

Countywide Community Revitalization Team

Meeting of May 9, 2006

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Clayton Hutcheson Building, Hall “B”

Minutes

Present:

Joanna Aiken, Solid Waste Authority
Bobbi Boynton, P.B.C. Code Enforcement Division
Dominic Bricillo, Roseland Park Resident
Jorceline Cadet, P.B.C. Housing Authority
Shirley Cantelo, Old Trail Resident
Gerald & Shirley Carsillo, Sun Court Resident
Carlton Cartwright, TCCI
Deputy Jose Claudio, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office
Carol Clinton, Lake Worth West Resident
Jeff Collins, P.B.C. Fire Rescue
Rev. S. E. Gregor-Delmar, Casa Del Monte Resident
Dan Dumas, San Castle Community Leadership Inc.
Stacey Falise, Watergate Community Resident
Duane Gainer, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization (OCR)
Deputy Shawn Goodard, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office (Watergate Estates)
Tim Granowitz, P.B.C. Parks & Recreation Department
Sylvia J-Hamilton, P.B.C. Water Utilities Department
Joyce Harrell, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization (OCR)
Tilak Harrell, City of South Bay
Deputy James Harryton, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office (Belvedere District)
Anne Helfant, P.B.C. County Attorney's Office
Bruce Hilker, P.B.C. Code Enforcement Division
Ron Hinkle, P.B.C. Criminal Justice Commission
Janel Horne, Royal Palm Estates Resident
Roxanna Jackson, Casa Del Monte Resident
Kevin Johns, P.B.C. Economic Development
Edward Kaye, WGHNA
Kathy King, Lake Worth West Resid. Planning Group
Dave Kouns, Roan Lane Resident
Peter Lim, Resident
Ilene Long, Old Trail Resident
Edward Lowery, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization (OCR)
Sharon Mcconnell, Watergate Beautification Project
Michael Marquis, P.B.C. Engineering Department
Chrystal Mathews, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization (OCR)
Deputy Greg Meehan, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office

Present (Cont'd)

Gerry Metayer, Blue Sky Mobile Home Park/Old Trail Resident
Deputy Eddie Nelson, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office
Pam Nolan, P.B.C. Economic Development Office
Brenda Oakes, Criminal Justice Council
Michael Owens, P.B.C. School District
Sandra Payne, Kenwood Resident
David Rafaidus, P.B.C. Community Services
LaToya Ricketts, Office of Community Revitalization (OCR)
Deputy Gary Schettini, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office
Sharon Sheppard, Westgate/Belvedere Homes CRA
Maria Sherboune, Casa Del Monte Resident
Courtney Shippey, P.B.C. Health Department
Deputy B. Staats, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office (Westgate)
Launa Thornton, WGNA
Deputy K. Viti, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office
Willy Volk, P.B.C. Housing & Community Development
Dean Wells, P.B.C. Building Division
Steve White, Protective Hands Communication
William Wynn, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization

CCRT Members Absent:

Penny Anderson, P.B.C. GIS
Diana Cunningham, P.B.C. Criminal Justice Commission
Gerry Gawaldo, P.B.C. Palm Tran
Jan Jeck, P.B.C. Property & Real Estate Management
Tom Lefevre, P.B.C. Health Department
Don Loutsch, Children Services Council
Lt. Ed Luty, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office
Chauncey Taylor II, P.B.C. Facilities Development & Operations Department (FDO)
Gail Vorpapel, P.B.C. Code Enforcement Division

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION:

The meeting began with Mr. Gainer asking the group to take a moment of silence for Jose Sosa, Director of Westgate CRA.

Duane Gainer introduced himself and asked meeting participants to introduce themselves.

II. REVIEW OF MINUTES:

Mr. Gainer asked if anyone had corrections to the April 5, 2006 CCRT minutes. There was one correction: Mr. Shippey had a correction on Page 4, last paragraph – change someone to Ms. Nancy Lashway.

III. REVIEW OF FOLLOW-UPS:

Mr. Gainer stated that copies of the follow-ups from the April 5, 2006 CCRT meeting were available on the information table. He asked the group to contact him or Chrystal Mathews, if anyone had questions.

IV. PRESENTATION: Steve White, Protective Hands Communications

Mr. Gainer stated that Mr. White has been active in the community for many years and his heart has always been with education. Mr. White works with all youth but has a particular passion for working with African American male youth in trying to get them on track.

Mr. Steve White, Owner of Protective Hands Communication, began by stating that he is a native of Riviera Beach. He decided that even after going away to college he would come back to Palm Beach County to do the work that he was ordained to do.

Mr. White mentioned that there were two (2) particular aspects or components of the business. The first aspect or component is educational services. The focus of his work has always been among the African American community. He recognize that there are common threads that unite all of us as human beings but, at the same time, he recognizes that every culture and every ethnic group has some issues that are specific and unique to them. In 1993, he developed a program that would address some of the challenges that the African American males were facing in Palm Beach County; specifically between the ages of 12 to 18. The title of the program is Black Boy to Black Man What Does It Take. The program addresses the transition into true real manhood, which involves the following: helping the young men with self-esteem & self respect; introducing them to their history & culture; providing specific tips on how to be successful in school; helping them to develop their critical thinking skills and deal with negative images; and identify gifts and talents. They also work with the parents of the young men to reinforce what is being discussed or what is going on in the program.

The second aspect or component of Protective Hands Communication is custom publishing. Mr. White stated that he has written three (3) books. He added this service to the business after he started to publish a book and he found that other people were interested in the services that he learned how to do. Mr. White has an interest in helping first time authors to get a book published or to self publish a book. This service helps or coaches with the entire process, such as: editing, proofreading, design, layout & every aspect in getting a book published. He believes that everybody has a story to tell. Mr. White also publishes a newsletter designed for the parents in the Afro American communities. He works with the businesses, churches, community organizations with brochures and literature that need assistance with publishing.

Mr. White concluded the presentation by stressing that this is something he really enjoys doing and he encourages everyone to find their passion in something that they may enjoy doing. As parents, we need to help our children find what their talent or passion is. Mr. White asked the group for any questions or comments.

IV. PRESENTATION No. 1: Steve White, Protective Hands Communications (cont'd)

Mr. Lowery commented that OCR/CCRT assists all types of people/groups throughout Palm Beach County. For example: Kathy King with Lake Worth West runs a great organization and her focus is children and their parents. He suggested that Mr. White and Ms. King meet because maybe the kids would be interested in the publishing aspect or to learn ideas that may help all of the young men of the Lake Worth West community. He suggested also that Mr. White could share some ideas and information on a professional level with other individuals that are trying to do the same thing within their community. He also suggested that maybe the Sheriff's Office could use some assistance or maybe there is some information that they would like to share. Mr. White responded that he is always looking forward to working with any community or organization. He has not had the opportunity to work specifically with the Sheriff's Department but he has worked with several police departments. There has been success working with law enforcement particularly with the young men. Law Enforcement is now focusing on prevention to keep the young men from going into the juvenile justice system.

Sylvia Jackson-Hamilton commented that she also conducts workshops and counsels young men. She finds that working with the young men before crime occurs takes a load off the system as far as domestic violence. She inquired if Protective Hands had a component for this type of situation. In addition, she would like to meet with him to discuss her work being done with the young boys and men that she is working with. Mr. White responded yes, and stated that he addresses self-esteem and self-respect, specifically with male/female relationships. He stated that he is looking forward to talking with Ms. Hamilton-Jackson.

LaToya Ricketts asked what are the criteria for choosing the males to participate in the program. Mr. White responded there are no criteria. The program is open to any male in that particular age range. The program is not limited to only someone that has a criminal background nor does it exclude someone that has all A's. He stated that all young men could benefit from the program.

Ron Hinkle inquired if Mr. White worked with the school system regarding drop out prevention. Mr. White responded that he does not have a formal relationship with Palm Beach County School District. He stated that he has been in contact with Deborah Robinson and she has been trying to advocate bringing his work into the different schools.

Joanna Aiken asked for his contact information. Mr. White's contact number is (561) 841-4990 or email address is steve1668@bellsouth.net.

Carlton Cartwright commented that Jimmy Hightower invited him to attend today's meeting. Mr. Cartwright stated that he has a computer technology center, located in downtown West Palm Beach. The organization deals with a lot of aspects involving education. Mr. Cartwright is interested in meeting with Mr. White as well.

David Rafaidus inquired whether a journal was put together about stories told by the young men who had been through the program. Mr. White responded that he has not published a book by any of the young men who have been through his program, but he has helped writers to get books published. Mr. White commented this was a good idea.

IV. PRESENTATION No. 1: Steve White, Protective Hands Communications (cont'd)

Since there were no further questions, Mr. Gainer thanked Mr. White for coming and giving the presentation.

IV. PRESENTATION No. 2: 2006 Putting Kids First In The Western Communities – Deputy Schettini, Sheriff's Office

Deputy Schettini commented on the 2005 Putting Kids First Program held on the east coast and stated that attendance was great. Deputy Schettini also stated that Sgt. Linda Hamilton was responsible for putting the power point presentation together, but was unable to come and give the presentation. Copies of the presentation were distributed.

Deputy Schettini briefly gave the introduction for the 2006 Putting Kids First Program. He stated that the project is being handled by the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office. The program was initiated to expand services to other areas. The program's goal is to service 1000 kids in the Glades communities.

Deputy Schettini stated that the Sheriff's Office motto in the west is "When we are successful, it's because we've put the kids first." He further explained why this program would be beneficial to the kids in the Glades: 1) it builds partnerships; 2) it provides education supplies needed for at risk kids; 3) and it provides other services: immunization shots, eye exams, and wellness exams which enable them to stay in school and excel.

Deputy Schettini stated that the Sheriff's Office vision statement is to assist "at risk" kids going back to school with the tools needed to succeed by providing school supplies, thereby education can be achieved. Deputy Schettini also stated the following goals and strategies of the program: Goal #1 – Establish an opportunity to help at risk kids by providing school supplies; Goal #2 – At risk kids socialize with police in a positive manner; and Goal #3 – Need adequate administrative direction because it neglects the Glades community.

Deputy Schettini reviewed the success indicators of the program: Contact seven (7) public elementary schools in the Glades to reach target group of 1000 kids, approval of the scope of the program, implement long-term plan, monitoring and evaluation program, and outreach of stakeholders in the community.

Lastly, Deputy Schettini reviewed the proposed budget for the program. The following expense items were included in the budget: supplies for 1000 kids, food, a bounce house, rock climbing, face painting, miscellaneous items, and two (2) maintenance workers. At this point, Deputy Schettini asked the group for any questions.

IV. PRESENTATION No. 2: 2006 Putting Kids First In The Western Communities – Deputy Schettini, Sheriff’s Office (cont’d)

Bobbi Boynton inquired about the date of the event. Deputy Schettini responded the event is scheduled for July 29th.

Kathy King stated that she had hats and photos from the 2005 Putting Kids First event. Deputy Schettini stated that he was interested in the hats and photos.

Bobbi Boynton stated that food was left over from the 2005 event, which was donated to the schools. She suggested that the event is scheduled a week later so that whatever food is left over could be donated to the schools. Deputy Schettini stated that he would like to meet with her after the meeting to discuss scheduling of the 2006 event.

David Rafaidus commented regarding the budget. He inquired about the total amount of actual supplies expense for the 500 kids, and inquired about what is included in the breakdown amount per kid. Deputy Schettini responded that the kids would receive immunization, physical exam, haircuts, school supplies, food, & etc.

Mr. Gainer commented that this amount is less than what the parents would actually have paid for all the items listed above.

Sylvia Jackson-Hamilton commended the Sheriff’s Office efforts in working with the kids. She has a great concern for the Glades and stated that she is willing to help in any way that she can.

Mr. Gainer commended Kenwood Estates for coming up with such a good idea “Putting Kids First” event. The idea has branched out into other neighborhoods.

Mr. Gainer thanked Deputy Schettini for doing the presentation.

Edward Lowery asked for a motion approving of OCR seeking financial assistance from County Administration for the Glades “Putting Kids First Project”.

Joanna Aiken asked if whether the event was previously funded by the NPG Program. Mr. Lowery responded no, not for the Glades.

David Rafaidus asked whether the Sheriff’s Office would be collaborating with the Glades Initiative Program and how much. Mr. Lowery commented that OCR would address this at the next GTAC meeting to make sure that cost is not being duplicated.

Again, Mr. Lowery asked for a show of hands requesting assistance through County Administration to assist the Glades Putting Kids First Project. The vote was unanimously approved.

V. DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

Tim Granowitz, Parks & Recreation, reported on the following:

- He commented and apologized for not being able to attend the Royal Palm Estates community meeting to discuss the playground. The project is about 90% complete.
- Received a letter from a group in Watergate Mobile Home Park about getting a neighborhood park. They had identified several properties in the area. All of the properties were over the budgeted amount. He will have to request additional funding in FY '07 for the project. Ruth Mognuillansky-De Rose asked that he send a letter to Mr. Lowery stating the need for the additional funds.
- Neon Afron Property (6th Ave. S. on Melaleuca & West on Congress Ave., off Sarafica) – Doing some clearing and grading work. Having a problem with the septic system with an adjoining property.
- Old Trail Park (off Old Military & corner of Orlando) – moving forward with the construction plans for Caroline Drive. Hopefully, will be under construction sometime this summer.
- Budget for next year – Planning on including three (3) splash adds, which are water playgrounds for the following sites: 1) Glades Pioneer Pool; 2) Westgate Community Center; and 3) John Prince Park.

Mr. Lowery inquired about an article on state appropriations. The article stated that the Belle Glade Park in the 715 Mobile Home Park received another \$200,000. Mr. Granowitz responded that Parks had applied for a grant for the pool. Mr. Lowery inquired if this includes the sidewalk from 715 to South Bay. Mr. Granowitz responded no, it is not part of that funding. Parks is working on a resolution to this issue. He further commented that the sidewalk was not in Parks budget. There may be a grant through the State available.

VI. RESIDENT & OCR STAFF UPDATES:

Kathy King, Lake Worth West, reported on the following:

- April 22nd Great American Clean Up – was very successful and participation was great.
- Carpentry Class – Mr. Ed Bular is working with the kids. Putting shelving in storage unit.
- Women's Wellness Day (annual event) – will be on June 10th at Hyprocrity Institute. She brought literature for the group.
- Community Annual Meeting – will be held on May 17th. Seeking nominations for Board Members.
- Summer Camp – The cost is two (2) for one (1). The first six weeks will be 6–12 years old in conjunction with the Sheriff's Office Harmony In The Streets; and the next six (6) weeks will be for middle to high school kids.

VI. RESIDENT & OCR STAFF UPDATES: (cont'd)

Dan Dumas, San Castle, reported on the following:

- Great American Clean Up – Had a lot of participation.
- Solid Waste Authority – Doing excellent work.
- Code Enforcement – Done an excellent job the last few months; he commends Bruce Hilker, and Lance McClellan.

Westgate/Golfview Heights Neighborhood Association reported on the following

- Great American Clean Up – was very successful. He thanked the CRA, the Sheriff's Office, donations from Walmart, and Firestone. Picked up a lot of shopping carts; along with Firestone picking up tires free.

Shirley Cantelo, Old Trail, reported on the following:

- Great American Clean up – was very successful, which was coordinated by Ilene Long. Picked up a lot of shopping carts.
- Bicycle Rodeo – was very successful. Helmets were passed out to people that rode their bikes. Deputy Dwayne Thomas coordinated McGruff being at the event. Bicycles were given by the Sheriff's Office. She thanked the community church, Rev. Garrett, for allowing the event to be on the property. Also the food was very good.
- At the intersection of Faith & Old Trail and Orlando & Old Trail - She submitted a formal request for the need of a four way stop or at least a yield sign. There are no sidewalks, which cause the kids to walk on the road.

Ilene Long, Old Trail, reported on the following:

- There is a concern about two (2) properties which don't have County water. Also, the residents on Alberta Avenue north are inquiring whether filling of the ditches and swales were also going to be done. Ms. Moguillansky-De Rose asked Ms. Long to see her after the meeting so she can obtain information on the specific properties, which were not included in the water improvement project. Ms. Moguillansky-De Rose will then follow up with Water Utilities.

Dave Kouns, Roan Lane, reported on the following:

- He thanked the CCRT for the installation of the streetlights in Roan Lane community.

Ms. Moguillansky-De Rose inquired about the location of the streetlight that is not working so she can report it to FPL. She further commented that OCR has already submitted a forward request to FPL to initiate the Golfview Heights Street Lighting Project.

VI. RESIDENT & OCR STAFF UPDATES: (cont'd)

Kevin Johns, Economic Development, reported on the following:

- He commended the CCRT for doing a great job.
- On May 23rd, The Findings & Recommendations for the Economic Future of the County will be presented to the Board for approval.

Chrystal Mathews, OCR Staff, reported on the following:

- She circulated a list of community groups that submitted Letters of Intent for 2006/2007 NPG Program.
- June 16th is the deadline for NPG for the groups that did submit a Letter of Intent. If you need any further assistance, you may contact Ms. Mathews at (561) 233-5565.

LaToya Ricketts, OCR Staff, reported on the following:

- Street Lighting Program – So far one (1) project has been completed (Roan Lane). She has received three (3) other applications, which are currently being processed: 1) Old Military Trail; 2) Westgate/Golfview Heights; and 3) Gramercy Park letters of intent. She has copies of the Letter of Intent, if anyone is interested in applying.
- Newsletter/Gazette – In the process of publishing the next issue. She requested the group to submit by June 2nd, any events or information that they would like to be published. You may contact Ms. Ricketts at (561) 233-5239.

VII. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

Dominic Carsillo inquired about cutting the grass at the park. Mr. Granowitz responded that he would look into the issue. Someone will come out this week to see what needs to be done.

Ms. Moguillansky-De Rose stated that she is looking forward to receiving an application from Mr. Carsillo for streetlights. She also welcomed the group from Casa Del Monte to the CCRT meeting.

Ms. Moguillansky-De Rose announced that OCR would be moving into the new Vista Center Building, located off Jog Road & Okeechobee Road, on or about the end of June through July.

Ms. Mathews congratulated Lake Worth West, Royal Palm Estates, Snap on Crime Community Policing Officer in Old Trail, and San Castle for completing their Neighborhood Partnership Grant Projects before the deadline.

VII. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS: (cont'd)

Mr. Lowery commented that he was pleased about all the good news announced at today's meeting regarding activities going on. He thanked Mr. Steve White for coming and sharing his information with the group. It feels like we are all on the same team and fighting for the same cause; and that is to improve the quality of life in our communities. Mr. Lowery further commented that we are rapidly approaching hurricane season. He stated that it is very important that we take care of our properties and do our tree trimmings because once a hurricane has been named, there will be no debris removal pickups. Palm Beach County has developed several new strategies to bring assistance to the communities once a hurricane passes.

Terry Verner commented regarding being prepared prior to a hurricane. Mr. Verner stressed that the group encourages people to be responsible for themselves for at least seventy-two (72) hours after the wind has stopped. He also stated that tree trimming is a very important factor in preparing for the hurricane season.

Mr. Gainer commented regarding an inquiry brought up at the Glades Technical Advisory Committee (GTAC) meeting. He stated that the group inquired and had a concern whether Point of Distribution (POD) sites had been identified or designated in the Glades.

VII. ADJOURNMENT:

- The next CCRT meeting will be held on June 8, 2006 (Thursday), 10:00a.m. – 11:30a.m., at the Clayton Hutcheson Building. He further announced that the GTAC meeting would be held on May 25, 2006 at Belle Glade City Hall.
- The Office of Community Revitalization will be providing refreshments for the next meeting.
- The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Minutes prepared by

Joyce Harrell, OCR Secretary

***Note: In reference to the Activity Calendar for June or July, you may contact Joyce Harrell at 233-5311 or make an announcement at the next CCRT Meeting. Thank You.**

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