



PALM BEACH COUNTY OFFICE OF COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION

2300 N JOG RD., WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33411

PHONE: (561) 233-5303 | FAX: (561) 656-7963

EMAIL: OCRNEWS@PBCGOV.ORG | WEBSITE: [HTTP://PBCGOV.COM/OCR](http://PBCGOV.COM/OCR)



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: January 18, 2022
 Location: WebEx Virtual Meeting

MEETING ATTENDANCE

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------------|---|
| 1. | Joanna Aiken | Solid Waste Authority of PBC |
| 2. | Dr. Alina Alonzo, MD | Florida Department of Health Palm Beach County |
| 3. | Dr. Kingsley Anurugwo, MD | Florida Department of Health Palm Beach County |
| 4. | Mohan Baijnauth | Limestone Creek Resident |
| 5. | Jennie Carter | Lake Worth West Resident Planning Group, Inc. |
| 6. | Marie Charleus | Palm Beach County Behavioral Health Coalition |
| 7. | Samantha Corr | PBC ERM |
| 8. | Adam Davis | PBC Library System |
| 9. | William Freeman | People of Purpose, Inc. wFreeman240@gmail.com |
| 10. | Deputy Fresneda | PBSO |
| 11. | Saidy Garzon | Lake Worth West Resident Planning Group, Inc. |
| 12. | Helene Hvizd | PBC Attorney's Office |
| 13. | Dan Isaacson PhD | Math Skills Brush Up math.skills.brushup@gmail.com |
| 14. | Thomas Jennings | |
| 15. | Christelle Martin | Palm Beach Indivisibles |
| 16. | Chrystal Mathews | PBC OCR |
| 17. | Bill McDonald | Plantation Area Resident |
| 18. | Ruth Moguillansky | PBC OCR |
| 19. | Fadi Nassar | PBC OCR |
| 20. | Michael Owens | School District of PBC |
| 21. | Ike Powell | PBC Youth Services |
| 22. | Dr. Raj, MD | Primary Care Physician |
| 23. | Merlene Ramnon PhD | Florida Department of Health Palm Beach County |
| 24. | Audley Reid | PBC OCR |
| 25. | Leroy Rouse | Gramercy Park Resident |
| 26. | Patrick Rutter | PBC Administration |
| 27. | Virginia Savietto | PBC Commission District 2 Office |
| 28. | George Schott | PBC OCR |
| 29. | Milroy Senat | Agency for Persons with Disabilities |
| 30. | Anna Stewart | Drowning Prevention Coalition of PBC |
| 31. | Houston Tate | PBC OCR |
| 32. | Arlene Ustin | People of Purpose, Inc., Returning Citizens |
| 33. | Steve West | The In-Crowd |
| 34. | William Wynn | PBC OCR |

MEETING MINUTES

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Houston Tate, OCR Director, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Mr. Tate introduced Merlene Ramnon, PhD, Director, Community Health, Florida Department of Health in Palm Beach County, who introduced the guest speaker for the meeting Dr. Kingsley Anurugwo, MD, with the Florida Department of Health Palm Beach County.

II. PRESENTATION

Dr. Kingsley Anurugwo, MBBS, MPH – Chief Resident with the Florida Department of Health Medicine Residence Program

Dr. Anurugwo began his presentation by thanking OCR for inviting him to present to the team. He presented on Immune System and Vaccination: Common duet with enormous preventive utility.

The entire content of the presentation is included as an attachment for your convenience.

Questions/Comments:

- Ruth Moguillansky, OCR Principal Planner, inquired about the current protocol for people who have been in close contact with those who have tested positive for COVID-19 in terms of isolation and how does that protocol changes based on whether a person is vaccinated versus unvaccinated. Dr. Anurugwo replied that the best advice is to follow the CDC guidelines. The CDC guidelines from December 27, 2021 are currently being followed. CDC now recommends quarantine for 5 days followed by mask use for an additional 5 days. The guidelines apply to both the vaccinated and the unvaccinated.
- Dr. Alina Alonzo, Director, Florida Department of Health Palm Beach County, stated that masks, handwashing, wiping bearers and distancing have been the building block for taking care of all pandemics.
- George Schott, Planning Tech, OCR, inquired once a person test positive then test negative how long before you can test positive again. Dr. Alonzo replied that you have to get infected again. The immunity looks to last eight months that is why the booster is every six months. A person can still get infected again. Natural immunity is much less than the immunity from the vaccine. When a person gets infected over and over, it's most likely that this person's body does not make the antibodies against COVID.
- Dr. Raj inquired what is the plan in the future for public health that is practical and sustainable. Dr. Alonzo replied what she is trying to promote is that physicians need to be different kinds of physicians and focus on the social determinants of health and on health equity. The Academy of Family Physicians has a toolbox for physicians to become involved in the social determinants. "Medicine is an art not necessarily a science." We have to get back to the basics somehow.

- Ms. Moguillansky, OCR Principal Planner, asked Dr. Alonzo what her thoughts were about the monoclonal antibody treatment. Is this something that can help everyone to boost his or her immune system? Dr. Alonzo replied that the monoclonal antibody treatment is very important. It works well for people who are high risk of going to the hospital if done early. The people have to take the medication that works against the specific variant. The present omicron variant is not responding to some of the monoclonals and for the monoclonals that does work there is not enough supply available. Monoclonals are man-made. There are people that would rather take the monoclonal antibody, which is a man-made rather than the vaccine, which is a natural antibody. Dr. Alonzo's suggestion is to get vaccinated. The vaccine is made to protect you. Try to avoid getting infected but if infection does occur, there will be much less severity in the disease. Most people that are dying from COVID have multiple diseases.
- Ms. Moguillansky also asked Dr. Alonzo whether she envisions the COVID vaccine to be given on an annual basis like the flu shot. Dr. Alonzo replied, yes, there will be boosters that can be done once a year.
- Ms. Moguillansky also asked whether Dr. Alonzo thinks that the same type of vaccine should be given or can a different vaccine be given to avoid building an immunity to one type of vaccine. Dr. Alonzo replied that there is no immunity for different variants, and that the vaccines work on all the variants. A person can change the vaccine brand if they like. It does not matter what vaccine you take they all have the same mechanism.

III. PRESENTATION

Mr. Tate, OCR Director, introduced Steve West, Founder, The In-Crowd. Mr. Tate also gave a brief overview of the CCRT In-Crowd Volunteer Partnership Initiative.

Steve West, Founder, The In-Crowd

Mr. West began by thanking OCR for inviting him to discuss his organization and its services. Mr. West stated that the goal of The In-Crowd is to help for things that are needed immediately. Secondly, is to bring the idea of sustainability. The bottom line is to promote self-sufficiency. On January 10, 2022, selected CCRT communities met with The In-Crowd via Zoom to discuss their community needs. Since this meeting, Mr. West has reached out to his volunteer community to ask if they could fill any of the needs of these CCRT communities.

Saidy Garzon, representing the Lake Worth West Resident Planning Group, Inc. (LWWRPG), indicated that their major request was for assistance with English as a second language. The In-Crowd does have volunteers that are willing to share their skills to teach. The In-Crowd will assist in setting up Zoom classes for the volunteers to teach practical English.

Questions/Comments:

- Jennie Carter, representing the LWWRPG thanked Mr. West for matching up the classes for the volunteers to teach English. The next step is to coordinate a schedule to hopefully start the classes in February. Mr. West stated that The In-Crowd would be coordinating with LWWRPG in

the coming days to set a schedule. The In-Crowd is ready to move forward with assisting this program.

Mr. West stated that Dan Isaacson PhD, Founder, Math Skills Brush Up teaches/tutors remedial math to students from middle school through high school. This is a one-hour a week course for five weeks. This course includes a brush-up of arithmetic skills, which will help students get better grades in math courses. The course includes one-hour a week live group coaching on Zoom, homework sheets and video lessons to help build your skills, flash cards for addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, timed quizzes to see progress, email support and one-on-one personal sessions. The course size is limited to 20 students per five-week session.

- William Freeman, Founder of People of Purpose, Inc., stated that Mr. West contacted his organization in reference to three CCRT areas that are in need of volunteer assistance. The San Castle CCRT area has been the first area chosen to assist. Mr. Freeman stated that the need for this area is unknown at this time but whatever the need is he along with other returning citizens will go out and give assistance with whatever is needed. Mr. Freeman would like to have another Zoom meeting to work out details. Mr. Freeman stated that his organization would like to assist in the Glades area as well. People of Purpose, Inc., is a non-profit located in Belle Glade, FL 33430. <https://www.peopleofpurposefl.org>
- Mohan Baijnauth, Limestone Creek Resident, stated that the young residents of his community need job skills. He would like to see them get prepared for the future. Mr. Baijnauth is also concerned with the beautification of his community. Mr. West stated that The In-Crowd has reached out to Suits for Seniors a not for profit organizations to teach high school seniors the importance of their educational career, personal finance, and professionalism so they can maximize the number of opportunities they take after high school.
- Mr. West stated that he has not had a chance to address the neighborhood garden request from the Plantation area residents. Clean up and beautification of the area was discussed by the areas residents as well.
- Bill McDonald, Plantation Area resident, advised that there will be a food distribution in the Plantation area on February 4th. In addition, the community would like to have a distribution as COVID kits become available.
- Christelle Martin, Chair, Outreach Committee, Palm Beach Indivisibles, stated that they started as a political organization but as a non-partisan organization. The organization has expanded to work in the communities participating in food distributions throughout neighborhoods. Since then, a program has been created using donated food prepared by chefs and teams that serve food. There are sponsors that donate food as well as the plates, utensils, hygiene products and clothing when available

IV. DEPARTMENT UPDATES

- Deputy Fresneda, PBSO Community Policing
 - Shared the below link in reference to COVID-19
<https://discover.pbcgov.org/coronavirus/pages/testing-sites.aspx>

- Fadi Nassar, PBC Engineering
 - Advised that a resident was inquiring about having speed humps installed on Lake Blvd in the Country Club Acres CCRT area. This street is on a school bus route as well as the desired number of locations is not convenient for this street. Traffic recommends that one speed hump can be installed on this street but the decision is up to the community.
 - Advised that Traffic Engineering is coordinating with OCR in reference to current speed hump projects. Audley Reid will be setting up a meeting date in the near future.

- Ike Powell, PBC Youth Services
 - Advised that the Youth Services Summer Camp Scholarship Program applications for Summer 2022 will open online from January 31 until April 15, 2022 at 11:59 pm.
https://discover.pbcgov.org/youthservices/Pages/Summer_Camp.aspx

The meeting adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

Approved by: Houston L. Tate, OCR Director _____