

Countywide Community Revitalization Team

Meeting of July 13, 2010

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
A. Barricklau, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
Deputy Willie Brookins, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
Shirley Cantelo, Old Trail Resident
Theresa Cantelo, Old Trail Resident
Karen Chennell, Cheetah's
Victor Conlin, Plantation Village
Judy Dale, Plantation Community Resident
Muriel Delsoin, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
Ruth Moguillansky-De Rose, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
Larry Diegert, Plantation Community
Willie Diejuste, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
Kelly Fason, Dress for Success Palm Beaches
Ed Frazier, Old Trail Resident
Steve Futch, Plantation Community
Duane Gainer, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
Dave Gruse, Plantation Community
Andy Hartman, P.B.C. Engineering
Anne Helfant, P.B.C. Attorneys' Office
Jimmy Hightower, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
Rod Kimbrough, Cheetah's
Gary Koopman, Plantation Community
Dave Kouns, Roan Lane Resident
Jerry Lamm, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
Captain J. Lindskoog, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
Ilene Long, Old Trail Resident
Frank Malangua
Chrystal Mathews, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
Jean Matthews, P.B.C. Parks and Recreation
Roy McGinnis, PACE EH/Department of Health
Michael Owens, P.B.C. School District
Curtis Parcels, Plantation Community
Ira Peshkowitz, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
Myrtle Rainford, Gramercy Park Resident
Douglas Robinson, P.B.C. Zoning

Sylvia Sharps, P.B.C. Water Utilities Department
Vernon Shepherd, Breezy Lane Resident
Sharon Sheppard, Westgate CRA
Ed Summerlin, Plantation Community
Thomas Totz, Plantation Estates Community Association
Martha Turner, Gramercy Park Resident
Gail Vorpagel, P.B.C. Code Enforcement
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

A MOMENT OF SILENCE WAS OBSERVED FOR THE PASSING OF MR. JERRY DALE PERRY, LONGTIME PLANTATION COMMUNITY RESIDENT AND CCRT PARTICIPANT, WHO PASSED AWAY ON JULY 3, 2010.

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:

Dep. Brookins, PBSO, Old Trail, reported on his individual follow-up regarding Lamies' Art Studio on Military Trail. There were some concerns regarding possible prostitution and drug dealing going on at this establishment. On 06/17/10 he met with Code Enforcement and they advised him that since 2008, the business has been cited with violations and there is a lien on the property that is not satisfied. This is licensed as an adult art studio. He met with Mr. Boyd (the property owner) and Mr. Boyd stated that there is no prostitution or drug dealing. They (Lamies') are independent contractors and what goes on behind closed doors are between them and the client. The neighbors say that there are illegal things going on there. He has had surveillance on the property and there is very little traffic that he can see going on there. The county Tax Collectors' Office researched their license and it is due for renewal 09/10. PBSO has investigated previously.

There are a number of these places in the County and they are classified as adult entertainment. Dep. Brookins has not found any complaints regarding littering, noise or large groups of people being around. You come up to the establishment ring the doorbell and it is by appointment. The bottom line is they are operating within their guidelines. PBSO has not found any criminal activities as of yet.

Gail Vorpagel, Code Enforcement (CE) representative, stated that we all know what it is, unfortunately they are not licensed as one (adult entertainment) but we cannot prove otherwise. You have to knock at the door to get in so it is hard to get proof. They are not licensed as an adult entertainment but we have no proof that they are.

Dep. Brookins asked will their license be renewed. Ms. Vorpagel replied that the Tax Collector will let them renew if nothing changed. CE did the initial inspection but it was an art studio then.

PRESENTATIONS:

Lela Jordan, Director, the Vickers' House

The Vickers' House is a community resource system. In 1989, Ms. Jordan was asked if she wanted a broken down crack house to rehab. Everything was donated and contractors donated time and materials. Ms. Jordan distributed a newsletter, and explained that they provide many services, including assisting victims of domestic violence, food stamps, Medicaid, flu shots, taxes, and various classes. They have partnerships with 25 agencies such as the School District, and Legal Aid for elderly and immigrants. There are now 2 Vickers' House locations. In 2003, the City of West Palm Beach asked her if she wanted another building located on Georgia Avenue. It is a very non-threatening, non-governmental looking facility. There is a staff of 4.

They have seen 81,000 people this year. They have a large group of volunteers. The youngest has been 8 years old, and the oldest is 100 years old. They work very close with the community. They help people write resumes and proper etiquette for interviews. The homeless population comes to Vickers' House for assistance with returning back to their family residents. Contact with immediate family is arranged to determine if their family agrees to accept them. If the family accepts them back into the home, Vickers' House prepares a pack lunch and provides bus fare to their destination. If the family does not accept them back, other housing arrangements are made. Lastly, Vickers' House provides property owners with eliminating violations and liens on their property.

Judy Dale, Plantation Community resident, asked if the majority are elderly. Ms. Jordan replied no, any age. People come for jobs, family literacy programs, they have no age restrictions.

Joanna Aiken, Solid Waste Authority (SWA) representative, said that SWA and Vickers' House have worked together for years and coordinate events together. Ms. Jordan brings SWA volunteers.

Mr. Gainer asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Kelly Fason, Chief Executive Officer of Dress for Success Palm Beaches, Inc.

Dress for Success Palm Beaches (DSPB) opened in April 2010. When a woman is referred to them, they can get an outfit for their interview. They teach them how to shake hands and make eye contact. If they get a job, they can get up to a weeks' worth of clothes to wear to work and get an invitation to join the Professional Woman's Group. They help them with difficult customers, bosses, and juggling a career and family. If they don't get hired, DSPB will continue helping them with resumes, cover letters, etc. DSPB has a computer professional come in to help them. DSPB also found that there are more women over size 16 and up, they usually have small sizes. DSPB is starting a Suit for Students Program. If there are women that need a suit, they can help. There is a national program for men called Career Gear. That is something that they are going to add to their program. DSPB does not get help from the main

office to pay their utilities. They take all donations. If you want to volunteer or donate anything they will accept it. Every month they do an event to help them pay rent. If you have a company that has a dress down day let her know. They have some really great ideas. For more information, visit their website at <http://www.Dressforsuccess.org/palmbeaches>

Someone asked what type of clothing is DSPB accepting. Ms. Fason replied that they are only taking in skirts and suits. The office is located in Lake Worth on Dixie Highway, one block south of Lake Avenue. It is by appointment only. They only take people from referral agencies. They do not take walk-ins.

Mrs. Moguillansky-De Rose added that she and Mr. Tate visited the center. The services and all of the stuff they have are wonderful. OCR is going to send in the application to be considered a referral agency.

Ms. Fason stated that they have about 20 referral agencies right now. It is on their website. Their goal this year is to serve 1000 women.

The application is only 2 pages and real brief. Every month they have an open house. They want the women to feel like they are going to a boutique.

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

III. DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

Joanna Aikens, SWA representative, reported on the following:

- In the month of June they have painted 23 homes in the Tri-Cities of the Glades.
- Last month there was an issue with Lake Catherine dumping, they picked that up.

Sylvia Sharps, Water Utilities representative, reported on the following:

- Working on grant streams meet with Mr. Kennedy, the Chief of Staff from Congressman Hasting's Office. She talked to him about the infrastructure that needs to be worked on in the Glades. The new water plant was built, but the water pipes are too old and small. She asked him for \$7 million dollars to fix everything now. Mr. Kennedy requested a summary of services to be prepared.
- Working on the HUD Planning Grant. They are going to try to get a half million dollars (\$500, 000) for the Glades area.
- The SFWMD replaced water meters in South Bay. That is a \$50,000 grant and it requires a 50% match which is done by the Glades Utility Authority (GUA). They are actually doing a 100% match.
- Her new office number is (561) 355-0148 and her cell number is still the same (561) 876-5553. Her new email address is slsharps@pbcgov.org. She is now in the Economic Development Office but still working for SFWMD.

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

- Sylvan Lane - received LWDD permit; have to do final utility coordination. That has not been scheduled yet.
- Cinquez Park- is under construction and slightly behind schedule.
- Wallis Road -ENG has to get together to meet with the community.

Mr. Gainer asked if OCR was supposed to meet with Royal Palm Estates to talk about the sidewalk.

Mrs. Moguillansky-De Rose stated that she talked with Brenda Warren and she is trying to get available dates and times from Brendhan Horne, so a meeting can be scheduled with Mr. Tate and Andy Hartman from Engineering to go over the status of this project and make sure we are all on the same page. A meeting will then need to be coordinated with affected property owners to determine whether they will be willing to donate the necessary right-of-way to move forward with the project. Mr. Tate will be back in the office June 15.

- 1st, 2nd and 3rd, Wallis and Sunbeam- resubmitted the design in order to miss some existing utilities. The design is 65% now.
- Eighth Street is in a CCRT area; construction may have started today or will commence very shortly.
- Coconut Road- is pending a compliance review. ENG plans to go the Board with it. Rio-Bak was the lowest bidder.
- Whispering Pines- ENG sent a letter to the one property owner that can get them access to the canal for drainage.

Sgt. Hightower asked when the letter was sent out. Mr. Hartmann replied yesterday.

- Patio Court- ENG needs to see if the Village of Palm Springs will build a sewer. Funding is not available. If Palm Springs cannot do it, ENG will construct the road and they can come back at a later time to construct the sewer.

Mrs. Moguillansky-De Rose suggested Mr. Hartmann call Betty Lowe. She is the Land Development Director for the Village of Palm Springs. Mrs. Lowe stated that they were expecting a grant but they did not get it. Their plan is to build the sewer in 2013.

Ms. Sharps stated that USDA still has money available. It is usually a 60/40 match. Angela is the USDA representative and their office is on 441.

Mike McGinnis, Health Department representative, reported on the following:

- Mr. McGinnis asked about the status of the Watergate Estates Park. Jean Matthews, Parks and Recreation (P&R) representative, replied they acquired a ¾ acre site in Watergate MHP. Everything was set to move forward, but with budget cuts and lay-offs,

continuation of the project is on hold. It costs between \$10,000 and \$14,000 dollars to maintain a park.

Mrs. Moguillansky-De Rose said that OCR advised County Administration that funds be retained for both this and the Westgate CRA park. The design has been completed for both projects and these have been high priority projects for these communities. Still, due to the budget constraints and cuts, OCR is uncertain as to what will be decided regarding the funding allocation for these projects. Mr. Tate will probably provide an update at the next meeting.

Mr. Gainer added that OCR/CCRT allocated money toward many projects. Every few months OCR gets a call asking is the project moving forward and, if it is not, they ask for the money back. OCR does not want to lose the money that has been committed, but we need to have a meeting just regarding the parks and see what is the best way to proceed.

IV. OCR STAFF REPORTS:

Mrs. Chrystal Matthews reported on the following:

- 2010 REAP Grant recommendations.
 - Tropical Ridge Neighborhood Association, Inc.- \$410 for expenses related to the Community Organizing Project;
 - College Park Homeowner's Association, Inc.- \$2,255 for expenses related to the Community Beautification Project;
 - Residents of Lake Osborne Heights, Inc.- \$2,400 for expenses related to the Community Organizing Project;
 - Gramercy Park Neighborhood Corporation, Inc. - \$850 for expenses related to the Community Organizing Project;
 - Neighborhood Association Presidents' Council, Inc. - \$410 for expenses related to the Community Organizing Project;
 - Royal Palm Estates Crime Watch, Inc. - \$1,720 for expenses related to the Community Organizing Project;
 - Paint Your Heart Out Palm Beach County, Inc. - \$2,500 for expenses related to the Community Beautification Project;
 - Rebuilding Together of the Palm Beaches, Inc. - \$2,500 for expenses related to the Community Outreach Project;
 - Downtown Jewel Neighborhood Association, Inc. - \$410 for expenses related to the Community Organizing Project;
 - Genesis Neighborhood Association, Inc. - \$410.00 for expenses related to the Community Organizing Project;
 - Rivera Beach Youth Build, Inc. - \$1,810 for expenses related to the Community Beautification Project;
 - We Care Group, Inc. - \$330 for expenses related to the Community Organizing Project;

- East Beach Family Emergency Depot, Inc. - \$850 for expenses related to the Community Organizing Project;
 - American Step Association, Inc. - \$850 for expenses related to the Community Organizing Project;
 - The Glades Initiative, Inc. - \$2,500 for expenses related to the Community Outreach Project;
 - Okeechobee Lodge #54, Inc. - \$2,500 for expenses related to the Community Organizing and Outreach Project
- Neighborhood Partnership Grant. The grant is up to \$20, 0000. OCR received 3 applications. Gramercy Park, Rebuilding Building Together and Paint Your Heart Out. OCR had \$100,000 to give out and only received 3 grants totaling \$60,000.

V. GRANT OPPURTUNITIES/COMMUNITY Q & A:

Ruth Moguillansky-De Rose reported on the following:

- Mr. Reid sent out the latest publication of Community Connect. She asked those who have not received the newsletter to let her know.
- Tonight there will be a Grant Writing Workshop for those who participated REAP. The Children Services Council provided 45 scholarships for the training. This is the first, true “hands on” grants training to be ever offered. Designed for both the novice and the experienced grant seeker, this intensive 3 hours workshop will combine expert instruction with practical exercises to take participants step-by-step through the stages of how to get started, identifying potential funders, and writing a grant proposal.

Joanna Aiken, of SWA, took the opportunity to mention that the CCRT has a resident in need. PBSO is involved. It is a mobile home in Meadowbrook. It is infested and there are openings everywhere. She is working with Ms Moguillansky-De Rose and other volunteers who will get together this Saturday at 9 am. PBSO will have inmates come in. Contractors have volunteered. She is 55 years old.

VI. RESIDENT COMMENTS:

Larry Diegert, Plantation Community Resident, reported on the following:

- The FOP Lodge which is on Okeechobee Blvd. and owned by the Town of Palm Beach. It is 9 to 10 acres that has debris which is about 60 ft tall. The debris is coming in everyday. He started with SWA yesterday and got in touch with Kenny Miller. They are supposed to have meeting with Ken Burg.

Joanna Aiken stated she responded some years ago but knew it was coming back up.

Mr. Diegert would like it to be taken care of. They rent it out. They don't have to pay taxes but they are hauling trash there every day. They have been doing this for the last 40 years. It is near Elmhurst. He has fought rodents, termites and roaches for 20 years. He also has had it tented and the termites came right back. He told them he was going to take them to court. This morning they were knocking it down. Mr. Diegert will give them one more chance to come fix it then he will call Channel 12.

Mr. Thomas Totz, Plantation Community Resident, reported on the following:

- Approximately 5 weeks ago a thunderstorm came through and knocked out power for 24 hours. It was because of vegetation that FPL is supposed to keep clear. They cleared that up but left about 300 yards full. We got blown off. FPL has claimed that they have done studies in our communities but that is not the fact. He has been through the neighborhood and it is still there. Can someone help? If these power lines cannot stand a thunderstorm, what is going to happen with a hurricane? The first hurricane he lost power for a month.

Mrs. Moguillansky-De Rose requested that Mr. Totz send her an email with information on the location of the problem. She will then forward that to our FPL representative.

Mr. Gainer asked if there were any street lights at the locations. Mr. Totz replied yes there are, but the vegetation is grown out.

Dave Kouns, Roan Lane Resident, reported on the following:

- Road Improvement on Greenline
- Water improvements and picking up trash on Sun Court. Officer Collin, Gail Vorpagel and another gentleman came through and took care of it.
- Now there was some construction, replacing of the water pipes on Roan Lane is progressing. Directing traffics and not leaving any streets open; they come in at 6:30 and leave by 3.

Ms. Aikens stated that the vegetation came from Lake Catherine, and they had all that cleaned up, and they placed it on your side. The landscaper got in a lot of trouble for that. Mr. Kouns responded that he hasn't visited the HOA lately.

Ms. Brenda Warren, Royal Palm Estates Resident, reported on the following:

- Thanks to everyone putting their time and effort into the workshops. Thank you for the grant we will definitely put it to good use.
- Thank you for the grant writing workshop that she will attend this evening.
- They had a yard sale in June but it was a poor turnout. They had competition from someone across street. They will be doing it again on 08/07 at the community park. We are accepting donations. Give her a call if you want to donate anything 561-632-2679. One question: How long does it take to get the 501(c) (3).

Mrs. Mathews said about 6 months, and that's expedited. If you go on the IRS site you can do a query and see the back log.

Curtis Parcels, Plantation Community representative, discussed the following items:

- He stated that a property has 6 to 10 cars on it and asked how to proceed with that issue.

Ms. Vorpapel, Code Enforcement, replied that they need to get a complaint. Put them on a piece of paper and fax them over. You can email it, fax, or call it in. If you call in she can't do a lot of addresses on the phone. If you have a list it is better to email/fax.

Mr. Parcels said PBSO has done a great job in neighborhood. He has captured 9 raccoons in 3 days during the daytime. He was told by Animal Care and Control (ACC) to call for a trapper. Ms. Vorpapel said that she can address that when she leaves. ACC will not come out for wildlife. They will not check for rabies unless someone gets bite.

- Mr. Parcels stated that OCR said they were going to give them streetlights in the back; they have them in the front.

Mr. Gainer asked how many lights were requested by Plantation Community. Ms. Moguillansky-De Rose responded by saying that the community applied for, and obtain 20 streetlights. Pursuant to the Neighborhood Street Lighting Program guidelines, assistance can be provided for the installation and ongoing maintenance of up to 20 lights per community. Costs associated with the installation and maintenance of additional lights will have to be paid by the property owners.

Mr. Gainer added that most of OCR streetlight funds have been swept and remaining funds will be used to help two new communities.

Mrs. Moguillansky-De Rose added that OCR has been providing assistance with the installation of up to 20 lights for any given community. The only community that got more than 20 lights is Gramercy Park, but that project was not implemented through our Neighborhood Street Lighting Program. No one has received more than 20 lights. This does not mean communities cannot get assistance through other venues. They can pay for the ongoing maintenance which is really the bulk of costs, but FPL will only sign agreements with Neighborhood Associations or HOAs and not individual homeowners. It is approximately \$19 per light per month.

Mrs. Shirley Cantelo, Old Trail resident, stated that their water tastes better today.

Mr. Hartmann, ENG representative, said at the last meeting, there was a request for speed humps in Gramercy Park. Traffic has decided to wait for school to begin before doing the analysis.

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

VII. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

The next meeting will be held on August 10, 2010.

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

Approved by: Houston L. Tate, Director

