



OFFICE OF COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION

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Countywide Community Revitalization Team Meeting Minutes

Meeting Title: Countywide Community Revitalization Team Meeting
Facilitator: Houston Tate, Director OCR
Minutes Prepared by: Audley Reid, Senior Planner, OCR
Date/Time: June 13, 2017
Location: 2300 N Jog Rd., Room 1E-60, West Palm Beach, FL 33411

Meeting Attendance:

- 1.
2. Carol Clinton Lake Worth West Resident Planning Group, Inc.
3. Bill Smallacombe PBC Fire Rescue
4. Marvin Hubert PBC Fire Rescue
5. Michael Sklar PBC Economic Sustainability
6. Samantha Corr PBC ERM
7. Millie Rodriguez Health Care District PBC
8. Kristine Frazell-Smith PBC Engineering Department
9. Deputy Roman PBC Sheriff's Office
10. Casey Pranckun PBC Parks & Recreation
11. Michael Owens PBC School District
12. David Rafaidus PBC Community Services Department
13. Scott Rodriguez PZ&B Zoning Division
14. Wesley White Animal Care and Control
15. Kenny Willson Florida Department of Health Palm Beach
16. Gregory Gabriel Youth Services Dept. Planner I
17. Ike Powell PBC Youth Services
18. Amy Wakenfeld Memory Trees Corp
19. Rudi Bester Memory Trees Corp
20. Captain Kirschner PBC Sheriff's Office
21. Deputy Delaura PBC Sheriff's Office
22. Deputy Diejuste PBC Sheriff's Office
23. Deputy Cullen PBC Sheriff's Office
24. Sergeant Searing PBC Sheriff's Office
25. Deputy Harper PBC Sheriff's Office
26. Isabelle Philippe-Auguste Florida Department of Health
27. Dawn Wynn PBC Attorney's Office
28. Hazel Lucas Florida Rural Legal Services
29. Maura Plante Living Hungry
30. Michael Farver South Florida Hunger Coalition
31. Reverend Wayne Padgett Cross Roads Baptist Church
32. Bill McDonald Plantation Community
33. Sarah Vizcarrondo Light House of Hope
34. Bill McDonald Plantation Community
35. Stessy Cocerez PBC Community Services Dept.
36. Laura Martinez San Castle Community

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| 37. Carmen SiFonte | San Castle Community |
| 38. Jeff Koons | Citizen |
| 39. Robin Rance-Hoffman | Commissioner Burdick's Office |
| 40. John Sawyers | Westgate/Belvedere Homes Community |
| 41. Houston Tate | Director, Office of Community Revitalization |
| 42. Audley Reid | PBC Office of Community Revitalization |
| 43. William Wynn | PBC Office of Community Revitalization |
| 44. Chrystal Matthews | PBC Office of Community Revitalization |
| 45. Inger Harvey | PBC Office of Community Revitalization |

Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions: Mr. Tate called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. and asked the group to introduce themselves. Mr. Tate also took the opportunity to introduce Cody Sisk, Intern Student attending Florida Atlantic University; who is working under the supervision of Dr. Audley Reid, Senior Planner on OCR's Community Profile.

II. Presentation: Lt. Wesley White, Field Supervisor, Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control (PBCACC)

After an introduction by Mr. Tate, Lt. White presented an overview of PBCACC and various programs and services offered by the Dept. to pet owners and concerned citizens. A copy of his power point presentation is available via OCR upon request.

III. Department Updates

Ike Powell, Senior Program Specialist, PBC Youth Services Department, reported the following:

- The department will be helping to sponsor and organize the Weekend Feeding Program for Kids in 3 Youth Empowerment Centers (Belle Glade, Lake Worth & Riviera Beach) for a total of 100 kids this upcoming weekend.

Gregory Gabriel, Planner I, PBC Youth Services Department, reported the following:

- Tammy Fields, Youth Services Director does an excellent job in helping to bring the issue of homelessness to the forefront of policy and strategy debates. The problem, however, is bigger than what one department can do.
- The State of Florida could assist by making laws more "flexible" for Youth Services to operate in CCRT areas where many of the challenges exist.

David Rafaidus, Senior Planner, PBC Community Services Department, reported the following:

- Housing and mental health are also linked with the issue of hunger. And former Commissioner Jeff Koons should be lauded for his efforts to make a real difference in people's lives.

Captain Michael Kirschner, PBSO representative, reported the following:

- It is important to point out that the PBSO does not as a practice arrest someone for being homeless. Homelessness is less a crime and policing issue and more a policy and funding issue.
- There is a large and growing problem in South Florida with opioid and drug use. It should be pointed out as a caution that, the majority of those who are now addicted to opioids first began using marijuana before eventually turning to opioids.

IV. 2015 Community Focus

V. OCR Staff Reports. N/A.

VI. New Business

Former BCC Commissioner Jeff Koons was in attendance and spoke at length regarding a strategic initiative to combat hunger in PBC, which is an increasing problem in the County along with homelessness. Mr. Koons and his colleagues Maura Plante, Founder/CEO, Living Hungry, and Michael Farver, President/CEO, South Florida Hunger Coalition have partnered with the United Way as well as Sysco Systems to create strategies for food delivery to parties in need.

OCR, Community Services, Youth Services and residents from the San Castle, Limestone Creek and Plantation Area communities, after the meeting met with former Commissioner Jeff Koons and colleagues to discuss potential collaboration efforts.

The initiative also includes a mapping analysis of food deserts. Approximately 20% of PBC school children qualify for free and reduced lunch programs, furthermore, approximately 4,200 students in the school system are classified as homeless. Homelessness and hunger are twin challenges facing thousands of County residents.

Data is still being gathered but it is estimated that 50% of homeless children are in CCRT areas.

There are informational and communicative holes in the safety net system, so to speak, and interested parties and organizations must work to connect the pieces. Jon Van Arnam, Deputy County Administrator is also involved in this effort.

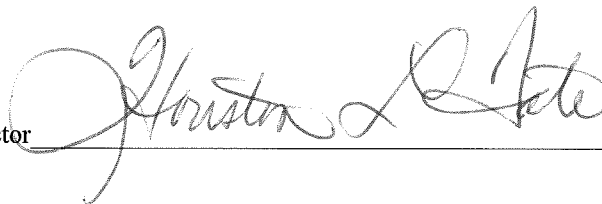
VII. Residents Comments

Lana Martinez, San Castle Resident, stated that many Spanish speaking residents are concerned with being targeted in some way if and when they take the initiative and participate in food sharing programs and events.

VIII. Follow-ups: N/A.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Approved by: Houston L. Tate, OCR Director

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Houston L. Tate", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "Houston L. Tate, OCR Director".