



PALM BEACH COUNTY OFFICE OF COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION

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COUNTYWIDE COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION TEAM VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Title: Countywide Community Revitalization Team Meeting
Facilitator: Houston Tate, OCR Director
Minutes Prepared by: William Wynn, OCR Senior Planner
Date/Time: August 10, 2021
Location: WebEx Virtual Meeting

MEETING ATTENDANCE

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------|--|
| 1. | Joanna Aiken | Solid Waste Authority of PBC |
| 2. | Peretheiura Baker | Health Care District of Palm Beach County |
| 3. | Kim Ciklin | PBC District 1 Commissioner’s Office |
| 4. | Adam Davis | PBC Library System |
| 5. | Lisa Franklin | Warriors on Wheels of Metropolitan Detroit |
| 6. | Lesley George | PBC Department of Housing and Economic Development |
| 7. | Gwynne Gonzalez | House of Representative District 81 Office |
| 8. | Kat Hammer | YWCA of Palm Beach County |
| 9. | Margaret Humphrey | Lutheran Services Florida South Bay Early Head Start |
| 10. | Helen Hvizd | PBC Attorney’s Office |
| 11. | Danielle Iverson | |
| 12. | Alexa Lee | PBC Behavioral Health Coalition |
| 13. | Elton Louis | PBC Library System |
| 14. | Chrystal Mathews | PBC OCR |
| 15. | Mendez | |
| 16. | Margaret Mwale | Presbyterian Church (USA) |
| 17. | Ruth Moguillansky | PBC OCR |
| 18. | Fadi Nassar | PBC Traffic Engineering |
| 19. | Michael Owens | School District of PBC |
| 20. | Amy Pettway | Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County |
| 21. | Casey Pranckun | PBC Parks & Recreation |
| 22. | Audley Reid | PBC OCR |
| 23. | Eddie Rhodes | Belle Glade Resident |
| 24. | Patrick Rutter | PBC Administration |
| 25. | Vivian Ryland | PBC OCR |
| 26. | Michael Sklar | PBC Department of Housing and Economic Development |
| 27. | Houston Tate | PBC OCR |
| 28. | Cornelia Wantz | PBC Traffic Engineering |
| 29. | William Wynn | PBC OCR |

MEETING MINUTES

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Houston Tate, OCR Director, called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

William Wynn, OCR Senior Planner, introduced the CCRT members.

Mr. Tate introduced the speakers for the meeting Ms. Margaret Mwale, Associate for Community Development and Constituent Relations, with the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and Ms. Lisa Franklin, Founder and CEO of Warriors on Wheels of Metropolitan Detroit.

II. PRESENTATION

Margaret Mwale, Program Manager, Associate for Community Development and Constituent Relations, Presbyterian Church (USA)

Ms. Mwale began her presentation by stating that she is grateful for the work that OCR is doing and the connections that have been made possible as a result of the partnership with the OR. The Self Development of People (SDOP) is different from other funders. SDOP does not just do grant funding but they believe in building relationships with grantees and refer to grantees as community partners.

The Presbyterian Committee on SDOP is not a standalone program. It is a part of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Their mandate is to engage in poverty eradication through grant partnerships. The grants are given both nationally and internationally.

- The Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People (SDOP)
 - Is an anti-poverty program of the Presbyterian Church (USA) that seeks to partner with economically poor, oppressed or disadvantaged communities
 - Believes that economically poor, oppressed or disadvantaged people can stand up for their human rights and improve their livelihoods and communities, and that those directly affected by unjust systems and structures have best insight into knowing how to change them
 - Awarded more than \$100 million in grants to over 6,000 community projects in more than 65 countries over the past 50 years
 - Seeks to break cycle of poverty by helping low-income people participate in decisions that affect their lives, families and communities
 - Offers a hand up, not a handout.
 - Seeks to assist grassroots groups in their self-empowerment and self-determination

- History
 - The program was founded as a new way of partnering with underrepresented communities that was not “charity”
 - Acts of charity are important, however, what was needed was a new way of partnering with communities that involved people’s self-empowerment, dignity and self-determination

- 2021 marks 51 years of partnerships with underserved communities addressing systemic structural injustices faced by economically poor, oppressed or disadvantaged communities nationally and internationally
 - James Forman, American Civil Rights leader (1928 – 2005)
 - Presented the Black Manifesto to Presbyterians during their General Assembly leading to the founding of SDOP & the raising of funds to support projects in economically challenged communities
- Mandate/Funding Criteria
 - Mandate from the Assembly to use funds in "depressed areas and among deprived people"
 - ...“work toward the self-development of economically poor, oppressed, and disadvantaged people who own, control, and benefit directly from projects that promote long-term change in their lives and communities
- Levels of Funding
 - National Self-Development of People forms partnerships with low-income community-based organizations from around the country and currently with groups in Panama and Belize using above funding criteria
 - Board consists of Four regional Task Forces and an international Task Force
 - Presently 29 Local SDOP Committees exist across the country including in Louisville.
 - Local Committees fund projects in defined geographic regions
- 2021 Social and Economic Challenges
 - COVID-19 (Covid Grants)
 - Increasing Economic Inequities
 - Food Insecurity
 - Civil Unrest
 - Climate Emergency



- SDOP Stories of Hope..., Detroit, MI
JUSTICE FOR COMMUNITY RESIDENTS WITH DISABILITIES - Warriors on Wheels
 - Project has two parts. The first part is grocery shopping and delivery program for their members with disabilities. The program keeps them safe and away from public and risk of contracting Covid-19. The group also gets donations of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) from across the country delivered for distribution to its members and other individuals with disabilities who need protection.
 - The second part is light housekeeping and help with personal care.

- SDOP Stories of Hope... Louisville, KY
JUSTICE FOR IMMIGRANTS - Somali Community of Louisville, Resource Centre Computer Lab Project
 - Resource Center with Somali language community accessible computers and with internet access
 - Center serves as an information hotspot for professional development and training of their staff and community members
 - Resource Center helps improve their computer literacy and will help increase their education and skills development thus creating empowerment

- SDOP Stories of Hope...Cleveland, OH
FOOD INSECURITY - Urban Farmers to Entrepreneurs Project
 - Project grows produce for sale at farmers' markets and to restaurants
 - Collectively promote produce grown within the group
 - Each urban farmer decides what produce they want to grow based upon suggestions and guidance from the more experienced urban farmers
 - Growers and public also attend educational workshops and bi-monthly meetings offered by the group

- SDOP Stories of Hope... Rochester, NY
HOMELESSNESS/HOUSING - City Roots Community Land Trust
 - Devastating impact of COVID 19 resulting in mass evictions and increased homelessness
 - City Roots Community Land Trust establishes long-term affordable housing.
 - Through partnerships with local organizations, Community Land Trusts (CLT's) help develop entire community. For example, by working on food security, youth employment opportunities, and education. Thus, CLT's deliver both permanent affordable housing and community transformation

- SDOP Stories of Hope, Columbus, OH
WORKER OWNED BUSINESS COOPERATIVES - Capital Park Women's Empowerment Project
 - Group of Somali refugee women seeking to support their families
 - Participants have been trained to become master seamstresses with ability to design, produce and sell designer bags, make clothing repairs and participate in marketing of products

- Partner with SDOP!
 - Co-host or participate in a community grant webinar to learn more about our grant process, funding criteria and engage with funded partners and board members
 - Apply for a grant
 - Join the local SDOP Committee based in Louisville, KY
 - Invite us to speak to your organization about how we are working to eradicate poverty and dismantle other systemic injustices (presently via Zoom)
 - Collaborate with us to jointly host a virtual workshop/forum on poverty and other social and economic justice issues (presently via Zoom)

- Engage With Presbyterian Committee on Self-Development of People!
 - www.pcusa.org/sdop
 - <https://www.facebook.com/SelfDevelopmentOfPeoplesdop>
 - <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/resource/one-great-hour-sharing-engagement-map/>
 - Email: margaret.mwale@pcusa.org
 - Contact - Inquiries may be directed to the National Office:
Self-Development of People
100 Witherspoon Street
Louisville, KY 40202-1396
Call Toll Free: 888-524-2612
Visit Online: pcusa.org/shopsdop

* PowerPoint available upon request

Adam Davis, representative from the PBC Library System, inquired about how county government (library) can help support organizations once they have a funded project. Ms. Mwale replied that SDOP has partnered with the Office of Globalization in the city of Louisville mayor's office. SDOP did a presentation that focused around the work of the Office of Globalization. Also SDOP has partnered on a community grant webinar for groups seeking funding. Also another way to partner is by organizations sharing about their work. Mr. Tate added that once communities begin submitting their grant applications, the OCR will contact libraries for support. At this time libraries can help enhance the process, if needed.

Danielle Iverson stated that she is doing public housing advocacy in Boca Raton and she wants to know if members of public housing who are forming a resident council are eligible for the SDOP grant. Ms. Mwale replied that she would need more information. There have been projects in the past and projects that are in the process of being funded that focus on housing issues whether it's tenants rights, how to better advocate for needs or how to build leadership skills. Ms. Mwale welcomes the conversation to hear more about what the council is trying to do so she could provide a more specific response.

Lisa Franklin, Founder and CEO, Warriors on Wheels of Metropolitan Detroit (WOW)

Ms. Franklin began by stating that she was not aware of all the work SDOP is doing all over the world. Ms. Franklin stated that she heard about SDOP in 2010. Warriors on Wheels of Metropolitan Detroit (WOW) advocate for disability rights on the federal, state, and local levels.

Ms. Franklin stated that if was not for the Presbyterian Church (USA) and SDOP, WOW may not be where they are today. SDOP helped in from the very beginning. WOW was gifted a mini bus that sat for two years. The intention for the bus was to transport people with disabilities to meetings. Through a SDOP grant WOW was able to have repairs done to their mini bus. Since this time WOW has expanded. In February of 2021, the city of Detroit created the Office of Disabilities Affairs to bring changes, awareness and resources to the disabled community in Detroit which consists of over 128,000 people.

During the COVID pandemic WOW began to provide delivery and pickup services to the disabled community that could not get out. These services included grocery shopping, delivery and medical prescription pickups for the disabled. When the need arised for additional fundin,g WOW applied for and received an SDOP grant to continue the services. This grant will also be used to supplement some of the attended care and add a few additional hours of care per month for the disabled.

Mr. Tate stated that models are very important for people to understand what to do. Mr. Tate was very impressed with the WOW ultimate goal to create an environment where disability will no longer affect one's quality of life.

Grocery shopping/delivery service for persons with disabilities or seniors in the Detroit Metro area can all 313-251-5777 on Mondays or Fridays from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm to register and make a grocery list.

III. DEPARTMENT UPDATES

- Adam Davis, PBC Library System
 - The Library system recently completed the summer lunch program. Approximately 35,000 lunches were served.
 - August is National Black Business month and the library will have activities
 - The library has available staff to help with Emergency Rental assistance applications

- Casey Pranckun, PBC Parks & Recreation
 - Parks & Recreation is looking to convert the existing junior tennis court in the Gramercy Park CCRT area into a basketball court. The project is in the planning stages with the conversion scheduled to begin sometime in September of 2021.

- Joanna Aiken, SWA
 - The SWA has been giving out recycled paint for single family homes that are owner occupied and under 3,000 sq. ft. On August 14th, approximately 30 residents will be receiving the recycled paint. For an application, please visit <https://swa.org/formcenter/customer-service-4/recycled-paint-donation-program-applicat-70>
 - Paint Your Heart Out is still painting homes averaging at least one a month with smaller volunteer groups due to COVID. There are homes within some CCRT areas that are on the calendar to be painted.
 - Rebuilding Together is still doing home repairs. Recently an A/C unit was installed in a home within the Cabana Colony CCRT area.
 - For SWA programs, email Joanna Aiken at jaiken@swa.org

- For information on SWA Community Education Programs, please visit <https://swa.org/421/Community-Education-Programs>
 - Green Schools Recognition Program <http://pinejog.fau.edu/ourgreenschools/>
 - Rebuilding Together <http://rebuildingtogether-pb.org/About/tabid/56/Default.aspx>
 - Keep Palm Beach County Beautiful, Inc. <http://www.keeppbcbbeautiful.org/index.html>
- Lesley George, Housing and Economic Development
 - HED will be going before the BCC on August 17th for SHIP funding approval for approximately seven million dollars for housing.
 - The Workforce housing program is still ongoing. Orientation for this program is mandatory. Funds are still available along with down payment assistance.
 - Michael Sklar, Housing and Economic Development
 - The Mortgage Assistance Program will begin accepting new applications on August 16, 2021 at 8 am. The maximum award is \$10,000 for up to six months of mortgage and HOA payments.
 - The Palm Beach County FY 2021-2022 Action Plan has been submitted to HUD for over nine million dollars in federal funds to help with low and moderate income areas.
 - Michael Owens, School District of PBC
 - The 2021-22 school year began on August 10th
 - For the 2021-22 school year two modernized schools (Washington Elementary and Addison Mizner Elementary) will be re-opened
 - The planning stage for the modernization of Melaleuca Elementary is still underway. The school is scheduled to reopen in August of 2023.

IV. OCR UPDATES

- Chrystal Mathews, Senior Planner
 - The NEAT program funding will be going to the BCC on September 14th
 - Will be looking into modifying the 2022 grant
- Ruth Moguillansky, OCR Principal Planner
 - The Back to School event was amazing. The event was held at six locations throughout PBC, including FAU, the Kennel Club, Palm Beach State College-Belle Glade Campus, Cabana Colony Youth Center, the Edna Runner Tutorial Center, and Calvary Chapel at West Boca.
 - Thanked all the partners, the BCC, County administration and all OCR staff for the support and participation in the Back to School event
 - Hopefully the 2022 Back to School event will be held inside, but a final decision will need to be made at a later date.
- Houston Tate, OCR Director
 - Thanked Deborah Morgan and Violet Howard of Palm Beach Harvest for providing food for distribution within CCRT areas for the past couple of months
 - Thanked the CCRT area community residents for volunteering to help pack and distribute food throughout their communities

- Vivian Ryland, Senior Planner
 - The Resident Empowerment Program was initially set to be seven classes of in person training but due to the rise again of COVID the classes will be held virtually.
 - OCR has already contacted the 110 people registered about the program being held virtually.
 - The program will be held via webex from 8:00am to 12:30pm on September 4th, 11th, 25th, October 9th, 23rd, 30th with the final class held on November 13th.

V. RESIDENT QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

- Eddie Rhodes, Belle Glade Resident thanked OCR and partners for the backpacks and school supplies for the students and the COVID vaccine for the Glades area residents.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Approved by: Houston L. Tate, OCR Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Houston L. Tate". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.