

# Countywide Community Revitalization Team

Meeting of March 10, 2009  
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Palm Beach County Vista Center, Room 1E-60

## Minutes

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### Present:

Joanna Aiken, Solid Waste Authority  
Jason Bland, San Castle Leadership Group  
Jorceline Cadet, P.B.C. Housing Authority  
Carol Clinton, Lake Worth West  
Ruth Moguillansky-De Rose, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization  
Sergeant T. Euell, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office  
Ed Frazier, Old Trail Resident  
Duane Gainer, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization  
Linda Goddard, P.B.C. Housing & Community Development  
Anne Helfant, P.B.C. Attorney's Office  
Brendhan Horne, Royal Palm Estates  
Kathy King, Lake Worth West  
Ilene Long, Old Trail Resident  
Michael Marquis, P.B.C. Engineering  
Chrystal Mathews, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization  
Roy McGinnis, PACE EH/Department of Health  
Pam Nolan, P.B.C. Office of Economic Development  
Michael Owens, P.B.C. School District  
Audley Reid, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization  
Jim Shallman, Indian Trail Improvement District  
Sylvia Sharps, P.B.C. Water Utilities Department  
Craig Spatara, Weed & Seed  
Houston Tate, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization  
Deputy Dwayne Thomas, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office  
Martha Turner, Gramercy Park Resident  
Deputy Michael Walsh, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office  
Brenda Warren, Royal Palm Estates Resident  
Dean Wells, P.B.C. Building Division  
Rachel Williams, Gramercy Park Resident  
William Wynn, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization

**I. Welcome Introduction:**

Duane Gainer began the meeting and mentioned CCRT items that needed to be discussed. He thanked participants for their attendance, introduced himself and asked the meeting participants to introduce themselves.

**II. Review of Follow Ups:** The follow-up memo was distributed by William Wynn.

**III. Presentation:** 2010 Census – Pedro Guilarte

Mr. Guilarte started his presentation by saying that the census is a count of everyone residing in the United States; in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Island Areas. All residents of the United States must be counted. This includes people of all ages, races, ethnic groups, citizens and non-citizens. The census is conducted every 10 years, and the next census occurs in 2010. Census questionnaires will be mailed or delivered to every household in the USA in March 2010. The questions ask you to provide information that is accurate for your household as of April 1, 2010. The Census Bureau must count everyone and submit state population totals to the US President by December 31, 2010. The first census was conducted in 1790 and has been carried out every 10 years since then. The US Constitution (Article 1, Section 2) mandates a headcount of everyone residing in the USA.

Mr. Guilarte indicated that participation in the census is required by law. It takes less than 10 minutes to complete the census survey and Federal law protects the personal information shared during the census. Census data is used to distribute Congressional seats to the states, to make decisions about what community services to provide, and to distribute \$300 billion dollars in Federal funds to local, state and tribal governments each year. For more information, visit the website: [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov). Census jobs are currently available. A question and answer period was followed by a brief discussion about the “benefits” of obtaining an “accurate” count.

**IV. Department Updates:**

Sylvia Sharps, Palm Beach County Water Utilities Department (WUD) representative, reported on the following:

- Grand Opening of the Glades Area Water Treatment Plant; Ms. Sharps is disappointed that no one from the CCRT attended but was happy for the crowd that was there and the achievement of building the facility (\$58 million dollars).
- The City of Pahokee Sewer Expansion Project which is being funded by the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) goes to the Board on April 7<sup>th</sup>. The project should be completed by the end of July
- Canal Point Sewer Project is going well.

Linda Jeter Goddard, Palm Beach Housing and Community Development (HCD) representative, reported on the following:

- The County received funding for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP), about \$27 million dollars. HCD will begin accepting applications within 60-90 days for two programs. One program will assist non-profits with purchasing homes that they can then re-sale or rent. The profits must be returned to the County. The other program will allow HCD to purchase between 70-80 foreclosed properties to be resold to residents at four percent interest for thirty (30) years. Discussion ensued regarding the programs and eligibility requirements. For more information visit their website at [www.pbcgov.com/HCD](http://www.pbcgov.com/HCD).

Michael Owens, Palm Beach County School District (PBCSD) representative, reported on the following:

- For the next two (2) weeks, schools will be taking the FCAT;
- Stacey Street school is on schedule and should be open this August;
- Pahokee Stadium should be complete this July;
- Pahokee Middle School is on schedule to open in 2010; and
- The water line along Larrimore is on schedule.

Brenda Warren of RPE asked if the road improvements on Stacy Street will coincide with the opening of the school. Mr. Owens replied that the PBCSD is working with the County to ensure that this happens. Mr. Gainer asked if there were anymore department updates. There were none.

## V. OCR Staff Reports:

Audley Reid, OCR Senior Planner, reported on the following:

- Gramercy Park has been delayed about one (1) month from early march to late April due to issues with tree trimming. FPL will handle the trimmings at their expense.
- Mr. Pittard, Florida Power and Light representative, indicated that he is currently working on three projects: Plantation Estates, Royal Palm Estates (RPE) and Haverhill West. Plantation Estates design is for the most part complete; he needs to calculate the costs for the job. RPE and Haverhill West are in the process of being designed. Mr. Pittard asked if there were any questions pertaining to those projects and stated that he had recently been given a large geographic area of responsibility (Northlake Blvd. to Lantana, west of Haverhill Road). Brenda Warren, from RPE, asked if there is a time frame for the completion of the project in RPE. Mr. Pittard responded that it is one of his priorities and should be done by the end of May. A brief discussion ensued regarding the streetlight process and on-going maintenance.

Chrystal Mathews, OCR Senior Planner, reported the following:

- REAP classes begin at this facility on March 17th at 6:00 pm. Space is still available.

- NPG Letters of Intent are due April 24<sup>th</sup> with the grant application due on June 19<sup>th</sup>. The application is available online at [www.pbcgov.com/OCR](http://www.pbcgov.com/OCR). Deputy Thomas asked what the maximum grant amounts are. Mrs. Mathews responded \$20,000 for NPG and \$2,500 for REAP. Brenda Warren of RPE asked if the REAP grant could be used to purchase things such as bounce houses. Mrs. Mathews replied yes. Deputy Hightower asked if anyone from PBSO is currently on the NPG Review Committee. Mrs. Mathews responded that last year Deputy Thomas was appointed to the committee by Captain Lindskoog and served as the Chair. So far, no one from PBSO has volunteered.

Kathy King of Lake Worth West (LWW) wanted to report in the absence of Latoya Ricketts that the Western Communities REAP students held a “Community Service Project” this past Saturday and painted a house.

Mr. Gainer stated that one of the handouts on the sign-in table is a flyer for a Transportation Summit which would take place on Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. This information was received from Angie Morlok of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

Mr. Gainer also stated that OCR received flyers pertaining to the Palm Beach County Department of Community Services’ Home Energy Assistance Initiative. This initiative helps eligible households meet the cost of home energy.

Mr. Gainer asked if there were any other OCR staff reports. There were none.

## **VI. Resident Comments:**

Kathy King, LWW representative, reported on the following:

- Thirteen (13) youths are participating in the PALs basketball league.
- Four (4) members of the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) attended a Youth Development Training in Winter Haven. One member was elected Regional Secretary.
- The Women’s Club had a Valentine’s Day Event with over 119 people in attendance.
- Over 198 people were in attendance for Ronald McDonald.
- Last month’s “Movie in the Park” had 94 people attend.
- The new Tiny Tots program enrollment is now at 7 children.
- The Health Fair will be held on March 21<sup>st</sup>.
- “Get to Know Your Home” Workshop sponsored by Home Depot on March 25<sup>th</sup>.

Ilene Long, Old Trail, report on the following:

- Thank you to Brendhan Horne for taking care of their “bee” problem.
- Thank you to Andy Hartman and Road and Bridges for cleaning up the ditch.

Rachel Williams, Gramercy Park, voiced concerns regarding the possibility of the park for her community not being a priority for the Commissioner that will replace Commissioner Greene. Mr. Tate responded that this is a difficult question to answer. Commissioner Greene remains the District Commissioner who has worked hard for the community park project to remain a priority for the

community. OCR will provide Commissioner Greene's office with the concerns of the community in support of the community park. OCR will also report community's support for the community park to the newly assigned District Commissioner.

Jason Bland, from the San Castle Community Leadership Group (SCCLG), reported on the following:

- Thanks to Code Enforcement for attending the last community meeting. Their presence at the meeting sparked record attendance. Special thanks to Bobbi Boynton and Bruce Hilker.
- Juana Ramos has resigned. The new President is Pat Packard.
- Community clean-up date is April 26<sup>th</sup> (Great American).
- Trying to set up a "free" Health Clinic in the neighborhood; requests CCRT assistance. Mike McGinnis of the Health Department volunteered to assist Mr. Bland.
- Requested assistance to obtain streetlights for certain streets that PBSO has concerns with. Mr. Gainer directed Mr. Bland to speak with Mr. Audley Reid after the meeting.
- Offered the CCRT nine (9) acres at 45<sup>th</sup> Street and Haverhill Road for use as a soccer field, in response to a concern brought up in a previous CCRT meeting. A brief discussion ensued regarding the location.

Brendhan Horne, Royal Palm Estates (RPE) representative, reported on the following:

- Had a "Farm Your Backyard" presentation at their last neighborhood meeting and a lengthy discussion with Mr. Tate regarding the needs of the neighborhood.
- Rummage Sale was last Saturday.
- Participating in the Great American Clean-up on April 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Ongoing issues include the Kids at Play signs, sidewalks and streetlights.

Jim Coleman of Indian Trail Improvement District is in attendance to explore the possibility of partnering with the County on a couple of projects. One is a park expansion with a community center, pump station upgrades, 25 AEDs (defibrillators) for each District vehicles, sidewalks, trails and parks. The Indian Trail Improvement District borders Royal Palm Beach, includes the Acreage and parts of West Palm Beach. There was a very brief discussion about responsibilities of the District.

Mr. Gainer asked if there were any more comments or questions from the group. There were none. Mr. Gainer thanked Mrs. Mathews and Ms. Ricketts for the morning refreshments.

The next meeting will be on April 14<sup>th</sup>.

## **VII. Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

Minutes prepared by: Duane R. Gainer, B.P.M, Senior Planner \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by: Houston Tate, Director \_\_\_\_\_