



OFFICE OF COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION

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Countywide Community Revitalization Team Meeting Minutes

Meeting Title: Countywide Community Revitalization Team Meeting
Facilitator: Houston Tate, OCR Director
Minutes Prepared by: William Wynn, OCR Senior Planner
Date/Time: April 11, 2017
Location: 2300 N Jog Rd., Room 1E-60, West Palm Beach, FL 33411

Meeting Attendance:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1. Kimberly Briard | Take Stock in Children Palm Beach County |
| 2. Larry Diegert | Plantation Community |
| 3. Michael Sklar | PBC Economic Sustainability |
| 4. Deputy B Cassie | PBC Sheriff's Office |
| 5. Deputy Newborn | PBC Sheriff's Office |
| 6. Deputy Bush | PBC Sheriff's Office |
| 7. Sgt Sauers | PBC Sheriff's Office |
| 8. Sgt Searing | PBC Sheriff's Office |
| 9. Michael Owens | PBC School District |
| 10. Kenny Wilson | Florida Department of Health Palm Beach |
| 11. Sam Roman | PBC Sheriff's Office |
| 12. Tony Cato | New Hope Missionary Baptist Church |
| 13. Ed Shakespierre | Color of Hope |
| 14. Hazel Lucas | Florida Rural Legal Services |
| 15. Shirlon McCarty | Division of Juvenile Justice |
| 16. Jonasse Pierre-Louis | Limestone Creek Community |
| 17. Robin Rance-Hoffman | Commissioner Burdick's Office |
| 18. Joanna Aiken | Solid Waste Authority |
| 19. Wesley White | PBC Animal Care and Control |
| 20. Casey Prancun | PBC Parks & Recreation |
| 21. Audley Reid | PBC Office of Community Revitalization |
| 22. William Wynn | PBC Office of Community Revitalization |
| 23. Chrystal Mathews | PBC Office of Community Revitalization |
| 24. Inger Harvey | PBC Office of Community Revitalization |
| 25. Houston Tate | PBC Office of Community Revitalization |

Meeting Minutes

- I. **Welcome and Introductions:** Houston Tate, Director OCR, called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. and asked the group to introduce themselves and to state "what would you like to take from this meeting?"

- II. **Presentation- Kimberly Briard, Mentor Coordinator, Take Stock in Children Palm Beach County.** Mr. Tate introduced Mrs. Briard and informed the group about her education and background, as well as her role as Mentor Coordinator. Mr. Tate stated that Mrs. Briard is responsible for recruiting, retaining and recognizing mentors for Take Stock in Children within Palm Beach County, Florida. Mrs. Briard believes that every child should be given an opportunity to exercise their talents and abilities if they work hard to earn their achievements.

Mrs. Briard presentation shared **Who Take Stock in Children is and what is their Mission.** Take Stock in Children was established in Palm Beach County in 1995 and also became a state non-profit independent organization within the same year. There is a branch located in every county within the state of Florida.

The mission of Take Stock in Children is to passionately promote:

- Self-worth
- Personal responsibility
- Academic success, for qualified, financially at-risk middle and high school students in Palm Beach County
- Provide unique resources which include mentors, student advocacy, college readiness
- Guaranteed post-secondary tuition scholarships.

Take Stock in Children Programs Success Rate:

- 98% High School Graduation Rate
- 96% College Enrollment
- 59% College Completion
- \$10 million dollars in Florida Prepaid Scholarships
- 425 Volunteer Mentors
- 81% Minority Students
- 37 Palm Beach County schools
- 800 Currently enrolled students

Take Stock in Children Graduation Rate Comparison:

- Take Stock in Children rate 98%
- At Risk Peer Group rate 57%
- State of Florida average rate 76%

Take Stock in Children College Enrollment Rate Comparison:

- Take Stock in Children rate 96%
- At Risk Peer Group rate 28%
- State of Florida average rate 56%

Take Stock in Children College Graduation Rate Comparison:

- Take Stock in Children rate 59%
- At Risk Peer Group rate 25%
- State of Florida average rate 48%

Student Qualifications:

- Must have financial need (low income)
- Must be on Free or Reduced Lunch
- Must be a middle or high school student in the Public Schools
- Must have average to above average grades
- Complete a student application

- Complete a student interview

Student Requirements:

- Meet with mentor regularly
- Meet with College Readiness Coach
- Attend two Take Stock in Children Student Workshops per school year
- Attend and graduate from a public school
- Maintain 2.3 GPA or better
- C or better grade in each subject
- Good behavior and attendance
- Stay free of drugs and crime

Skills Needed by Mentors:

- Listen Actively
- Building Trust
- Ability to encourage
- Identify goals and current reality
- Provide corrective feedback
- Inspiring
- Developing capabilities in mentees
- Managing Risks
- Good Motivator
- People Orientation
- Facilitation

Mentor Requirements:

- Meet at least once a week during lunch 3 times a month
- Communicate regularly and keep lines of communication open
- Register as a volunteer and required background check (school only)
- Sign in and Sign out as a volunteer and log in your hours.
- Keep track of meeting times and hours you meet with your mentee
- Commit to at least one year

Steps to Begin Mentoring:

- Complete a Mentor Application and submit to our office
- Attend a Mentor Orientation
- Mentor Coordinator will match mentor with mentee
- College Readiness Coach will arrange the first Mentor/Mentee meeting and mentor will register as a volunteer in the student's school and acquire a background check
- Begin mentoring your student at least once a week on the day and time that was arranged between mentor and mentee
- Embark on a journey that will not only change the life of your student but will change yours too

How Take Stock Mentors Help?

- Spend time weekly with your student at his/her school
- Become a friend, tutor, and a role model
- Encourage and Motivate
- Set Goals
- Help a child to build a foundation of basic values
- Guide a child towards a college or vocational education and away from drugs and violence

- Give a child hope for the future

* A copy of the presentation is available from OCR upon request.

Following the presentation, attendees offered questions and comments which are summarized below:

- Deputy Bush asked whether there was an age limit to become a mentor. Mrs. Briard replied there is no maximum age limit, minimum age should be 20-21.
- Ed Shakespierre asked how many students are there currently? Mrs. Briard replied there are over 500 students currently. This number changes year to year dependent upon funding. Currently there are 350 mentors.
- Joanna Aiken asked if there are college trips. Mrs. Briard responded that there are college tours through Take Stock in Children.
- Houston Tate asked what is the minimum requirement for students. Mrs. Briard replied middle school students are the minimum but they are currently focusing on 9th graders.
- Michael Owens asked if over the summer are the mentors allowed contact with mentees? Mrs. Briard replied that contact over the summer is allowed through phone calls, texts etc. but there can be no person to person contact unless it's at a Take Stock in Children event.
- Deputy Cassie asked if there were any type of program or partnerships set up to help the students get jobs after high school? Mrs. Briard replied they have no program or partnership to assist with finding employment.
- Ed Shakespierre asked if there was a recruitment process. Mrs. Briard replied Johnson Scholars Program <http://www.jsf.bz/> is their avenue used to find the students for Take Stock In Children but often times guidance counselors may refer students and there are times when parents will inquire.
- Deputy Cassie asked if there was an income guideline. Mrs. Briard did not have this information to provide at this meeting.
- Shirlon McCarty asked if a student has a criminal history are they eligible for Take Stock in Children? Mrs. Briard did not a definite answer but she did reply that if a student was found guilty of a crime while in Take Stock in Children that student would be terminated.
- Chrystal Mathews asked are there any factors that would exclude a student from Take Stock in Children? Mrs. Briard answered income.
- Jonasse Pierre-Louis asked if any funding from government? Mrs. Briard answered on occasion there is government funding but the funds are mainly from Florida Prepaid and private donors.
- Ed Shakespierre asked what is the average amount of funds per student for college? Mrs. Briard replied \$8,000 is the average per student.

III. Department Updates

Wesley White, PBC Animal Care and Control:

- Animal Care and Control is an open admission center and they are looking for adopters to adopt a dog or cat.
- Mr. White has been promoted with the responsibility of managing the licensing and enforcement of all Pet Shops as well as the mobile spaying and nurturing vehicles within Palm Beach County.

Michael Sklar, DES:

- DES will be going before the BCC on April 25th to present a workshop on the DES Action Plan

Michael Owens, School Board:

- The school board in the near future will be relocating the Adult Education Center to the Gold Coast campus located in the Westgate community.

Casey Pranckun, Parks & Recreation:

- P&R has been working conceptionally on the Plantation Park project
- Continuing to work on the Lake Lytal project with the assistance of CDBG funds
- 95% complete with the construction drawings for the playground renovation project at the Canal Point park located at the Canal Point Community Center

IV. Residents Comments

Larry Diegert, Plantation community representative, reported the following:

- Mr. Diegert wanted to thank PBSO, SWA, P&R and OCR for all they've done within the Plantation community

Sam Roman, PBSO representative, reported the following:

- The BBQ held on April 8th at the Plantation community was a big success
- April 20th there will be Conversation with a Deputy at the Palm Beach State campus located in Loxahatchee from 9-11a.m. hosted by Palm Beach State
- May 15th-19th Consulates will be in Palm Beach County. Thus far twenty (20) countries have confirmed to attend

Tony Cato, New Hope Missionary Baptist Church:

- Would like help with purchasing a facility in the Lake Worth area to help kids with information technology, robotics and boxing for fitness

Sgt Sauers, PBSO:

- May 13th at Indian Pines Elementary PBSO along with the school district will be hosting a health and Safety fair from 10a.m.-1p.m.

Shirlon McCarty, DJJ:

- April 22nd, Youth Summit will be held at Palm Beach Lakes High School from 8a.m.-3:30p.m.

Deputy Bush, PBSO:

- April 22nd, Memory Trees will be hosting the Gramercy Park Community Garden Event from 8a.m.-12p.m.

V. Follow-ups

N/A

The meeting was adjourned at 11:11 a.m.

Approved by: Houston L. Tate, OCR Director _____