

SUMMARY OF MEETING
Glades Technical Advisory Committee
9:40 am November 20, 1998
Belle Glade City Hall

Participants:

Anne Cronyn, Elma Hayward, Clayton Hutcheson, Virginia Martin, Pamela Nolan, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Royal, Ken Schenck, Carl Seibert, and Bill Wilkins

Staff:

Vicki Silver, Chair

CHAIR'S REPORT

Ms. Silver distributed copies of the 1/27/99 Glades BCC Tour Agenda to be discussed later. She summarized the previous day's meeting preparing County staff for said tour. Staff from the Parks Department, Minority and Small Business, and Cooperative Extension Service debated the merits of concentrating on one or two projects versus several smaller projects, but consensus was not reached.

ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR BILL WILKINS

Mr. Wilkins discussed the importance of staff obtaining input on the pending BCC Tour, and the need for effective time management to allow all presenters the opportunity to inform the Board of their issues. The need to address the issue of education was discussed, and Bill suggested involving West Area School Superintendent Eugenia Jones and West Tech Principal Dr. Cynthia Smith to explain the status of vocational programs and other workforce preparedness opportunities. The Chair agreed to contact the School District to arrange a presentation in conjunction with the Workforce Development Board's presentation.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

An extensive discussion occurred about revising the boundaries of the Belle Glade Enterprise Zone.

A group of local officials headed by County Commissioner Roberts and South Bay Mayor Anthony will be talking to USDA officials explaining the importance of the Glades Rural Empowerment Zone to the County. Staff has been helping prepare a federal Job Access grant proposal to fund Glades residents' ability to commute to coastal jobs, with access to local daycare centers en route.

BELLE GLADE

The City has identified projects for Community Development Block Grant assistance. The City awaits completion of the Business Park feasibility study, so that they will be able to access additional funding.

PAHOKEE

Planters have been purchased for downtown plantings and road improvements should begin in the next few months. The Revitalization and Marketing Plan being prepared by a consultant

team will be completed by February 1999, with a preliminary presentation to the City Commission in mid-January.

The final workproduct will be a promotional packet for investors and developers that the City, Chamber, and realtors can use to attract marketable, desirable types of development.

EDGE CENTER

Carl Seibert reported that his new headquarters are at the Commissioner's Office in the West County Courthouse. One business (a hair salon) has already been started as a result of their training program. Another training class is underway. He is awaiting news on the status of a state Folkarts Apprenticeship grant which will identify authentic traditional artists in the area and train residents to operate folkarts-related businesses.

GLADES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Several youth training programs have been initiated with private foundation funding, and the intent is to coordinate with the EDGE Center on youth entrepreneurship. GCDC has moved to a new location on MLK Boulevard in Belle Glade.

Regarding future meeting dates, it was agreed that Friday mornings are much more convenient for Mr. Wilkins and others, so the next meeting was scheduled for January 15.

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 am.

**SUMMARY OF MEETING TO PREPARE FOR
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' TOUR OF GLADES**