



OFFICE OF COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION

ADDRESS: 2300 North Jog Rd
West Palm Beach, FL 33411

PHONE: (561) 233-5311

FAX: (561) 656-7963

E-MAIL: ocrnews@pbcgov.org

WEBSITE: <http://pbcgov.com/ocr>

Countywide Community Revitalization Team Meeting Minutes

Meeting Title: Countywide Community Revitalization Team Meeting
Facilitator: Houston Tate, Director
Minutes Prepared by: Chrystal Mathews, Senior Planner
Date/Time: December 8, 2015, 10:00-11:30 AM
Location: 2300 North Jog Road, West Palm Beach

Meeting Attendance:

1. Joanna Aiken	Solid Waste Authority
2. Maddy Chusid	In Jacob's Shoes
3. Samantha Conde	WXEL
4. Larry Diegart	Plantation Community
5. Barbara Haider	One Love-One Community
6. Casey Prancun	PBC Parks & Recreation
7. Michael Owens	PBC School District
8. Deputy Rouzeau	PBC Sheriff's Office
9. Laura Martinez	San Castle Community
10. Robin Rance-Hoffman	Commissioner Burdick's Office
11. Audley Reid	PBC Office of Community Revitalization
12. William Wynn	PBC Office of Community Revitalization
13. Chrystal Mathews	PBC Office of Community Revitalization
14. Houston Tate	PBC Office of Community Revitalization
15. Derrek Moore	PBC Office of Community Revitalization
16. Tammy Fields	Director, PBC Department of Youth Services
17. Anne Helfant	PBC, County Attorney's Office
18. Pam Nolan	PBC Department of Economic Sustainability
19. David Rafaidus	PBC Community Services
20. Wayne Padgett	Pastor, Crossroads Baptist Church, Gramercy Park
21. Anna Stewart	Drowning Prevention Coalition
22. Deputy Hanks	PBSO LWW
23. Charlene Zweig	In Jacob's Shoes
24. Vincent Prince	Land America
25. Hilary Reid-Prince	Land America
26. Jonasse Pierre Louis	Limestone Creek

Meeting Minutes

- I. Welcome and Introductions:** Mr. Tate called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. He welcomed all attendees and asked the group to introduce themselves.

II. Department Updates

Joanna Aiken, PBC Solid Waste Authority representative, reported the following:

- SWA will be conducting their last painting event for the year on Saturday.
- Ms. Aiken thanked everyone for their support and participation this year.

Anna Stewart, Drowning Prevention Coalition PBC reported the following:

The Drowning Prevention Coalition is preparing for the South Florida Fair, but volunteers are needed to help with the table. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Anna Stewart at astewart@pbcgov.org after the meeting, you will receive free admission and a tee-shirt.

Tammy Fields, PBC Youth Services Department representative, reported the following:

- Ms. Fields stated that Anna Stewart could sit at the Youth Services table at the South Florida Fair or leave materials there.
- Youth Services will be meeting on the Youth Master Plan in January 2016 and having a My Brother's Keeper Conference during the week of Spring Break.

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

- Stated that a meeting was held yesterday by Palm Healthcare Foundation in Delray focusing on Mental Health. They are finalizing their needs assessment on gaps and needs for specific geographic areas, and hoped that OCR would be involved as a partner. Ms. Fields stated that Youth Services participates and is a partner.

Palm Nolan, Department of Economic Sustainability representative, reported the following:

- DES is in the process of writing a grant for the USDA loan program to assist businesses in rural areas of Palm Beach County. DES is working under the "Community Representation" guideline category. Loans for this grant are 3% fixed and cannot exceed \$150,000. Previously, four businesses in the Glades were funded with this grant.
- The USDA is very strict with their guidelines, thus only 10 businesses have been identified and have come forward for funding.
- Derrek Moore, OCR staff, extended an invitation for Ms. Nolan to present the information regarding the USDA grant to GTAC on December 17, 2015.

Casey Prankun, PBC Parks and Recreation, representative, reported the following:

- The Sidewalks are finished in Westgate Park and they are installing Playground equipment and surfacing is being done. Parks and Recreation has ten pieces of outdoor equipment going up and the project should be wrapped up in late December.
- Permitting for Watergate is on schedule.
- Old Trail concrete courts have been striped with CDBG funds and walkways have been overlaid. Ms. Prankun commented that the park looks beautiful.

III. Presentation- Steve Craig, President and CEO of CareerSource Palm Beach County

After an introduction from Houston Tate, Mr. Craig described the services of CareerSource.

Career Source Palm Beach County is the non-profit organization chartered by the State to lead workforce development in Palm Beach County. It has assisted nearly 50,000 residents find employment ranging from entry to executive level positions. They provide services for employers including recruitment, assessments and referrals of job seekers; space and staff assistance for screening/interviewing candidates and grants for training employees.

Career Source also provides programs for residents seeking careers by offering classes and facilities for job search, career development and consulting, as well as grants for training in specialized fields.

CareerSource has two centers in Palm Beach County located on Belvedere Road in West Palm Beach and S. Main Street in Belle Glade. They also have a "Virtual Career Center" that residents can access from their homepage at www.careersourcepbc.com. The virtual career center provides online tools and resources anytime and can provide online orientation/registration in EmployFlorida Marketplace, the statewide jobs database, create resumes and cover letters, provide skills assessments, online job searches and job interview strategies and techniques.

Mr. Craig also mentioned that there is a new federal law that states Workforce Development Agencies should be the conveners to community partners for vocational rehabilitation and blind services and are partnering with Gulfstream Goodwill.

IV. Question & Answer

The remainder of the CCRT meeting involved a question-and-answer session, some of the questions and comments from the audience are shown below:

- Barbara Haider, from One Love-One Community, asked "How does CareerSource address/find education and employment for Haitian residents? Mr. Craig responded that they help all populations and they do have Creole speaking staff at both locations. Also, on the website, there is a language preference option.
- Deputy Pierre Rouzeau, PBSO asked, "What training and or referral can be provided to help those residents that are homeless? Mr. Craig responded that CareerSource helps fund the Lord's Place for training the homeless as well as partner with Gulfstream Goodwill and Wounded Warrior Initiative.
- Michael Owens, Palm Beach School District representative, asked "Have you had success with working with residents with felonies and have they been, or are they, receiving meaningful employment? Mr. Craig stated that they have staff with specific employer contacts who hire and will hire people with a felony.
- Chrystal Mathews, Office of Community Revitalization staff, asked "Have you done any marketing for or provided referrals to Uber? Mr. Craig answered "No".
- Wayne Padgett, from Crossroads Baptist Church, asked "Are there age limits? Mr. Craig answered "No".
- Davis Rafaidus, Community Services Department, asked "Is there an increase or decrease in foreign workers accessing certain types of jobs? Mr. Craig answered "they have data for all industries but he cannot provide information for that.

- Houston Tate, Office of Community Revitalization Director, asked “What types of new jobs do you anticipate with the opening of the new baseball park? Mr. Craig answered “With that type of complex, you will have all types of jobs, from high and middle to lower management as well as hospitality and construction. But, they have not received the job order for that yet. Pastor Padgett added that both teams will be holding a job fair for the community at the church this week.

V. Staff Reports

Derrek Moore reminded everyone that there is a date change for the January CCRT Meeting. The meeting will be on January 19, 2016, and Verdenia Baker, County Administrator, will be the speaker.

VI. New Business

Mr. Tate talked about OCR’s partnership with Ms. Haider, from One Love One Community, to deliver Christmas gifts to schools in the four neighborhoods the ACI pilot project is being implemented, including Cabana Colony, Limestone Creek, San Castle and Plantation.

Mrs. Haider has agreed to meet with each of the school principals in the four neighborhoods to identify the neediest students. Once the list is completed, Mrs. Haider will determine from her inventory how many students can be selected and specific clothing and/or toys will be provided to each of the students and their siblings. The students will be invited and given their X-MAS gifts. OCR will provide back packs, school supplies and sanitary kits.

Mr. Tate thanked Mr. Craig for his time and presentation, and thanked all attendees for their time. The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Approved by: Houston L. Tate, OCR Director

