

Countywide Community Revitalization Team

Meeting of January 11, 2011

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Palm Beach County Vista Center, Room 1E-60

Minutes

Joanna Aiken, Solid Waste Authority
Al Albrecht, Plantation Village
Deputy Willie Brookins, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
Shirley Cantelo, Old Trail Resident
Deputy John Chapman, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
Carol Clinton, Lake Worth West
Ruth Moguillansky-De Rose, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
Larry Diegert, Plantation Community Resident
Deputy J. Ellis, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
Duane Gainer, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
Andy Hartmann, P.B.C. Engineering
Demetrius (Demi) Jacques, Gramercy Park Resident
Captain Jeff Lindkoog, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
Ilene Long, Old Trail Resident
Chrystal Mathews, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
Roy McGinnis, PACE EH/Department of Health
Stephen Mayer, P.B.C. Housing and Community Development
Deputy Newcomb, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
Michael Owens, P.B.C. School District
Denise Proffitt, Conmic Foundation
David Rafaidus, P.B.C. Community Services
Douglas Robinson, P.B.C. Zoning
Deputy Keith Russell, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
Sylvia Sharps, P.B.C. Water Utility/GUA/EDO
William Wynn, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

Mr. Gainer welcomed the group on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, County Administration, and the Office of Community Revitalization to this month's Countywide Community Revitalization Team (CCRT) meeting. He introduced himself and asked meeting participants to state their name, organization and/or neighborhood represented for the record.

II. REVIEW FOLLOW-UPS:

Plantation Community – Mr. Gainer sent an email to OCR's CCRT contact for Palm Tran, Gerry Gawaldo and asked if he can have someone here to answer questions. Further follow up will be undertaken.

We also received a request from Ms. Long/Ms. Cantelo to have someone here from Animal Care and Control.

Mr. Gainer asked Mr. Diegert if the meeting planned regarding the dumping site was already conducted. Mr. Diegert responded not yet because he is trying to get at least 35 people. Mr. Gainer offered to help with mailings and maybe make some flyers.

III. DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

Mr. Gainer stated that OCR only has a few projects going on right now. Several projects have been completed. Projects still active, and in different stages of implementation, include: neighborhood parks in Gramercy Park, Westgate and Watergate Estates; a couple of road improvement projects, a pathway project, the Lake Worth West portable, and a few others.

Andy Hartmann, Engineering (ENG) representative, reported on the following:

- Sylvan Lane is in compliance review and ENG is waiting for their comments.
- Wallis Road sidewalk- ENG is awaiting a notice to proceed from OCR and that the money needed is available.

Mr. Gainer asked whether OCR has to transfer the money to an ENG account. Mr. Hartmann replied that he did not know, but that he needed to have an account number and the notice to proceed.

- Wallis Rd, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and Sunbeam- ENG is waiting for the completed plans. ENG has requested utilities to start relocating.
- Coconut Road- ENG has not been able to find out whether construction has already started; they were supposed to start on January 3rd. He will follow up on this.
- Patio Court- plans are 100% complete and ENG has permits in hand. ENG is waiting on Palm Springs to put their sewer pipes in the ground. He has not heard any news on it.
- New project Stone Creek area 181st Street N and 182nd Road N- ENG is attempting to put water and sewer in. They sent out petitions. The sewer petition has been rejected and ENG needs one more vote to proceed with the water improvement project.
- Ohio Road- This road is located in a CCRT area south of Haverhill between Melaleuca and Lake Worth Road. ENG is waiting for the consultant to submit the plans.
- Cinquez Park- semi final inspection is scheduled for this Thursday.

Dep. Ellis, Gramercy Park, asked if he could obtain road plans for 45th street for the next 5 years. There is some rumor going around about how far the road is going to extend.

Mr. Hartmann suggested that Dep. Ellis get together with him and go over to Roadway Production after the meeting and see what they have.

Sylvia Sharps, WUD/EDO/GUA representative, reported on the following:

- Finishing up the 2 projects in South Bay and Pahokee that were financed through RRA funds. She will find out today whether she can submit final reports.
- Finalizing the project in Belle Glade by the end of August that is financed through the Dept of EDA. They will be applying for more grant money through EDA after they prove that they did a good job with the project in Belle Glade.

- Wanted to let people know about the tax incentive. She explained that if someone has a business and employs people from the Pahokee, Belle Glade, South Bay and Canal Point area, there is \$5 million dollars available in tax incentives for employing those people. Go to BEDI.com or org for more info. It is the economic development initiative through which tax incentives can be obtained to pay part of their salaries. Do not allow those \$5 million to go to waste.

Someone asked if that would also include those contractors that sub-contract? Ms. Sharps replied, yes, and the website explains the programs and forms to be used. It is called the Business Enterprise Development Initiative.

Mr. Gainer asked if the cities' qualify for that money? Ms. Sharps responded no, just businesses within the city. You can have the company anywhere in Palm Beach County, but you have to employ people from those specific cities.

Mr. Gainer asked Ms. Sharps if she received an email last week about a storm water project in Belle Glade. Ms. Sharps stated that she had issues with her computer, and just got it today. Steve McGrew is supposed to get with her today to see if that project was completed.

Joanna Aiken, Solid Waste Authority (SWA) representative, reported on the following:

- Paint Your Heart Out and Rebuilding Together are all working right not. Anyone can come help us. They painted last Saturday in Gramercy Park. It was an Eagle Scout project.
- They are painting in Jupiter the next few weekends until March.
- They have almost painted every house that they had applications for. Get the word out to your residents; we need to promote more residents to apply.
- Today is a big day for Paint Your Heart Out, hoping their funding got approved.

Mr. Gainer asked if she had applications for Paint Your Heart Out with her. Ms. Aikens replied it is only 1 page and they prefer not to do it online.

Capt Lindskoog asked if she was going to send the forms and for her email. Ms. Aiken requested that she be contacted at Jaiken@swa.org or at her cell phone – 561-358-2163

IV. OCR STAFF REPORTS:

Chrystal Mathews reported on the following:

- Neighborhood Partnership Grant (NPG) Funding for 2010 and 2011. There are 3 applications going to the Board this morning. They are probably being approved as we speak. The first is for Paint your Heart out for \$20,000 – 2nd Rebuilding Together for \$20,000 and the 3rd is for Gramercy Park for \$16,600.
- The Neighborhood Partnership Grant Funding for the 2011-12 cycle should be published sometime in late February. Hopefully we will get everything out very soon. The Steering Committee has met and no changes to the program are planned for this year. She hopes that everyone here that is representing a community will apply.
- Planning REAP for this year. Ms. Mathews stated that if anyone wants to participate in the planning committee, they can just talk to her after this meeting. The planning committee will have a meeting sometime within the next 2/3 weeks. REAP sessions start in February or March so we got started late. REAP will be a 5 week program, and will be held in the Glades and at the Vista Center. OCR will again offer grants up to \$2500 for neighborhood improvement projects.

- Ms. Mathews will be attending a meeting with the Sheriff's Department on the 20th of this month and will go over the Neighborhood Partnership Grants and REAP.

Ruth Moguillansky-De Rose, reported on the following:

- The Board approved the three NPG funding agreements for Fiscal Year 2010-2011 submitted by OCR. The three grants approved were: \$20,000 for Paint Your Heart Out, Inc to purchase painting and home improvement supplies; \$20,000 for Rebuilding Together of the Palm Beaches to purchase building materials for repairs and to pay for pressure cleaning services prior to homes being painted; and \$14,500 for Gramercy Park Neighborhood Corporation to install landscaping and irrigation along the community's back wall to deter crime, purchase a community announcement sign and landscaping materials.
- She indicated that she will be communicating with Charlie Rich from Engineering to make sure that he is aware that the Wallis Rd. Pathway Project item was approved by the Board on December 7th, and asked Mr. Hartman whether anything was needed from OCR so they can move forward with it. On December 7th, the Board authorized the expenditure of \$1,033,800 for the pathway project. These funds are coming from surplus funds from the RPE Paving and Drainage Improvement Project and our CCRT Recoup Funding Account.

Andy Hartman, ENG representative, responded that a memo should be submitted to them so they can initiate the design. Ms. De Rose said that she will follow up on that, send a memo and a Budget Availability statement.

VI. RESIDENT COMMENTS:

Denise Proffitt, representing Connic J. Odell Breast Cancer Foundation, reported on the following:

- They submitted a suggestion to the Pepsi Project and were accepted. They are collecting votes in January. They are asking for \$50,000. The OCR REAP program helped her to do this. For the last eleven years, the organization has given away over \$125,000 to breast cancer survivors. Plus they just had a lady in the Season to Share. They would like to continue doing that with half of the \$50,000 request and use the other half to start a new program for children of breast cancer patients in PBC, to provide counseling, tutoring, sports and arts. They feel like that those are 4 things that really help to support children and guide them through a really scary, turbulent time in their lives. She requested meeting participants to vote for the organization everyday during the month of January. Voting is easy - you can you can text, go to www.refersheverything.com/conniefoundation and/or go to Facebook. There is an application on Facebook.

Joanna Aiken, SWA, asked how do they get their recipients for the foundation.

Ms. Proffitt responded that a lot of people come through Dr. McKeon of The Palm Beach Cancer Institute. Most of them come through the doctors, nurses and social workers who work in the Oncology offices, some through word of mouth, and the conniefoundation.org website. Recommendations will go to their committee of 3, who determines who gets money.

Joanna Aiken stated that she would like for Ms Proffitt to converse with her homeowners to see if they are in need of assistance through Rebuilding Together or Painting Your Heart Out.

Douglas Robinson, PBC Zoning representative, asked is this just for breast cancer.

Ms. Proffitt replied yes it is just for breast cancer.

Demi Jacques, Gramercy Park resident, reported on the following:

- Wanted to thank OCR for everything they have done.
- She asked whether the NPG grant can be used to place speed humps in your community.

Mrs. Moguillansky-De Rose responded not through the NPG grant. NPG cannot fund any project that could be funded through other County programs. She also indicated that there might be other funding sources, like Law Enforcement Trust Funds that could be explored, and encouraged the community group to try to find other funding sources. If money is available from any other source, OCR would be happy to work with Engineering and help facilitate the project.

Rev. Wayne Padgett, Gramercy Park Baptist Church representative, reported on the following:

- The Christmas party went really well with the help of PBSO and the toys they gave us. They were also able to get toys through the church and the Love Doctor and their resources, so they had enough toys to give all the kids and a few extra to donate to other County agencies. Thank you for all your help. It was a great learning experience.

Mr. Larry Diegert, Plantation Community resident, reported on the following:

- Mr. Diegert stated that the community will have everything working on the FOP lodge; by this year it will be done. The Town of Palm Beach has not been back in the community, but they are still dumping at Benoist Farms. Every 3 days they haul out of there. He needs to get the Health Department out there to get some testing on the soil. After testing, they will eliminate all of that. Everyone in PB had an arsenic threat and that is where it came from.

Someone asked if, the FPL Street Light Program information for the 2008/9 year that appears on the CCRT website still applies today, and whether San Castle's existing lights were installed through that program.

Mrs. Moguillansky-De Rose answered, yes, and the information will be updated on the website soon. She said that if anyone has any questions on the program, to please contact William Wynn who is the NSLP Coordinator. With regards to San Castle, she responded that the street lighting project was not implemented through the Neighborhood Street Lighting Program. The project, which entailed the installation of 48 streetlights, was implemented through a one-time allocation by the Board. She also stated that William Wynn is starting to hear from other neighborhoods as well, and that he should meet with him so they can discuss the needs and determine whether any funds can be allocated for this community.

Someone asked when the community center building was to be demolished. Ms. De Rose responded that the building was scheduled to be demolished around the 10th, but will need to get an update on that from PREM. She explained that the OCR had tried to keep the facility so it could be used by PBSO but at the time the Board funded the acquisition of the property, the idea was that in the future the property would be demolished and the land was to be used to expand the existing neighborhood park. The San Castle community group submitted a letter indicating that they couldn't afford the maintenance and insurance of the building, and didn't renew the lease.

A PBSO representative from San Castle asked whether there has been any talk on whether the Head Start facility could be used.

Mrs. Moguillansky-De Rose stated that it was her understanding that when the community group was very active, they wanted to have a community center. At the time, we were going to build the Head Start facility and then when the Lake Worth Corridor Senior Center was built, the kids would be moved there. This didn't of course it did not work because you cannot move the kids from the neighborhood. She stated that she will contact Chauncey Taylor from FDO and inquire about it, but her understanding is that there are no plans other than keeping the facility as a Head Start facility.

Dep. Ellis stated that he is in the process to put in for a grant for Gramercy Park to become a tax exempt organization.

Mrs. Moguillansky- De Rose asked whether funding to become a tax exempt organization hasn't already been allocated through a REAP grant. Dep. Ellis said he didn't know about that. Ms. Mathews said yes. Discussion ensued.

Stephen Mayer, HCD representative, reported on the following:

- Still accepting applications for the NSP Program. The CDBG applications are coming out soon.

Mrs. Mathews asked Mr. Mayer if there is now assistance for people who are upside down in mortgages.

Mr. Mayer responded yes, it is on the HCD website.

Mr. Gainer again thanked Mr. Diegert for today's refreshments and volunteered refreshments for the next meeting.

Mr. Gainer asked if there were any more questions or comments. There were none.

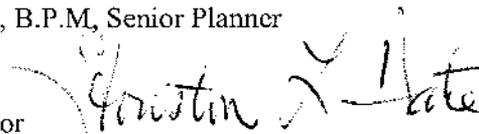
VII. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

The next meeting will be held on February 8th.

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

Approved by: Houston L. Tate, Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Houston L. Tate". The signature is written over a horizontal line that serves as a signature line.