



OFFICE OF COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION

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Countywide Community Revitalization Team Meeting Minutes

Meeting Title: Countywide Community Revitalization Team Meeting
Facilitator: Houston Tate, Director
Minutes Prepared by: William Wynn, Senior Planner
Date/Time: April 12, 2016, 10:00-11:30 AM
Location: 2300 North Jog Road, West Palm Beach

Meeting Attendance:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1. Hazel Lucas | Florida Rural Legal Services |
| 2. Capt. Kirschner | PBSO |
| 3. Larry Diegert | Plantation Community |
| 4. Bill McDonald | Plantation Community |
| 5. Lana Martinez | San Castle Community |
| 6. Ken Wilson | Florida Department of Health, Palm Beach County |
| 7. Sgt. Hightower | PBSO |
| 8. Sgt. Searing | PBSO |
| 9. Deputy Barricklow | PBSO |
| 10. Deputy Diejuste | PBSO |
| 11. Deputy Delaura | PBSO |
| 12. Deputy Rouseau | PBSO |
| 13. Deputy Roman | PBSO |
| 14. Deputy Ellis | PBSO |
| 15. Joanna Aiken | Solid Waste Authority (SWA) |
| 16. Ken Wilson | Florida Department of Health |
| 17. Jonathan Rendon | Florida Training Services |
| 18. Isabel Steube | Urban League |
| 19. Lydia Callender | Urban League |
| 20. Josue Dumercy | Urban League |
| 21. Rick Torrance | PBC Code Enforcement |
| 22. Oscar Alvarez | PBC Contractors Certification |
| 23. John Herring | PBC Contractor's Certification |
| 24. Jeremy Dennis | PBC Contractor's Certification |
| 25. Anne Helfant | PBC County Attorney's Office |
| 26. Melanie Borkowski | PBC Department of Economic Sustainability |
| 27. David Rafaidus | PBC Community Services |
| 28. Casey Pranckun | PBC Parks & Recreation |
| 29. Michael Owens | PBC School District |
| 30. Gregory Gabriel | PBC Youth Services |
| 31. Kat Hammer | The Lewis Center |
| 32. Nydia Sabugo-Marrou | The Lewis Center |
| 33. Bobby Crume | HomeSafe |

34. Houston Tate	PBC Office of Community Revitalization
35. Ruth Moguillansky	PBC Office of Community Revitalization
36. Chrystal Matthews	PBC Office of Community Revitalization
37. Audley Reid	PBC Office of Community Revitalization
38. William Wynn	PBC Office of Community Revitalization

Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions: Mr. Tate called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. He welcomed all attendees and asked the group to introduce themselves.

II. Presentation- Hazel Lucas, Florida Rural Legal Services (FRLS)

After an introduction from Mr. Tate, Ms. Lucas provided an overview of the responsibilities of the FRLS. Ms. Lucas stated that their role is to provide free legal assistance to indigent families and low-income elderly people. FRLS also provides legal assistance to migrant workers through the state of Florida. Currently, FRLS has 7 offices, with a staff of 55, including 21 attorneys. The FRLS is a nonprofit corporation with a major focus is on the following:

- **Elder Law Issues** - Involving health care, nursing home placement, Medicaid and end of life planning issues (wills, powers of attorney and health care surrogates).
- **Housing** - Matters involving tenant’s rights; home ownership and foreclosure defense, sub-standard housing; lockouts and utility shut-offs by landlords; foreclosure; housing discrimination; farm worker housing; and eviction defense.
- **Labor and Employment** - Issues including minimum wage and overtime claims; working conditions; retaliation; sexual harassment; and employees rights.
- **Education** - Issues including securing students’ rights; special education placement problems; suspensions and expulsions.
- **Civil Rights** - Matters pertaining to rights for minorities, persons with disabilities and other constitutionally protected persons.
- **Family Security/Public Benefits** - Includes unemployment insurance benefits; bankruptcy, TANF (welfare) benefits; food stamps; Social Security, SSI, Medicaid, Medicare and health related issues such as access to medical services.
- **Family Law Services** - Divorces are provided in the following counties under very specific conditions. Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee and St. Lucie Counties You must be a resident of one of the 4 counties above and not be living with your spouse. If there are children involved you must be the custodial parent.
- **Legal Help For Migrant Workers** - FRLS has a team of attorneys, paralegals and support staff dedicated solely to legal work with Florida’s migrant farm workers. The migrant staff do outreach to farm workers throughout the entire State. FRLS provides services to farm workers in the areas of wages, worker protections, workers compensation, pesticide problems, housing, human trafficking, unemployment benefits and food stamps.

Ms. Lucas also provided an overview of the responsibilities of the **Community Land Trust of Palm Beach County, Inc (CLT)** Ms. Lucas stated that their role is to provide permanently affordable housing opportunities for residents of Palm Beach County. The CLT is a nonprofit organization. Homeownership opportunities through CLT are made available to applicants who meet certain eligibility criteria on a first qualified, first served basis.

The steps to purchase a CLT of PBC Home include the following:

- Attend a CLT of PBC Homeownership Orientation.
- Complete a preliminary CLT of PBC homeowner application.
- Complete an eight (8) hour Palm Beach County Commission on Affordable Housing approved First Time Homebuyers' Education Program.
- Meet with CLT of PBC staff to fill out a full application and determine mortgage eligibility. If a person is interested in a particular home, they will be placed on a wait list. CLT of PBC staff will provide a list of approved lenders.
- Meet with a lender and get pre-approved for a loan.
- Seek Independent Counsel.
An attorney is needed to independently review the lease and other documents related to the transaction.
- Sign a Purchase and Sale Agreement to Buy a New Home
- Closing

The CLT has two existing properties that are rental communities, Davis Landings Apartments which consist of 25 units, located at 4938 Davis Rd. in Lake Worth, and La Joya Villages, a 55 unit multi-family development located on 6th Ave S and F Street also in Lake Worth. The CLT is in the process of moving forward with their third property, Davis Landings West, located at 4987 Davis Rd. in Lake Worth. Davis Landings West will consist of 16 single-family homes and 8 townhomes.

III. Department Updates

Joanna Aiken, SWA representative, reported on the following year to date customer service statistics and SWA upcoming activities:

- Customer Service has taken 35,538 calls by phone
- SWA has completed 115 hours of Adopt-a-Spot cleanups throughout Palm Beach County (PBC) with the assistance of volunteers
- SWA has donated 2390 gallons of recycled paint to homeowners
- Accumulated 11324 volunteer hours
- SWA offers Illegal Dumping signs free to municipalities within PBC. A total of 50 have been given out thus far this year
- Painted 49 homes and completed 15 rehab projects with Rebuilding Together of the Palm Beaches
- A painting project is scheduled for April 16th on 2nd St in the Limestone Creek CCRT area, a collaborative effort between the SWA, Paint Your Heart Out Palm Beach County, the OCR, the Limestone Creek Community Advocates and students from The Benjamin School.
- The Great American Cleanup will be held on Saturday April 23rd. Limestone Creek, Cabana Colony, and San Castle are participating along with several other communities. On that day, Rebuilding Together of the Palm Beaches will be making repairs, trimming landscaping, and painting the home of a veteran in Jupiter. The Sponsor is the Town of Jupiter, and Keep Palm Beach County Beautiful and the El Sol Volunteers will be helping this family with the beautification and making the home safe, secure and beautiful.

David Rafaidus, Community Services Department representative, reported on the following:

- The Community Action and Community Services' Homeless Program can temporarily assist persons with housing issues that do not meet the criteria for other organizations programs.
- The Financial Assisted Agencies (FAA) Program currently has 13 million dollars available to local agencies to address economic stability/poverty services needs, gaps and priorities. The goal is to continue working closely with the community and funders and find the best way to supplement services that are recognized as "needs" to agencies. More information can be found at <http://pbcgov.com/communityservices/programs/financiallyassisted/>

- Community Services has been involved in the Green Dot Community Strategy that aims to educate individuals to recognize high risk situations that may result in sexual violence and to teach bystanders the skills to assess a situation and intervene in a safe and effective manner. The Public Safety's Victims Services Division received an award for 5 years to provide funding to bring the strategy to PBC employees. During the first year, the participating departments will be Public Safety, Youth Services and Community Services. More information can be found at: <https://www.livethegreendot.com/>

Michael Owens, School Board, representative, reported on the following:

- The Site Access License Agreement between the School District and FAU was finally executed on March 16th. The agreement formalizes the proper ingress and egress for employees and patients of the clinic.

Oscar Alvarez, Contractors Certification Director, reported on the following:

- Mr. Alvarez thanked Derrek Moore, OCR Senior Planner, for inviting him to the March 24th GTAC meeting. During this meeting, Mr. Alvarez explained to the audience that becoming a licensed contractor is not a difficult task. Following that meeting, Mr. Alvarez met with several Glades area handymen who had interest on becoming licensed contractors. Since then, 3 individuals in attendance have met with Contractor Certification staff to being the process of becoming licensed contractors.

Gregory Gabriel, Youth Services, representative, reported on the following:

- A community conversation was held about the Youth Master Plan on April 8th at Forest Hill High School. The next meeting will be held on April 18th at 6pm at the Greenacres Community Center, 501 Swain Blvd, in Greenacres, followed by a meeting on April 22nd at 5 pm at Compass, located at 201 N. Dixie Hwy. in Lake Worth.
- The Summer Camp Scholarship Program camper application submission period is now closed.
- The 4th Annual South Florida Youth Summit will be held from Thursday April 21st to Sunday April 24th. The summit is an annual, high impact youth conference. The Summit brings youth, parents, community leaders, and organizations in Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties together for a series of events that encourage youth to bridge the gap between themselves and their communities.

Melanie Borkowski, Department of Economic Sustainability (DES) representative, reported on the following:

- DES is in the process of partnering with Parks & Recreation on projects with funding from CDBG. Ruth Moguillansky, OCR Principal Planner, asked about the availability of CDBG funds, when the application will be available and the deadline for submitting the application. She also asked about this year's process for County agencies to apply for funding under that program. Melanie advised that she is pretty sure the process is the same; she will provide OCR with the application and the information requested.
- Mr. Tate asked about the Home Investment Partnership Program. Melanie responded that she is not really familiar with that program but will obtain the information and forward it to the OCR.

Casey Pranckun, Parks and Recreation (P&R) representative, reported on the following:

- On Saturday, March 19th the grand re-opening took place at the Westgate Park & Recreation Center for the new playground and fitness zone. Free health screenings were also available to all participants during the event, courtesy of FAU Health Services.

- Funding from CDBG will be used to replace old damaged playground equipment at Lake Lytal Park.
- Parks has the required building permit for the Watergate Park located in Boca Raton; Parks is in the process of acquiring a sidewalk connection permit from land development.

Capt. Kirschner, PBSO representative, reported on the following:

- Being that election season is almost here and one of the possible presidential candidates resides in PBC, PBSO is encouraging residents to report any type of unusual activity that might be observed, by calling the PBSO at 688-3800.
- PBSO is still accepting applications for the Sheriff's Youth Camp, this camp is all inclusive. There are only so many vacancies which are given on a first come first serve basis. For more information, call 561-688-3970 or visit <https://youthbranches.fluidreview.com/#camp>
- Capt Kirschner introduced Deputy Sam Roman, new Community Relations Unit Supervisor. Deputy Roman will be charged with the task of relations with PBC residents from Central America. From educating them about available resources, how to report being victims of crimes, the benefits of banking without being afraid of deportation amongst other issues.

Deputy Roman, PBSO representative, reported on the following:

- Mr. Tate stated that he would like Deputy Roman to meet with OCR and the ACI community leaders to discuss how they can partner and work together. Ruth Moguillansky also stated that if possible she would like for Deputy Roman to attend the next Hispanic Education Coalition meeting because there are a lot of resources and activities the Coalition is involved she feels will help him achieve his mission.
- David Rafaidus stated that the Community Services Farmworker Program could help in identifying areas as well as providing information on what has been accomplished with some of their programs.
- Deputy Roman advised that there will be a meeting held on April 25th at El Sabor Latino Restaurant, 2202 Jog Rd, Greenacres, just south of Forest Hill Blvd. Everyone is invited to attend.

IV. OCR Staff Reports

Chrystal Mathews, OCR Senior Planner, reported on the following:

- 2016 Central Residents Education to Action (REAP) concluded on April 5th. The Glades area average attendance was 24 people for the 5 week course with 8 grant applications submitted and the central area average attendance was 84 with 48 grant applications submitted. Graduation for REAP participants will be held on May 14th, during which time the awarded grants will be announced.

Ruth Moguillansky, OCR Principal Planner, reported on the following:

- Budget – OCR submitted the budget request for the upcoming fiscal year. The FY 2017 department capital budget request included \$2.7 million for capital projects and approximately \$300,000 to be able to continue to implement OCR's Resident Education to Action Program, the Putting Kids First: Community Back to School Bash Program, and the Abundant Community Initiative. The capital budget request is for the implementation of several street lighting projects and other projects which are in different stages of implementation.

She also informed those in attendance about upcoming budget meetings. The Management Team will be meeting in May to review departments' budget submittals and to discuss strategies to balance the FY 2017 budget. to be held will be meeting to go over the budget. There will be a budget workshop on June 14th which will include a budget overview and general discussion of revenue, operating and capital expenditures. At the regular BCC meeting scheduled for July 12th, when the board will provide direction and authorize submittal of the FY 2017 proposed millage rates to the property appraiser.

- Putting Kids First: Community Back to School Bash – The date for this year's event has been confirmed for August 6th. This year, registration will be online. To be eligible to register under the Office of Community Revitalization (OCR) and participate in the event, students must reside in a Palm Beach County Countywide Community Revitalization Team (CCRT) area, and either be entering Kindergarten or be enrolled in grades 1 to 12 in the Palm Beach County public school system or a charter school in Palm Beach County. She will be sending the link to OCR's community contacts this coming week. Dr. Lee, School District Assistant Superintendent will be reaching out to all the School Principals to ensure that all kids in need are registered.
- Abundant Community Initiative - On March 22nd, the Board approved a contract with Bill McDonald to guide the neighborhood organizing process, inventory the skills, abilities and gifts within the neighborhood, and facilitate the formation of associations within the neighborhood. The pilot project follows a national model that supports grassroots efforts to increase neighborhood wellness by focusing on developing communities from the inside out, identifying and mobilizing assets from within (their skills, abilities and gifts), and connecting them with one another.
- National Association of Counties Award Nominations – The OCR is submitting applications to NACo to nominate the Putting Kids First: Community Back to School Program and the Lake Worth West KaBOOM Playground Project for its Achievement Award Program. Nominations are due on April 22nd.

V. Residents' Comments

Isabel Steube, Urban League representative

- For active seniors looking to bridge the gap with other seniors there is the Bridge the Gap Senior Group that meets every Tuesday from 11:30am – 3:30pm at the ULPBC located at 1700 N Australian Ave, in West Palm Beach.
- The ULPBC 42nd Annual Equal Opportunity Day Awards Luncheon will be held on Wednesday April 20th from 11:30am to 1:30pm. at the PBC Convention Center located at 650 Okeechobee Blvd, in West Palm Beach. Those interested in attending can register at <https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?llr=l7jxbcab&oeidk=a07ec7o3o9y7b344658>
- A Free Homeowner Prevention Help event will be held on Thursday, April 21st from 1:00pm to 7:00pm at the Spady Museum located at 170 NW 5th Ave. in Delray Beach. For more information call 561.833.1461 ext 3005.
- A First Time Homebuyers Workshop will be held on Saturday, April 30th from 10:30am to 4:30pm at the West Boynton Beach Library, located at 9451 S Jog Rd., i Boynton Beach. There is a \$30 registration fee which covers the cost of your credit report for one-on-one

counseling. Registration must be paid by Wednesday, April 27 by 5 pm. For more information, call 561.833.1461 ext 3000

Carlos Poveda, FAU Community Health Center at Westgate representative

- Thanked Michael Owens and the School District of Palm Beach County for passing the Site Access License Agreement with FAU. This agreement will allow proper ingress and egress for employees and patients of the clinic.

Kat Hammer, Lewis Center representative

- The Lewis Center opened in July 2012 as Palm Beach County's first homeless resource center. Having a partnership of homeless service providers in one location allows the Lewis Center to act as a central point of access for individuals and families seeking to end their homelessness. At the center people get connected with supportive services and housing to restore them to self-sufficiency. There are 20 beds in the women's dorm and 40 beds for men. Clients can stay up to 90 days.
- Ms. Hammer expressed how the center needs more help and support. There is a need to educate the public on exactly what the Lewis Center does because a large number of people do not know what the center purpose is. Since the Lewis Center opened, the provider agencies have assisted more than 28,000 men women and children in their efforts to end their homelessness.

Jonathan Rendon, Florida Training Services representative

- The Riviera Beach North Tech Apprenticeship Program will have an open house on May 11th from 6:30pm to 8:00pm at the Riviera Beach Preparatory Academy located at 7071 Garden Rd., in Riviera Beach.
- Florida Training Services will start registering students for the 2016-2017 school year at the Riviera Beach, North Tech program in September of 2016.

Larry Diegert, Plantation Community representative

- Mr. Diegert thanked the PBSO and DOT for the quick response in helping with the cleanup Drexel Rd on April 12th. He also thanked the PBSO and OCR for all they do for his community and all Palm Beach County neighborhoods.

Bobby Crume, HomeSafe representative

- HomeSafe is a nationally accredited nonprofit organization protecting Palm Beach County's and South Florida's most vulnerable residents – victims of child abuse and domestic violence.
- HomeSafe is in the process of opening up housing for 11 youth who are in the process of transitioning from foster care. These youth have to be in college or enrolling in college to be eligible. The transition home is currently in the process of being remodeled. Opening should take place in late June. It will be 11 one bedroom residences. The property is located in the city of Lake Worth.

**VI. Follow Ups
N/A**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:33a.m.

Approved by: Houston L. Tate, OCR Director _____