



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: February 15, 2022
 Location: WebEx Virtual Meeting

MEETING ATTENDANCE

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------|---|
| 1. | Joanna Aiken | Solid Waste Authority of PBC |
| 2. | Samantha Corr | PBC ERM |
| 3. | Daniel Duenas | PBC Parks & Recreation |
| 4. | Maria Fernandez | Epilepsy Florida A-Non-Profit Organization omfernandez@epilepsyfl.org |
| 5. | Arthur Frisch | Country Club Acres Resident |
| 6. | Lesley George | PBC Housing & Economic Development |
| 7. | Teresa Grimaldi | West Palm Beach Resident |
| 8. | Violet Howard | Optimistic Journey, Inc./ Bitcoin.VioletHoward.com |
| 9. | Margaret Humphrey | Lutheran Services Florida South Bay Early Head Start |
| 10. | Helene Hvizd | PBC Attorney's Office |
| 11. | Bonnie Leech | San Castle Resident |
| 12. | Chrystal Mathews | PBC OCR |
| 13. | Ruth Moguillansky | PBC OCR |
| 14. | Michael Owens | School District of PBC |
| 15. | Tera Rose | Community Partners of South Florida |
| 16. | Leroy Rouse | Gramercy Park Resident |
| 17. | Patrick Rutter | PBC Administration |
| 18. | Robin Sambur | South Palm Beach Resident |
| 19. | George Schott | PBC OCR |
| 20. | Milroy Senat | Agency for Persons with Disabilities |
| 21. | Michael Sklar | PBC Housing & Economic Development |
| 22. | Beatriz Solis | School District of PBC/ Multicultural Education Department
Migrant Educ Program beatriz.solisgrueso@palmbeachschools.org |
| 23. | Houston Tate | PBC OCR |
| 24. | Nancy Yarnall | Loxahatchee Resident |
| 25. | Krissy Webb | Student ACES |
| 26. | Steve West | The In-Crowd |
| 27. | 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 Steve West, Founder of The In-Crowd. Mr. Tate also gave a brief overview of the CCRT In-Crowd Volunteer Partnership Initiative.

II. PRESENTATION

Steve West, Founder, The In-Crowd

Mr. West began by stating that everything that is done is a win, and the goal is to give everyone who participates an advantage from the things that The IN-CROWD does. The IN-CROWD is aware that there is an uneven playing field between what communities have and don't have, and between the served and the underserved communities. The intent is to level the playing field, and The IN-CROWD has short and long-term goals to accomplish this.

In the short term, where help is needed, it should be done immediately and in ways that can make a difference. Hunger and inequality takes place throughout the year. Secondly, The IN-CROWD is trying to get the understating across to all that relationships need to formed an sustained so people can have what is needed on a continuous basis. Thirdly, and most importantly, The IN-CROWD would like to provide whatever tools needed to help people be more self-sufficient and be able to fulfill their own personal needs.

The IN-CROWD has a new program named The IN-CROWD University (The ICU, which is very specific. The purpose of this program is to bring information and inspiration to people who can, and want, to improve their condition and are willing to do the work required to do so. The program started with English as a second language for Spanish speaking people. The class' maximum capacity is 20. There are volunteers to teach this class. A creole to English class is currently being developed. There is also remedial math, black history, preparing for a job and home economics. In the coming weeks, The IN-CROWD will be putting together a list of classes that are offered at this time and will be looking for students who would like to enroll. The IN-CROWD also would like to know what are the things needed to help each individual community and the residents of those communities.

The Love Your Neighbor initiative began on February 14, 2022 because at this time is when people reach out to their loved ones. The IN-CROWD is asking people to reach out further and bring in new loved ones into their lives and build trusting relationships where relationships do not exist. This pilot program with OCR and other groups was started to see how existing activities could be supported and made more valuable. The IN-CROWD and its partners will be working on this program continuously. The overall name of the program is "Building Bridges."

Questions/Comments:

- Houston Tate, OCR Director, stated that there a number of CCRT communities that are signing up for the classes.
- George Schott, PBC OCR inquired how a student could can get a STEM mentor. Mr. West provided his contact information.

- Bonnie Leech, San Castle Resident
 - Discussed what The IN-CROWD and what volunteers provided for her community (15 boxes of diapers, English classes)
 - Mr. West stated that if Ms. Leech can contact him, he has an ESOL teacher who can teach one on one classes for the resident Ms. Leech mentioned.
 - Ms. Leech thanked District 3 PBSO for all they do, Mr. West concurred.
 - Ms. Leech thanked Violet Howard for her dedication with the food distributions. Mr. Tate also thanked Ms. Howard.

III. DEPARTMENT UPDATES

- Joanna Aiken, SWA
 - Shared information about the SWA Recycle Paint Donation Program. More information can be found at <https://swa.org/formcenter/customer-service-4/recycled-paint-donation-program-applicat-70> SWA is interested in doing more projects within the CCRT areas
 - Thanked Bonnie Leech for assisting with the food distribution within the San Castle CCRT area
 - PYHO will be doing a project in Gramercy Park in March 2022, date TBD
- Lesley George, PBC HED
 - HED is still taking applications for the owner occupied housing rehab program. Applications will be accepted through February 28, 2022. Applications for the program can be found at <https://discover.pbcgov.org/HED/Pages/ARPA-Owner-Occupied-Housing-Rehabilitation-Program.aspx>
- Michael Sklar, PBC HED
 - The first public meeting about the PBC HED Action Plan for the upcoming fiscal year will be held on February 22nd at 10 a.m. If a person would like to attend, please email HED at hedcomments1@pbcgov.org
 - The meeting will be held at 100 Australian Avenue, West Palm Beach, FL., 1st floor training room. The meeting can be accessed virtually as well.
 - The Action Plan is the HED application to the federal government so they can receive Community Development Block Grant funds, Home Investment Partnership funds and Emergency Solutions Grant funds.
- Samantha Corr, PBC ERM
 - ERM offers free guided hikes in the PBC natural areas every month. The schedule is posted at <http://pbcerm.com>
 - ERM encourages residents to view the 30-minute video that was made in partnership with the school district. This video is used in the PBC high and middle school curriculum.
 - In the coming month, ERM will be sending out the flyer for their Green Futures summer internship for 17-22 year olds. It's a four week paid internship
 - In 2021, ERM had 540 volunteers and donated 1,500 labor hours to remove 19,000lbs of trash from the PBC Natural Areas.
 - Steve West would like Ms. Corr to contact him and he would be glad to put ERM on The IN-CROWD website menu for schools and other volunteers.
- Michael Owens, PBC School District
 - Melaleuca Elementary modernization is proceeding. The school district has submitted the application to PBC for review. The school is set to open on August of 2023. The students are currently attending a middle school site in Royal Palm Beach.

- Modernization of Wynnebrook Elementary is in the planning stage. This modernization is scheduled to be completed in August of 2024. During the modernization, these students will also attend the middle school site in Royal Palm Beach.
- The new elementary school in Boca Raton, named Blue Lake Elementary, is set to open in August of 2022.
- Daniel Duenas, PBC Parks & Recreation - The Gramercy Park tennis courts are in the process of being converted to a basketball court. This project should be completed within the next couple of months.

IV. OCR Updates

- Mr. Tate thanked Ms. Robin Sambur for providing brick pavers to one of the CCRT area communities.
- George Schott, Planning Technician, informed that registration for the Back to School PBC! event began on February 1st. Registration can be completed at www.backtoschoolpbc.org
- Chrystal Mathews, Senior Planner, stated that applications are being accepted for the NEAT Grant Program. Apply for up to \$10,000 for your community. The pre application conference will be held on March 2nd. For more information go to <https://discover.pbcgov.org/ocr/Pages/NEAT-Program.aspx>

V. Resident Questions/Comments

- Leroy Rouse, Gramercy Park Resident, asked when the painting of homes would begin. Joanna Aiken replied that PYHO would be in Gramercy Park in the near future. She also mentioned that there are more homes in need of assistance in this area. Ms. Aiken will follow up with Mr. Rouse with the exact dates.
- Beatriz Solis, PBC School District representative, asked since the back to school event will take place before the migrant students return in September, how will they be able to get school supplies? Mr. Tate replied that he would follow up with her regarding this item. In addition, Ms Solis mentioned that she would like to volunteer to teach citizenship classes to Spanish speaking immigrants to help them prepare for the immigration interview.
- Robin Sambur, South Palm Beach Resident ,stated that she has access to clothing that could be donated. Ms. Sambur will coordinate with Ruth Moguillansky of OCR to make the donation.
- Tera Rose, Community Partners of South Florida, advised that Community Partners is doing Vita Tax at the Belle Glade Library 725 NW 4th St, on Thursdays and Fridays from 10am to 3pm The contact number is 561-281-3997.
- Violet Howard, Optimistic Journey, Inc. / Bitcoin.VioletHoward.com gave a brief overview of Blockchain and cryptocurrency.

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Approved by: Houston L. Tate, OCR Director _____