



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: March 16, 2021
 Location: WebEx Virtual Meeting

MEETING ATTENDANCE

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| 1. | D Aguirre | |
| 2. | Joanna Aiken | SWA |
| 3. | Chan Beharry | San Castle Resident |
| 4. | Maelene | San Castle Resident |
| 5. | Robin Bundy | Cabana Colony Resident |
| 6. | Ralph Butts | City of Belle Glade |
| 7. | Napoleon T. Collins | |
| 8. | Adam Davis | PBC Library System |
| 9. | Maura Duenas | Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse, Inc. |
| 10. | Jude Estime | |
| 11. | Fernande Elisee-Francoeur | Community Partners of South Florida |
| 12. | Bonnie Hodges | San Castle Resident |
| 13. | Margaret Humphrey | |
| 14. | Helene Hvizd | PBC Attorney's Office |
| 15. | Gloach Jacobson | |
| 16. | Ontario Johnson | |
| 17. | Alexa Lee | PBC Behavioral Health Coalition |
| 18. | Jean Belzer Louis | Urban League of PBC |
| 19. | C Mann | |
| 20. | Catherine Martinez | |
| 21. | Chrystal Mathews | PBC OCR |
| 22. | Teri Mitze | |
| 23. | Ruth Moguillansky | PBC OCR |
| 24. | Bill McDonald | Plantation Area Resident |
| 25. | Fadi Nassar | PBC Engineering |
| 26. | Michael Owens | School District of PBC |
| 27. | Maura Plante | Living Hungry, Inc. |
| 28. | Ike Powell | PBC Youth Services |
| 29. | Casey Pranckun | PBC Parks & Recreation |
| 30. | David Rafaidus | PBC Community Services |
| 31. | Robert Rease | |
| 32. | Audley Reid | PBC OCR |
| 33. | Sharon Rose | Elder Services Resources Network |
| 34. | Leroy Rouse | Gramercy Park Resident |
| 35. | Vivian Ryland | PBC OCR |
| 36. | Virginia Savietto | PBC Commission District 2 Office |
| 37. | George Schott | PBC OCR |

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| 38. | Milroy Senat | Agency for Persons with Disabilities |
| 39. | Michael Sklar | PBC Housing and Economic Sustainability |
| 40. | Bob Smallacombe | PBC Fire Rescue |
| 41. | Carlton Smith | Legal Aid Society of PBC |
| 42. | Houston Tate | PBC OCR |
| 43. | William Wynn | PBC OCR |

MEETING MINUTES

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Houston L. Tate, OCR Director, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. and asked the Countywide Community Revitalization Team (CCRT) members to introduce themselves.

II. PRESENTATION

Vivian Ryland, Senior Planner, Palm Beach County Office of Community Revitalization

Ms. Ryland provided a detailed presentation on the Resident Empowerment Program.

The Resident Empowerment Program (REP) is a series of modules designed to help CCRT residents become effective leaders for neighborhood change. There are seven 7-7- modules in the series that provide participants with real life solutions and tools.

Program Outline

- **Module 1** – How to Be a Positive and Effective Leader – Residents will learn the traits of an effective leader, how these traits are key to recruiting volunteers, coming to consensus and developing a workable plan.
- **Module 2**- Effective Communications and Meetings –This module will help participants find the best way to communicate with residents, government agencies and funders. Also included in this module is how to run an efficient and productive meeting.
- **Module 3** – Build Your Volunteer Base – Participants will learn about importance of volunteers and strategies to recruit and retain them.
- **Module 4** – Be Prepared, Be Safe – Residents will learn how to organize their community to respond to a disaster, when to call 911 and ways to make their neighborhood and homes safer.
- **Module 5** - Asset Mapping and Neighborhood Plans – Participants will learn to look at their neighborhood through a positive lens – what are the good things in the community and they can mobilize them to improve the neighborhood. For neighborhoods that are ready, they can learn the steps to develop a neighborhood plan.
- **Module 6** – Event Planning and Outreach – This module helps residents plan neighborhood events and effective methods to reach out to their residents.
- **Module 7** – Accessing Resources – This module will teach residents what resources are available to improve their neighborhood – including the County, foundations and grants and how to access them.

Timeline for Implementation

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| • Complete drafting of Module 6 and 7 | April 30, 2021 |
| • Edit of Modules by Ruth | June 30, 2021 |
| • Secure video and software program for on-line classes | June 30, 2021 |
| • Secure space to hold on-line classes | June 30, 2021 |
| • Create outreach collateral | June 30, 2021 |

- Create Eventbrite on-line registration June 30, 2021
 - Mail invitations and post social media July 30, 2021
 - First class to start September 1, 2021
- ✓ Bonnie Hodges, San Castle resident asked “How do you think the program will work in San Castle, and the benefits of the program?” Mrs. Ryland replied the program should work, due to the core group of people, and will help with focus and prioritizing projects.
 - ✓ Bonnie Hodges, San Castle resident also asked “Is there a timeline to go through the modules?” Mrs., Ryland replied modules will be recorded and OCR will have to see how long it takes to get all of the material accessible, and get the word out.
 - ✓ Sharon Rose, Elder Services Resources Network asked “Who is training the folks getting on board with leadership? How is the program being rolled out, so that there is administration, appointed trainers, coaches, because this do-it-yourself leadership requires conversation with those who help pull it together?” Mrs. Ryland replied, OCR will reach out to the neighborhood leaders, and the leaders will reach out to their communities. PBSO, Fire Rescue, and Planning may be able to assist.
 - ✓ Chan Beharry, San Castle resident asked “Will residents learn how to coordinate with the county to improve their community?” Mrs. Ryland replied that is the planned goal.
 - ✓ Bill McDonald, Plantation resident asked if the REP will be broadcasted in other languages. Mrs. Ryland replied the REP will be in English, Spanish, and Creole. Mrs. Ryland also stated staff may be able to assist with the Spanish translations (which will probably be prerecorded), and OCR will need to determine if there is a demand for Creole, and how to make it happen.

III. DEPARTMENT UPDATES

- Michael Sklar, PBC Housing and Economic Sustainability (HES)
 - HES is beginning to work on the Action Plan for the upcoming fiscal year, and are seeking public input on how to prioritize funding. The current plan is at www.pbcgov.com/hes or an email can be sent to hescments@pbcgov.org to provide input.
 - Mr. Sklar advised that an email will be sent out by OCR for distribution in reference to the HES Action Plan
- Virginia Savietto, PBC Commission District 2 Office
 - Ms. Savietto stated that the district 2 office will be having a virtual meeting with a scientist to discuss the COVID-19 vaccinations. Dr. Alina M. Alonso, MD, Director of Florida Department of Health Palm Beach County will be hosting a virtual meeting the week of March 22nd in Spanish. Ms. Savietto advised that she will be forwarding the flyer for this event to OCR for distribution. Dr. Michael Farzan will also be present. Dr. Farzan is the head of the department of Immunology and Microbiology at Scripps Research.
 - Questions can be sent in advance by emailing district2@pbcgov.org. To join the meeting through zoom please preregister at <https://zoom.us/j/99778114233> pwd = ODUzVGFNQ01KZVlyZzllbzNLNnhoZz09 or watch via Facebook Live at <https://www.facebook.com/CountyCommissionerGreggWeiss>
- Adam Davis, PBC Library System
 - Libraries are now providing a social workers on site on Wednesdays and Fridays

- Bob Smallacombe, PBC Fire Rescue
 - Fire Rescue is currently doing virtual car seat installation instruction.
 - The smoke alarm program is on hold due to COVID-19
- Casey Pranckun, PBC Parks & Recreation:
 - The Limestone Creek basketball court is complete.
 - New landscaping has been installed in the Limestone Creek park with NEAT grant assistance as well as the Keep Palm Beach County Beautiful UPS grant
 - P&R is working on getting memorial brick pavers for Limestone Creek park
 - San Castle basketball full court expansion project is under construction
- David Rafaidus, PBC Community Services
 - PBC social infrastructure as well as the physical infrastructure is in great need
 - Community Services department appreciates all that OCR is doing
- Ike Powell, PBC Youth Services:
 - Summer camp scholarship program is now open. Applications can be submitted online by parents. Applications will be open until April 2, 2021
https://discover.pbcgov.org/youthservices/Pages/Summer_Camp.aspx
 - The 2021 Summer Camp Scholarship Program is scheduled to begin on June 21.
 - The next Future Leaders United for Change meeting will be held on March 23rd
<https://discover.pbcgov.org/youthservices/Pages/Future-Leaders.aspx>
 - Girls Coordinating Council <http://pbcbirthto22.com/girls>
 - Birth to 22 <http://pbcbirthto22.com>
- Joanna Aiken, SWA
 - The SWA Adopt a Spot program has been very active in PBC
 - The Great American Cleanup is coming up in April
 - Keep PBC Beautiful program will again be housed at the SWA
 - PYHO is still on-going
- Fadi Nassar, PBC Traffic Engineering:
 - Engineering is currently coordinating with OCR on speed hump and sidewalk projects
- Michael Owens, School District of PBC:
 - The school district is currently on spring break.
 - Educators are now able to receive the COVID-19 vaccine,
 - Possibility that students may return to the schools in the fall.

IV. OCR UPDATES

- Ruth Moguillansky, OCR Principal Planner advised that registration for Back to School PBC is currently underway.
- Ruth Moguillansky, OCR Principal Planner advised said there is an agenda item on April 21st for the San Castle ACI project
- Ruth Moguillansky, OCR Principal Planner advised there will be an agenda item on April 6th for additional funding for the Back to School PBC event.
- Chrystal Mathews, OCR Senior Planner announced that letters of intent for this year's NEAT grant are due on March 18th.

V. RESIDENT QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

- Maelene, San Castle resident asked “What are things we are going to be doing for teenagers for San Castle?” Houston Tate, OCR Director replied that PBC added on the basketball court, and the possibility of virtual team meeting for girls, and a basketball team for girls. Bonnie Hodges, San Castle resident added that she is working on starting a girls’ group and teen leaders to bring the youth into leadership.
- Maelene, San Castle resident asked if there was a concern of outsiders coming into San Castle, due to the expansion of the basketball court. Houston Tate, OCR Director responded that some outsiders may come in, but PAL will be monitoring the park. Maelene was given Mr. Tate’s contact information, in case she has any follow up questions.
- Sharon Rose, Elder Services Resources Network asked if Adam Davis (PBC Libraries) will be speaking on the teenage population as the library is a resource for them. Houston Tate, OCR Director replied that OCR and Libraries will be talking about how we can incorporate the county body to bring a broadened view.
- Houston Tate, OCR Director shared that the guest host, David Myers, Principal Owner, DMyers and Associates Mortgage Consulting had an emergency and could not make the meeting to present. Mr. Tate advised that if anyone had any questions regarding housing, he would forward those questions to Mr. Myer if the question can’t be answered.
- Leroy Rouse, Gramercy Park resident asked who has been most affected by COVID-19 and what has the impact been over the last year? Houston Tate, OCR Director replied there has been a lower inventory on homes, which can create a bidding war. Costs are at a historic high, and a high demand. Michael Sklar, HES added that there is a lack of supply of affordable housing.
- Vivian Ryland, OCR asked Michael Sklar, HES why isn’t there rehab money to fix existing homes. Mr. Sklar stated that money comes from the state. Because of COVID, that money was used toward balancing the state budget. PBC HES will know in June if more rehab money is coming for the next fiscal year.
- Maura Plante, Living Hungry, Inc. stated that the moratorium of the evictions is coming to an end on March 31st, 2021, and evictions have already been filed, and that PBC has \$45 million in rental assistance. <http://rentalassistancepbc.org> is the website to apply. David Rafaidus, PBC Community Services stated that the portal closed on March 12th, because 2,600 applications were submitted, which caused the portal to crash. While they are working on fixing the portal, they are processing the existing applications, and 30 people will be working to review the applications.
- Sharon Rose, Elder Services Resources Network asked if it would be possible to put a flyer about the Resident Empowerment Program inside of the backpacks that are given out during the Back to School event, to promote the program. Ruth Moguillansky, OCR replied a flyer for the Resident Empowerment Program is under development. As soon as it is completed it will be shared with all OCR contacts. OCR will also make sure that the flyer is shared with those who register for our Back to School Program.
- Bill McDonald, Plantation resident stated that newer, more expensive, homes are being built in Plantation, and wanted to know if it’s intimidating existing homeowners, and how it will affect them. Houston Tate, OCR Director replied that Limestone Creek is a perfect example of how they can no longer qualify for certain funding, due to new homes that are more costly. Michael Sklar, HES confirmed that PBC can’t use CDBG (Block grant) in Limestone Creek as a result.
- Alexa Lee, PBC Behavioral Health Coalition shared that the PBC Behavioral Health Coalition is working with Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) to educate communities on available non-opioid options for pain management. Understanding your knowledge and experience with pain management options helps the organization to better support the

community and develop prevention strategies. Click this link for the survey:
<https://research.zarca.com/r/mFToll>

- Bill McDonald, Plantation resident asked when the county will be switching the streetlights from HPS to LED. William Wynn, OCR responded that FPL is already working on converting street lights to LED in certain areas. Will follow up with FPL in reference to the Plantation area. OCR followed up with FPL. On March 17th FPL advised there is no planned conversion project for the Plantation community. Houston Tate, OCR Director advised that he will relay the information to Mr. McDonald.
- Catherine Martinez would like to be notified if there is any assistance on repairing homes. Michael Sklar, HES replied that there is no rehab money available at this time and he will contact her if anything comes up. Mr. Sklar also mentioned that it is expensive to build in the Glades due the cost to build and the cost to demuck.

The meeting adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

Approved by: Houston L. Tate, OCR Director _____