

Countywide Community Revitalization Team

Meeting of June 8, 2010

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Palm Beach County Vista Center, Room 1E-60

Minutes

Al Albrecht, Plantation Village
Deputy Al Barricklow, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
Deputy Willie Brookins, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
Shirley Cantelo, Old Trail Resident
Theresa Cantelo, Old Trail Resident
Carol Clinton, Lake Worth West
Victor Conlin, Plantation Village
Ruth Mognuillansky-De Rose, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
Edward Frazier, Old Trail Resident
Duane Gainer, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
Dave Gruse, Plantation Community
Andy Hartmann, P.B.C. Engineering
Quinn Hayes, P.B.C. Health Department (ACHIEVE)
Thelma Inman, San Castle Leadership Group
Anthony Jacques, Gramercy Park Resident
Demetrius (Demi) Jacques, Gramercy Park Resident
Kathy King, Lake Worth West
Marion Kirkwood, Old Trail Resident
Gary Koopman, Plantation Community
Dave Kouns, Roan Lane Resident
Deputy J. Lamm, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
Deputy Matthew LaVigna, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
Captain Jeff Lindskoog, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
Ilene Long, Old Trail Resident
Chrystal Mathews, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
Jean Matthews, P.B.C. Parks and Recreation
Roy McGinnis, PACE EH/Department of Health
Pam Nolan, P.B.C. Economic Development Office
Satu Oksanen, P.B.C. Housing and Community Development
Matthew Ott, P.B.C. Sheriffs' Office
Michael Owens, P.B.C. School District
Jerry Perry, Plantation Community
Audley Reid, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
Sylvia L. Sharps, P.B.C. Water Utilities Department
Sharon Sheppard, Westgate CRA
Merris Smith
Ed Summerlin, Plantation Community Resident
Houston L. Tate, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
Martha Turner, Gramercy Park Resident
Brenda Warren, Royal Palm Estates Resident

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:

There were no follow-ups in the record.

Mrs. Demi Jacques, Gramercy Park resident, asked if someone had been contacted in reference to the crossing guard issue that was brought up in a previous meeting.

Mr. Tate responded that OCR has made some contacts regarding this issue and he will follow up with her as soon as he has a response. He further stated that OCR is trying to find out if anything could be done regarding both crossing guards and noise reduction. The NFL is hosting workshop in the area on June 18 and 19. OCR is trying to help provide services for that event as well.

III. DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

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

- Cinquez Park is under construction.
- Patio court is under design and 50% complete.
- Sylvan Lane has been resubmitted to LWDD after the comments were addressed.
- Coconut road has been rebid because there are some changes made to the estimate.
- 1st, 2nd, 3rd Sunbeam and Wallis are at 65% design complete.
- Whispering Pines is still having trouble finding a way to route drainage. ENG is interested in the property mentioned by Ken Jackson, but ENG still needs a way to bring it to the canal.

Mr. Gainer asked Mr. Hartmann if OCR has time to coordinate a meeting for him. Mr. Hartmann replied yes.

Mr. Gainer then asked if Sgt. Hightower was supposed to coordinate the meeting. Mr. Hartmann confirmed that Sgt Hightower said he was going to coordinate it.

Mr. Gainer will follow-up with Sgt. Hightower.

- "A" Street will begin construction shortly. Right now Palm Springs is putting the sewer in. We will follow-up after that.

- The Wallis Road sidewalk cost estimate has been completed. There are various scenarios under discussion depending on issues regarding the drainage.

Mr. Tate stated that a community meeting must take place to make sure that all affected property owners have complete support of the project. This is a major project.

Shirley Cantelo, Old Trail resident, asked whether there has been any progress on their “art studio”

Gail Vorpagel, Code Enforcement representative, replied that she can look and find out the status.

Ms. Sharon Sheppard, Westgate CRA representative, commented on “art studios” and their experience in Westgate. They went to the County Attorney to try to get an injunction and that did not work. Then they went to Code Enforcement and PBSO. The building was located next to a church and Channel 12 went in undercover. Code Enforcement closed it for 3 days and the neighbors and the church threatened to boycott and write down the tag numbers of the people who went there. In about a month the place closed. Sometimes it is the people not government that closes them.

Mr. Gainer stated that this is not a recommendation from this group.

Mr. Tate added that there are many things government cannot do, but people can just live with the crime walks. PBSO cannot have an officer on every block every day.

Jean Matthews, Parks and Recreation (P&R) representative, reported on the following:

- At John Prince Park, P&R was awarded a grant to expand 3 miles of bike trails with a pedestrian bridge and \$80,000 of landscaping. The people can walk or jog.

Kathy King, Lake Worth West resident, said her husband took her fishing and they went under the bridge and it is just so beautiful. Well Done.

Pam Nolan, Economic Development Office representative, reported on the following:

- The City of Pahokee staff is supposed to meet with the Commissioners and the Lake Okeechobee Regional Economical Alliance, regarding the funding an update for the street improvements being proposed from Connor to Main and then to 5th to Farmer Market. The improvements include bicycle lanes, sidewalks and bus shelters. They may decide to have roundabout in the middle of the town. We are going to apply for a grant to help with improvements. Water Utilities is focusing on the sewer improvements.

Gail Vorpagel, Code Enforcement representative, indicated that Code Enforcement has been reorganized. She went on to say that Code Enforcement had a community support team which worked in CCRT areas, but the community support team is no longer in existence. They still will be involved in CCRT activities, and residents can still contact her. Residents, however, need to be more proactive and are encouraged to bring the complaints to the meeting.

Dave Koon’s, Elmwood Estates representative, thanked Gail Vorpagel and Bobbi Boynton for tracking down the HOA to Lake Catherine. Jerry from Sun Court is supervising the clean up. They made improvements. He just wanted to say thank you.

Capt. Lindskoog, PBSO representative, reported on the following:

- School supplies are being handed at the local level this year due to funding shortfalls. There will be one main National Night Out Against Crime event in Royal Palm Beach. He will provide the date as soon as it is scheduled.

IV. OCR STAFF REPORTS:

Mrs. Ruth Moguillansky-De Rose, reported on the following:

- Received and shared a calendar of events from the Riviera Beach Family Resource Center. Classes are being offered free of charge to anyone.

Mrs. Chrystal Mathews reported on the following:

- The Neighborhood Partnership Grant (NPG) applications are due on 06/18/10. The application must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. She will be out all next week.
- All are invited to the REAP Graduation/Luncheon Ceremony at the Airport Hilton this Saturday. The REAP class was a huge success. Over 150 people participated and 85 graduated. It was two, 5 week sessions. Right now OCR has 177 people who have RSVP'd for the event. She requested graduates to please arrive by 10:45 a.m. The ceremony starts at 11:00 a.m.

Mrs. Moguillansky-De Rose added that OCR obtained 35 scholarships from the Children's Service Council for REAP participants to attend a Grant Writing Workshop. It is going to be held in this same room on 07/13 from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. It will focus on Grant Writing proposals and the Do's and Don'ts of grant writing.

Brenda Warren, Royal Palm Estates resident, asked is this class is just for one night.

Mrs. Moguillansky-De Rose responded yes, it will be one night; 3 hours training with a light dinner.

Mr. Tate added that this is an extension of the REAP workshops. The Grant writing is just one workshop of a series OCR is planning to offer. Dr. Madison from Palm Beach State College has agreed to talk about Tomorrow Opportunities. OCR will be sending a questionnaire to all resident contacts to find out what your interests, needs, and concerns are, so we can tailor the presentation around that.

V. GRANT OPPORTUNITIES:

Dr. Audley Reid reported that the last Community Connect publication was released. There is nothing else to report at this time.

Mr. Tate asked what does the community want, and if there are any questions. If the information is not applicable to you it won't help.

Mrs. Jacques, Gramercy Park resident, stated that they are interested in sound barriers south of 45th Street and Haverhill. An idea came up for landscaping; they have seen it done along Haverhill (trees 25 ft tall and thin in width). She asked whether the County could do something like that or it is something they could get a grant for. Also, what about a grant for additional deputies.

Mr. Tate said that it is a tough one dealing with salaries.

Capt. Lindskoog stated that programs and grant options for law enforcement are limited, and inquired about whether the Safe Routes to School Program apply to Gramercy Park.

Mrs. Moguillansky-De Rose added that the problem with that program is that in the past DOT has given a lot of money to District 4, where Palm Beach County is located. OCR has been advised that the funding is very limited.

As far as salaries is concerned, Ms. Moguillansky-De Rose indicated that grant funding for salaries is very limited. Not too many grants pay for salaries. There are quite a few programs that might be of interest to the PBSO. In some cases, if you have a problem that matches the funder's mission, you might be able to incorporate the salaries as part of the grant.

Capt. Lindskoog said he would be interested in that.

Mrs. Moguillansky-De Rose stated that PBSO would have to be the applicant, not the community.

Jean Matthews, P&R representative, added that for the landscaping portion, you can go for the Keep PBC Beautiful grant, however, a lot of people walk away from the grant because you have to maintain it forever. There is about \$400,000 but it does not make it last forever. You can have a community event to plant and your labor, and donated plants.

(Unable to hear name) What was the name of the last grant entity?

Jean Matthews, P&R, responded the Division of Forestry and it will be available next spring.

Ms. Sylvia Sharps, Water Utilities Department (WUD) representative, added don't let the upkeep forever scare you. She suggests you do it with the collaboration of the City of WPB and some companies that do landscaping. You can do collaboration with them. If you put your name on the flyer, they will donate a little time. As far as paying the salaries of officers, Midget McBride still involved with Homeland, Ms Sharps is on that task force, maybe we can get them to do some funding through Homeland Security.

Ms. Chrystal Matthews stated that she thinks some of them do pay for overtime, but it has to partner with a non-profit and the local law enforcement agency. A lot of grants are listed as Crime Prevention.

Mr. Gainer asked Mrs. Jacques which street is she speaking of. If she is talking about 45th Street, Mr. Hartmann reported a few months ago that the County does not do sound barriers. The ones on Village Blvd. are under the purview of the City of WPB.

Mrs. Jacques replied west on 45th Street.

Mrs. Chrystal Mathews stated Mrs. Jacques needs the timeframe on any of the construction on 45th St. She may then apply because she submitted a NPG letter of intent. She can apply for a sound barrier for Gramercy Park for landscaping but she needs to know the timeframe of the construction. The item goes to the Board in November and you have until November of next year to plant trees.

Mr. Gainer asked Mr. Hartmann to let OCR know the timeframe of the construction.

Someone asked about the Police Athletic League. They heard something about PAL's paying deputies' overtime.

Capt. Lindskoog stated that PBSO just started a tennis program in Gramercy Park. In reference to paying overtime, PBSO provides the resources instead of paying the deputies' overtime. Because of the location, WPB is already providing activities through the Weed and Seed program. If you have a specific idea, go through with your idea.

Ms. Sharps said she was talking about additional patrols.

Capt. Lindskoog replied that you won't see that happen right now.

Mr. Gainer added that all residents should know that the Sheriff is facing budget cuts like all governments, and if they are looking at over \$25,000,000 to cut, if they could find a grant so that wouldn't have to cut, of course they would. Things are going to continue getting tighter. Ms. Jeanne Matthews, P&R, said Mrs. Jacques is doing it exactly right. She is the grant writer for parks and she tells communities that is what they must do, get the issues out and put them on the "radar screen".

VI. RESIDENT COMMENTS:

Mrs. Brenda Warren, RPE resident, reported on the following:

- Special thanks to Chrystal Mathews and everyone that did the REAP program.
- Special thanks to the Sheriff Department for all the help. Last month they only had one car burglary.
- Thanks for picking up mountain of tires but there is someone in the neighborhood that continues to drop them off though.
- Looking for a sidewalk on Wallis Road.

Mr. Tate added that when there is an incident, RPE is publishing that. When you try to solve crime issues, and partner with PBSO, you get those numbers down. He commends RPE for that.

Gary Koopman, Plantation Community resident, asked will there be a lifeguard course this summer through Parks.

Ms. J. Mathews, P&R representative replied she will find out.

Mr. Gainer added that before Mr. Koopman leaves today, he will be given a brochure. OCR has hundreds of P&R summer brochures.

Dale Robinson, Gramercy Park resident, reported on the following:

- Would like to thank Erica Whitfield for her efforts in advance.
- My property runs from Military and Haverhill. Part of it is under the County, part is Riviera Beach, and part is West Palm Beach. If the County can do something with that area so that Gramercy Park does not get the traffic through there. Something has to be done to cut that alley way off. He has had home invasion 3 times.
- Thank you to Mr. Reid for the lights put in to Gramercy Park. He thinks OCR fell short on lights because he is still waiting and must of fell through the cracks somehow.
- Thank you Mr. Tate for all you have done.

Gail Vorpagel, Code Enforcement stated that the area in question is an easement where the waterlines on the ground the property is in WPB, Riviera Beach owns the easement and the County is to the west. If all 3 could get together it would be great. There are some Holly Trees that need to be yanked up from the ground.

Mrs. Demi Jacques, Gramercy Park reported on the following:

- Are requesting speed bumps/humps on Haverhill between 45th Street and Caribbean. The concern is children going to school.

Andy Hartman, ENG representative, stated that he is aware of that. He will check into that for Mrs. Jacques. Traffic does the speed humps and the speed humps that are in there now were put in by the Commissioner. Gramercy Park does not enough traffic to meet certain criteria.

Mrs. Jacques replied that she disagrees with that. There is one way in and one way out they do have the traffic. There are 550 homes there. She is having a lot of contractors and vendors that do not want to come to Gramercy Park. Are they getting blown off, do they have to do it themselves. Their concerns are the children.

Mr. Gainer stated that there was a fatality a few years back and they laid something on the road and counted cars. They said traffic wasn't high enough, so the Commissioner said that they would donate. Maybe we need to do another traffic analysis. Maybe we need to do another NPG grant.

Mr. Tate stated that there is a difference between speed bumps and speed humps. Humps have to be done by engineers.

Mrs. Moguillansky-De Rose added that she does not think that they are overly expensive but the traffic count is not high enough.

Mrs. Jacques said they should re-address the criteria because it is not how many cars, but how fast they are going. They are considering roundabouts as well.

Mr. Gainer responded that OCR would have to coordinate with everyone to accomplish that, fire rescue, PBSO, Palm Tran, and Solid Waste. They can't get around certain streets.

- There is a code issue at 5811 Haverhill

Gail Vorpagel, Code Enforcement, asked what the problem is.

Mrs. Jacques replied that the grass is overgrown.

- What is the status of the park

Mr. Tate responded that Comm. Taylor called him and asked the same thing. This is going to be a long process due to the various phases. One phase is zoning with City of WPB. The funding is still there for the park.

Jean Matthews, P&R representative stated that the property is under the control of ERM, and is conservation land. P&R is in the works of having it surveyed and having the conservation easement removed.

Gail Vorpagel, Code Enforcement asked Mrs. Jacques if she said something about the back wall.

Mrs. Jacques replied she is not sure of the name but they are trying to beautify it.

Ms. Vorpagel responded that is their water retention area, but it is dried up. Her son is an Eagle Scout and looking for a project. She will tell him.

Mrs. C. Mathews added that the Belle Glade Eagle Scouts helped and applied for a New Partnership Grant to beautify Mace Park in the Glades.

Deputy Willie Brookins, PBSO, reported on the following:

- Wanted to acknowledge Theresa Cantelo, she donated approximately 15 mathematical products to that community.

Theresa Cantelo stated that she also has youth in the community that want to coach. Are there any grants to get them the training to coach.

Mr. Gainer asked how old the youth in question are.

Mrs. Cantelo replied 17 – 21 years old.

Contact Mr. Tate, he is putting something together.

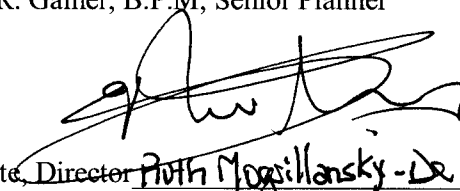
Ms. Sharps, WUD representative, has the information for the State and will send it to Mr. Tate.

VII. ADJOURNMENT:

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

The next meeting will be held on July 13th.

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

Approved by: Houston L. Tate, Director  Ruth Magsillansky - De Rose for Houston L. Tate