

# Countywide Community Revitalization Team

Meeting of June 8, 2006

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Clayton Hutcheson Building, Hall “B”

## Minutes

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### Present:

Bobbi Boynton, P.B.C. Code Enforcement Division  
Jorceline Cadet, P.B.C. Housing Authority  
Gerald Carsillo, Sun Court Resident  
Carlton Cartwright, TCCI  
Kim Ciklin, Assistant to Commissioner Koons  
Sgt. Rick Dempsey, P.B.C. Sheriff’s Office  
Julie DeNicolais, Dillman Heights Resident  
Deputy Dieujuste, P.B.C. Sheriff’s Office  
Bob Dovey, Assistant Commissioner Newell  
Ed C. Frazier, Old Trail Resident  
Duane Gainer, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization (OCR)  
Tim Granowitz, P.B.C. Parks & Recreation Department  
Cynthia Hammond, City of South Bay  
Joyce Harrell, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization (OCR)  
Anne Helfant, P.B.C. County Attorney’s Office  
Sgt. Jimmy Hightower, P.B.C. Sheriff’s Office  
Brendhan Horn, Royal Palm Estates Resident  
Janel Horne, Royal Palm Estates Resident  
Jan Jeck, P.B.C. Property & Real Estate Management  
Edward Kaye, WGHNA  
Joshua Kaye, WGHNA  
Lt. Jeff Lindskog, P.B.C. Community Services  
Nancy Lodise, Pleasant Ridge Resident  
Ilene Long, Old Trail Resident  
Edward Lowery, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization (OCR)  
Lt. Ed Luty, P.B.C. Sheriff’s Office  
Christina McBourgault, Dillman Heights Resident  
Michael Marquis, P.B.C. Engineering Department  
Faith Martin, Criminal Justice Commission  
Tonda Masson, Lake Worth Corridor Resident  
Chrystal Mathews, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization (OCR)  
Corp. N. Mitchell, P.B.C. Sheriff’s Office  
Ruth Moguillansky-De Rose, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization (OCR)  
Bill Morin, Old Trail Resident  
Bilal Mujahid, P.B.C. Water Utilities

**Present** (Cont'd)

Pam Nolan, P.B.C. Economic Development Office  
Brenda Oakes, Criminal Justice Council  
Michael Owens, P.B.C. School District  
LaToya Ricketts, Office of Community Revitalization (OCR)  
Selva Selvendra, P.B.C. Health Department  
Ruth Ann Sheffy, Dillman Heights Resident  
Sharon Sheppard, Westgate/Belvedere Homes CRA  
Deputy Dwayne Thomas, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office  
Willy Volk, P.B.C. Housing & Community Development  
Dean Wells, P.B.C. Building Division  
William Wynn, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization

**CCRT Members Absent:**

Joanna Aiken, Solid Waste Authority  
Diana Cunningham, P.B.C. Criminal Justice Commission  
Dan Dumas, San Castle Community Leadership Inc.  
Gerry Gawaldo, P.B.C. Palm Tran  
Kathy King, Lake Worth West Resid. Planning Group  
Tom Lefevre, P.B.C. Health Department  
Don Loutsch, Children Services Council  
Ora Owensby, P.B.C. Zoning Division  
David Rafaidus, P.B.C. Community Services  
Chauncey Taylor, Facilities Development & Operations  
Gail Vorpagel, P.B.C. Code Enforcement Division

**I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION:**

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

**II. REVIEW OF MINUTES:**

Mr. Gainer asked if anyone had corrections to the May 9, 2006 CCRT minutes. There were no corrections to the minutes.

**III. REVIEW OF FOLLOW-UPS:**

Mr. Gainer stated that copies of the follow-ups from the May 9, 2006 CCRT meeting were available on the information table. He asked the group to contact him or William Wynn, if anyone had questions.

**IV. PRESENTATION:** Faith Martin, Criminal Justice Commission

Faith Martin began by distributing a brochure of the Westgate Community Justice Service Center. Ms. Martin stated that the Westgate Center is the second center opened, since the first center opened in 1999 in West Palm Beach.

#### **IV. PRESENTATION:** Faith Martin, Criminal Justice Commission (Cont'd)

She further stated that the Westgate area had a high crime rate. Major Juliano started the community court program for petty crime offenders with non-violent misdemeanor offenses, such as: trespassing, loitering, solicitation of prostitution, open container violations, and low-level drug possession.

The program was modeled after the New York Community Court Program. The Community Justice Service Center has a commitment of rehabilitating the offender and restoring the community.

Ms. Martin stated that the mission of the program is to improve the quality of life in the communities in which the center is located. Another purpose is to address offenses, which contribute to neighborhood deterioration. She mentioned that the program has a Community Advisory Board made up of residents, local business owners, and law enforcement to assist with developing community service projects and social service programs.

Ms. Martin talked about the community service offered to an offender. She stated that in lieu of going to jail, the offender is given a certain amount of community service hours. The offender has to pick up paper, paint houses for elderly, work on neighborhood cleanups and other related projects in the community. This is a way for the criminals to give back to the community. Another option is the offender can request to go into a drug program. Ms. Martin stated that the program is also open to non-offenders, where they also can request to go into a drug program. Ms. Martin stated that a licensed Social Worker is on staff. They work with mental health issues and substance abuse issues. Another aspect of community court is handling intake of offenders (inquiring about address, job status, & etc.).

Ms. Martin mentioned other services offered to the offender and walk-in residents: computer lab for seeking employment and type resumes; programs for the homeless; mental health & alcohol/substance abuse education, evaluation, counseling, and referrals; HIV screening/prevention education; health care referrals; acupuncture; GED; emergency food, transportation, clothing, housing, and crisis intervention; psycho-education group counseling; and relapse prevention, linkage for inpatient, outpatient and dual diagnosis treatment. Ms. Martin concluded by stating that Commissioner Koons was very instrumental in helping the program get developed for the service of the community.

Brendhan Horn inquired whether the services were performed by appointment. Ms. Martin responded that the residents could just walk-in for services.

Chrystal Mathews asked if the program assisted with expunging of offender's record/file. Ms. Martin responded, no. She further commented that court hearings are held on every other Wednesday at the Westgate center. The next court date is June 21<sup>st</sup>.

Janel Horne asked if the Westgate center only provided services to the residents of Westgate. Ms. Martin responded that when community courts first started, it was only for the targeted area.

**IV. PRESENTATION:** Faith Martin, Criminal Justice Commission (Cont'd)

Ms. Martin further stated that in West Palm Beach, the program initially targeted 5,000 residents in that area, which increased to 20,000 people. In the Westgate area, the lines could vary because the Sheriff's Office boundaries are different. Often people come from other areas. She stated that they don't turn anybody away; they try to assist them.

Sgt. Jimmy Hightower inquired about assistance for the homeless. He asked if the homeless could be brought to the center for help. Ms. Martin responded yes. They could bring a homeless person to the center and the licensed social worker will work with them, to get help and to find a place for them to live, to get them off the streets. Ms. Martin stated; however, the center is not a 24 hr. facility. The center is open 8:00a.m. – 5:00p.m., Monday through Friday.

LaToya Ricketts inquired if the program was primarily for adults. Ms. Martin responded that the center in Westgate is currently just for adults; although the West Palm Beach center started as a juvenile first offenders program.

Ms. Martin also stated that there is a Citizens Advisory Board, which meets four (4) times a year at the West Palm Beach center. They are looking forward to having an Advisory Board for the Westgate center. If anyone who lives in the Westgate area is interested, you can contact Ms. Martin at (561) 640-9386.

Edward Lowery asked how frequent or if other service centers were going to be opening up. Ms. Martin responded that the Westgate service center is the second office in the State of Florida. The Sheriff's Office has an interest in having a center in the Glades. The program is being looked upon as a problem solving court.

Mr. Lowery also inquired about the funding for the program and if they seek local funding from local governments or foundations. Ms. Martin responded that this is a collaborative effort; for example the program gets assistance from the state attorney's office, public defenders office, judiciary office, sheriff's office, and grant funds.

Deputy Dwayne Thomas asked if there was supervision while the individuals were performing community service hours. Ms. Martin responded that Ron Hinkle is the Community Services Supervisor. He transports the clients to the job sites; along with the proper equipment to do the job.

Sgt. Jimmy Hightower inquired about what happens with the charges once the offender has completed all the requirements. Ms. Martin responded that court is a pre-trial diversion program and the case is dropped (no prosecution) if the client has completed all the requirements of the court. Sgt. Hightower also asked how many times is the same person allowed through the program. Ms. Martin responded that taking into consideration addictions or mental health, the usual cutoff is six (6) times.

Mr. Gainer thanked Ms. Martin for coming and doing the presentation.

#### **IV. DISCUSSION: FRDAP Grant – Tim Granowitz, P.B.C. Parks & Recreation**

Mr. Gainer commented that the Parks & Recreation Department is submitting a grant to assist a project in one of the CCRT areas, and that Parks & Recreation asked to discuss the project with the CCRT group. Mr. Gainer asked Tim Granowitz to speak on the FRDAP grant.

Mr. Granowitz stated that last year Parks & Recreation discussed the Glades Pioneer Park Pool & Splash Pad with the CCRT group. At that time, Parks & Recreation had submitted a request to Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP); which they received funding for Phase I of the project. At that time, Parks requested funding from the CCRT, and the group allocated funding to assist with the project. The pool facility is currently under construction and estimated to be completed by the end of the summer. Due to the cost of the project, which exceeded \$4 million dollars, it had to be divided into two (2) phases. The second phase is the splash pad; along with additional parking and recreation facilities. Mr. Granowitz is requesting the CCRT to support the project and the request for FRDAP monies for the upcoming fiscal year to complete the Spray Park and the balance of the recreation facilities at the park. Prior to asking for a motion in support of the project, Mr. Gainer asked if anyone had questions.

Mr. Lowery asked if Parks would be requesting additional funding from the CCRT. Mr. Granowitz responded yes, which will be for completion of the second phase. Mr. Lowery also asked if the issue of the sidewalk from South Bay to 715 had been resolved. Mr. Granowitz responded no. He further mentioned that Parks has received some cost estimates. This will be discussed at tomorrow's meeting.

Again, Mr. Gainer asked for the group to support Parks & Recreation FRDAP grant application for the second phase of the Pioneer Park in the Glades. Someone made the motion. No one opposed.

#### **V. DEPARTMENT UPDATES:**

**Pam Nolan, Economic Development, reported on the following:**

- Public Market (Glades area) – A presentation is scheduled for July 13<sup>th</sup>, at this location (Clayton Hutcheson Building).
- Canal Point Sanitary Sewer Project – The cost may have increased. The Water Utilities Department is reviewing the final design.
- Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail Project – A meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, June 9<sup>th</sup>, in the City of South Bay.

**Bilal Mujahid, Water Utilities, reported on the following:**

- Lake Worth Corridor (Coconut Road, Stevens Road, & Alison Court) – Working on a cost estimate for the area.
- Sutton Terrace Project – Going along very well. Connection letters should be sent out by June 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Donnel Road Project (SE corner of Okeechobee Road & Military Trail) – Not going along very well.

## **V. DEPARTMENT UPDATES: (Cont'd)**

Mr. Lowery wanted to know if the property owners had an issue with the assessment amount. Mr. Mujahid commented yes, and although the frontages are larger than normal size, the cost is still going to be high. He had a concern with the property owners missing out on the additional funding. Also Mr. Mujahid is requesting that on Ranch House Road four (4) additional lots is included in the connection process.

### **Bilal Mujahid, Water Utilities, reported on the following: (Cont'd)**

- Schall Circle Project – A request will be submitted to OCR regarding two (2) properties that were missed. He further suggested utilizing funds from Donnel Road to address this issue with the two (2) missing lots on Ranch House Road; and two (2) lots in Schall Circle area. Ruth Moguillansky-De Rose asked Mr. Mujahid to send a request to OCR.

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

- Nealon Afron Park (off Sarafica & Melaeuca) - is under construction. Estimated to be completed within the next sixty (60) days.
- Royal Palm Estates Park – met with the residents to select the playground colors. The plans are completed. Will be going out for bids within thirty (30) days. He further mentioned that the residents discussed a name for the park. The two names suggested were: Caroline Drive Park; and Caroline Park. The name of the park will be Caroline Park.
- Old Trail Park – A request was made at the CCRT meeting to mow the site. The site has been cleaned up/mowed. Moving forward with the construction plans for the park.
- Joe Pitts Stadium - Had discussions with Commissioner Koons about acquisition of the stadium; adjoining Westgate.
- Spray Parks for next budget year – Pioneer Park in Belle Glade, and Westgate Community Center.
- Parks for next budget year – capital request for CCRT area parks, monies for Westgate Splash Pad, Gramercy Park, and Watergate Mobile Home Park.
- Summer Camps – Community Policing is partnering with Community Service.
- Putting Kids First – will start next month. He thanked the CCRT for assisting them with this project.

Jimmy Hightower had a concern in Indian Pines with getting a satellite office. He asked if the Building Department could look into this. The satellite office would really be an asset to the neighborhood.

In reference to the above, Mr. Lowery inquired if the Sheriff's Office had the resources to do the electrical, & etc. Sgt. Dempsey commented that they have gone out of their way to see that a community policing office is placed in the neighborhood. Almost \$70,000 has been spent.

## **V. DEPARTMENT UPDATES: (Cont'd)**

Sgt. Dempsey and Bobbi Boynton commented that the landscaping needed to be done. Chrystal Matthews commented that William Cox submitted a Letter of Intent for the NPG Program for landscaping improvements. Bobbi Boynton commented on the status of the site plans, permits, and open comments from the Building Division.

### **Jan Jeck, PREM, reported on the following:**

- Joe Pitts Property in Westgate – working on acquiring the property.
- Ms. Jeck announced that she is retiring on June 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **Jorceline Cadet, P.B.C. Housing Authority, reported on the following:**

- NPG Program - The computer lab is almost completed.

### **Michael Marquis, Engineering, reported on the following:**

- Clinton, Cambridge, Kidd, & McConnel Street Project – Project should be going out for bid in August.
- Sutton Terrace – Have submitted permit applications. Once permits are received, the project will go out for bid.
- Cinquez Park – the design is being worked on for the paving, drainage, water & sewer.

LaToya Ricketts asked Willie Volk to give information on Housing & Community Development's Housing Lottery Program. Mr. Volk commented that HCD purchased property that is now for sale. Last weekend, HCD had a showing of the homes. If anyone were interested, the names were being placed in a drawing box. Mr. Lowery asked for a contact person. Ms. Matthews commented that the information is on [pbcgov.com/hcd](http://pbcgov.com/hcd).

## **VI. RESIDENT & OCR STAFF UPDATES:**

### **Nancy Lodise, Pleasant Ridge, reported on the following:**

- Community Policing – The residents are very pleased. The graffiti issues were addressed.
- A resident thanked Bilal Mujahid for moving the water project along quickly.

### **Julie DeNicholais, from Dillman Heights, reported on the following:**

- Streetlight Petition – residents are working on moving forward with this activity. Ms. DeNicholais thanked Ruth Moguillansky-De Rose for all of her assistance to the community group.
- Speed limit & speed humps – the residents have a concern with the traffic coming through the community. Ms. Moguillansky De Rose will be working with the community group on these items.

## **VI. RESIDENT & OCR STAFF UPDATES: (Cont'd)**

### **Julie DeNicholais, from Dillman Heights, reported on the following: (Cont'd)**

- Community Policing – She was told the contact person is Captain Miles, which she will be contacting him to get a printout of the crime happening in the community.

### **Brendhan Horn, Royal Palm Estates, reported on the following:**

- He thanked Tim Granowitz for working on the neighborhood park.
- Code Enforcement – Requesting that Code Officer attend community meetings. Still having an issue with garbage pick up. Also, he requested that someone from the Sheriff's Office attend the community meetings.
- Streetlights – requested assistance with this project. Ms. Moguillansky-De Rose requested that he contact Audley Reid or LaToya Ricketts at (561) 233-5311.

### **Ilene Long, Old Trail, reported on the following:**

- She thanked Ruth Moguillansky-De Rose for looking into her request regarding the residents not having water. Also she thanked OCR for looking into the issue with the drainage, and ditches that need to be filled in. Ms. Long further inquired whether the drainage would be done along with the construction of the park. Mr. Granowitz responded that Engineering had designed the pipe and it would be installed along with the park construction.

Lt. Luty announced that Sgt. Kearney would be replacing Sgt. LaVigna in the north area. Also, Sgt. Custard will be working in the south end (Delray area).

Sgt. Rick Dempsey announced that Renee Deese had planned to come to the CCRT meeting but her grandmother had to be hospitalized. Also, Sgt. Dempsey commented regarding the graffiti truck used to handle the big graffiti investigation. The Sheriff's Office has nominated the truck for the National/International Association Chief Police Award. Since last year, over 360 hours have been used toward the use of the truck; and 240 sites have been cleaned up. Sgt. Dempsey further commented that he was in San Antonio two (2) weeks ago, and he took a look at some of their projects.

Carlton Cartwright commented on the Sheriff's summer camp Program. He stated that it is a three-part summer program. He stated that they were about to begin the first part. He is looking forward to working with the deputies in South Bay, and Belle Glade on the project.



## **VI. RESIDENT & OCR STAFF UPDATES: (Cont'd)**

### **Ruth Moguillansky-De Rose, OCR Principal Planner, reported on the following:**

- Requested an updated contact list of all the Community Policing Deputies (names, areas they work in, e-mail addresses, office and mobile numbers, and pagers).
- Hurricane Preparedness Guides – She brought copies for the group to take to the community or neighborhood residents. She specifically requested assistance from the community policing deputies to distribute those guides in the communities they serve. She also stated that Spanish and Creole versions of the guide are being published.
- Introduced Audley Reid, new Sr. Planner for OCR. He is the new Street Lighting Program Coordinator.
- She informed the group that OCR will be moving to Vista Center on July 12<sup>th</sup>, and the group will be notified of the new address.

### **LaToya Ricketts, OCR Staff, reported on the following:**

- Newsletter – should be completed by the next CCRT meeting. She thanked everyone who submitted articles and photos.
- Resident To Action Education Program (REAP) – Seeking participants to serve on the Steering Committee.

### **Chrystal Mathews, OCR Staff, reported on the following:**

- Focus Area Study – The deadline is today for submittal of departmental updates.
- NPG Program – The deadline for submittal of application is June 16<sup>th</sup>, by 5:00p.m.

### **Audley Reid, OCR Staff, reported on the following:**

- Street Lighting Program – He is currently working along with LaToya Ricketts, on several areas. You may contact him at 233-5567 regarding updates.
- Canal Point Visioning Workshop – To be held later this year.

Mr. Gainer asked Mr. Lowery for final comments. Mr. Lowery commented on OCR's budget for next year. There is a possibility that OCR's budget may increase. He thanked everyone involved and for their assistance. It took the CCRT group working along with OCR in getting the projects identified by the residents. Without everyone working together our efforts would not be as successful.

Also Mr. Lowery recognized and commended Pam Nolan especially for her efforts in identifying economic development issues, and finding funds for these issues.

Mr. Lowery thanked the Sheriff's Office for doing an excellent job, and helping out with the CCRT/OCR projects.

## **VI. RESIDENT & OCR STAFF UPDATES: (Cont'd)**

Mr. Lowery commented regarding being prepared for the hurricane season. He encouraged the group to get the message out to people that we must be prepared to take care of ourselves for the first 3 to 5 days after a major event. It is very important that we prepare our communities and take care of our families.

Mr. Gainer commented regarding submittal of department requests on the funding recommendations. The OCR will present the recommendations to the Board in October or November.

Also Mr. Gainer commented regarding the REAP awards. He stated that at the BCC meeting this week, the Board signed the REAP agreements for neighborhood projects submitted for community improvement plans: Homes of Lawrence, Federal Gardens Association, Monroe Heights, and grants going to several neighborhoods in the Glades.

Mr. Gainer announced that Chrystal Mathews was promoted to Sr. Planner.

## **VII. QUESTIONS/COMMENT:**

None

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT:**

- The next CCRT meeting will be held on July 11, 2006 (Tuesday), 10:00a.m. – 11:30a.m., at the Clayton Hutcheson Building. The next GTAC meeting will be held on June 22, 2006 at Pahokee 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

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Joyce Harrell, OCR Secretary

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

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