



**OFFICE OF COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION**

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## Countywide Community Revitalization Team Meeting Minutes

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Meeting Title: Countywide Community Revitalization Team Meeting  
Facilitator: Duane Gainer, Senior Planner  
Scribe (recorder):  
Date/Time: Tuesday, April 10, 2012/10:00 AM – 11:30 AM  
Location: 2300 N Jog Rd., Room 1VC-60, West Palm Beach, FL 33411

### Meeting Attendance:

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- 1 Al Albrecht, Plantation Village
- 2 Linda Camardella, P.B.C. School District
- 3 Larry Diegert, Plantation Community
- 4 Deputy Willy Diejuste, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
- 5 Duane Gainer, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
- 6 Deputy Harper, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
- 7 Anne Helfant, P.B.C. Attorney's Office
- 8 Lynn Hubbard, P.B.C. Housing Authority
- 9 Deputy Jim Kirkland, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
- 10 Deputy J. Lamm, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
- 11 Chrystal Mathews, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
- 12 Jean Matthews, P.B.C. Parks and Recreation
- 13 Bill McDonald, Plantation Community
- 14 Ruth Moguillansky, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
- 15 Deputy Matthew Ott, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
- 16 Michael Owens, P.B.C. School District
- 17 Reverend Wayne Padgett, Gramercy Park
- 18 David Rafaidus, P.B.C. Community Services
- 19 Audley Reid, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
- 20 Deputy Keith Russell, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
- 21 Inda Spencer, Weed and Seed
- 22 Thyra Starr, Palm Beach County School District
- 23 Thomas Tetz, Plantation Community Resident
- 24 Gail Vorpagel, P.B.C. Code Enforcement
- 25 Lieutenant Wesley White, P.B.C. Animal Care and Control
- 26 CB Wohl, Health Department
- 27 William Wynn, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization

# Meeting Minutes

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## 1. Welcome and Introductions

Comments: Called to order at 10:00 am

## 2. Review & Approve Minutes of Last Meeting

Comments: N/A

## 3. Review of Follow Ups

Comments:

David Rafaidus, Community Services representative, found out that the Fire Rescue website has an application for smoke detectors/alarms and that there is a pilot program in the Fire Rescue Department whereby they will go to the house and install it if you qualify for the program. Mr. Rafaidus brought the registration.

Action: OCR staff will send an e-mail blast with the information.

## 4. Special Presentations

### McKINNEY-VENTO ACT

Linda Camardella and Thyra Starr, from the Palm Beach County School District, talked about the McKINNEY-VENTO ACT), the primary piece of federal legislation dealing with the education of children and youth experiencing homelessness in U.S. public schools. The goal of the Palm Beach County School District is to ensure that every child whose life has been disrupted by the lack of safe, permanent, and adequate housing attains success academically, personally and socially. As a community, it is our responsibility to address issues related to homelessness. We must constantly think of short and long- term strategies to end this cycle of poverty. The School District is committed to continue offering direct and extensive supportive services as required by McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act of 2001.

From August of 2011 to last week, the School District has served free lunches to a total of 66,000 students across Palm Beach County. Approximately 10% of that population is homeless and the District has identified only a little over \$1,200. We need your organizations' assistance to help us identify homeless children. Mrs. Starr left a card for anyone to contact her.

### OCR COMMUNITY WORKSHOP APPRECIATION CERTIFICATES

Mr. Tate, OCR Director presented certificates to all those who assisted in the facilitation of OCR's recent workshop. They included: CB Wohl, Valerie Martinez, Scott Rodriguez, Edward Nessenthaler, Inna Stafeychuk, Aaron Taylor, David Rafaidus , Carol Clinton, Maria Omana, Jorge Perez, Caneste Succe, and Robert Waples.

## 5. Department Reports

Comments:

**Animal Care and Control** - Lt. White mentioned that if a person cannot afford to get their pet out, ACC allows them to do a promissory note – they put a percentage down and owe the rest.

**Parks and Recreation** - Mrs. Jean Matthews stated that the San Castle ribbon cutting ceremony has been scheduled with the Great American Clean-up for April 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:30. There will be water and refreshments. There was a request for 2 additional benches, they have been ordered, but will be installed after the opening. The PBSO has requested the installation of two lights at the park, but Parks doesn't have any money that can be allocated for the ongoing operation of those lights. She requested the OCR if other funding source could be procured.

Action: Ms. Mathews is to send OCR an email detailing where the request came from, location, and the estimated cost. OCR staff will then determine if there are any funds that can be allocated for this project.

**Engineering Services** - Mr. Ed Rich, Engineering Services Director, mentioned that the Limestone Creek public hearing was held on March 20<sup>th</sup>, during which the Board approved the assessment process for the 181<sup>st</sup> and 182<sup>nd</sup> water improvement project. Thanks to the OCR's proposed allocation to this project, homeowners' assessment will be capped at \$20 per abutting foot.

At this time, they are taking bids, and will be awarding paving and drainage improvements on Limestone Creek Road from Church Street to 184<sup>th</sup> and Mitchell Street.

Ms. Moguillansky asked if there is anything that OCR can do to help expedite the completion of the Memorandum of Agreement for Patio Court. Mr. Rich responded that the memorandum is a new document that HUD requires, and until it is executed by both parties the money will not be available.

**Code Enforcement** - Gail Vorpagel stated that she is going to the May 15<sup>th</sup> BCC meeting with the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of revisions to their Property Maintenance Code. The code changes will allow Code Enforcement to use some of the funds from Vacant House Registrations to take care of abandoned houses.

Ms. Moguillansky asked if she was aware of any minimum standards for mobile homes. She is of the understanding that there is a County that has amended its codes to provide for minimum standards. Gail Vorpagel replied that the only thing she is aware of are some changes to Florida the Legislature about mobile home owners. Mobile homes do not fall under the provisions of the building code. Ms. Moguillansky stated that she was going to do some research and provide the information on what other Counties are doing and forward that information to her.

Someone mentioned that the house that was brought up at last month's meeting in Cabana Colony got burned down a couple of weeks later but it is boarded up now.

**School District** - Mr. Michael Owens provided a summary status of different school projects: Galaxy School is proceeding; they should be doing the foundation and erecting walls this month; Gold Elementary is further along; they are annexing the property next month. Rosenwald and Gladeview are in the planning stages. They will open in August of 2014. He reminded everybody about FCAT starting next week.

## 6. Resident Comments

Comments:

**Plantation Community** - Larry Diegert asked about the sidewalks in the Plantation community. Ed Rich responded that Engineering got the LWDD permit and has submitted an application to FDOT. Once it is approved, Engineering will be able to move forward with the project. The money is in place.

Mr. Diegert wanted thanked the CCRT for getting him involved and thanked the PBSO because in the last 5-6 weeks he has seen more action in his neighbourhood than in the last 24 years. Thomas Totz suggested that the County get a program for felines similar to Marmaduke Mondays, maybe we can have tabby Tuesdays, feline Fridays and whisker Wednesdays.

**Riviera Beach** - Ms. Lynn Hubbard thanked the OCR for all the assistance given to her and her community. At this time, she needs assistance to become more organized at a higher level. They are advocating against developers. They need help about strategies – what rules, laws, policies to fight to protect their communities. They need some legal advice. She also would like to advocate that the County retain the funds allocated to municipalities so that everybody can benefit. It appears that OCR/County is able to provide that services better than the municipalities true.

Ms. Moguillansky stated that Legal Aid may help. In addition, there might be an Attorney that might be willing to help and does some pro-bono work. She mentioned that Marty Perry helped one community group in their battle to stop a project. She can't recommend him or anybody else but, if desired, OCR would be happy to contact him to see if he would be willing to may be attend a meeting and provide some tips and general guidance.

**Weed and Seed** - Inda Spencer asked whether there is something the County can assist them to put gravel or tar at Robinson Village, and asked whether she can apply through the REAP grant for that purpose.

Mr. Gainer replied yes. In addition, Ms. Moguillansky stated that if the Housing Authority gets the gravel, OCR can help to seek volunteers to go one day and help put the gravel.

**OCR** – Duane Gainer indicated that the Community Connect for March and April will be out next week.

## 7. Time & Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on May 8, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.

## 8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.