Belle Glade has active and exciting programs for student life and activities. The Campus has focused on building this aspect of the student experience and showcasing it to current and prospective students. There is a Center for Student Accessibility for those who are physically challenged; there are also facilities for intra mural athletic activities.

Dr. McNeal commented that for physically challenged students, there are resources for ensuring that students are able to take and complete exams and tests without concern for time or physical constraints during their work.

4. Questions/Responses

- What is the fee for Dual Enrollment? Dual Enrollment at PBSC is free.
- Attendee: A local student who went to attend and graduate from Morehouse and also conducted research in their chosen field around the world was a Dual Enrollment student from PBSC Belle Glade.
- Attendee-Hazel Lucas-If there are students at the campus that must address legal issues, Florida Rural Legal Services can provide advice and guidance for students who need it.
- Attendee-Bridges representative-Bridges will be reaching out to Dr. McNeal and Mr. Tucker to discuss how to encourage middle and high school students to enroll in Dual Enrollment.
- Attendee-for Dual Enrollment students, there are high schools in PBC that provide bus transportation to and from PBSC campuses.
- Mrs. Mann-Unfortunately sometimes the Glades Central high school guidance counselors do not sufficiently promote PBSC Belle Glade and what they offer, they need to do a better job.
- Mr. Tate-In response to Mrs. Mann, people should and are working on building relationships with Glades Central and other high schools
- Attendee-CareerSource has a partnership with the City of South Bay and currently has a high school intern working at City Hall.

- Courtney—PBC Dept. of Public Health. The representative stated that the Dept. is looking to revitalize their involvement with Glades communities. Issues such as environmental justice, farmworker housing conditions, and others need to be addressed. Glades residents, when they see something or have an issue relevant to the Depts.’. purview should call. The Dept. is also trying to encourage more applicants from the Glades to become inspectors. PBC Public Health would like to partner with PBSC to help create a pipeline for Glades residents to obtain the necessary training and skills to become inspectors.
- Attendee-STEM study areas are key for jobs related to several industries and these programs are offered at PBSC.

1. Adjournment

Comments: Mr. Tate Thanked Dr. McNeal and Mr. Tucker for their incredible presentation. He again stressed the importance of focusing on educational preparedness at GTAC and other Glades area meetings and forums. The GTAC meeting was adjourned at 11:38 a.m.

Approved by: Houston L. Tate, Director _____