



Central County Community Advisory Board Meeting
Wednesday, August 20, 2025, 6:00 pm
Franklin Park Community Center
2501 Franklin Drive/22nd Road
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311

Members' Present

Alverine Brihm, Chair
Howard Kaplan, Member

Marquis Curry, Member
Rev. Jesse Scipio, Member

Absent: Ruben Bell, Vice Chair

Broward County Staff

Laurette Jean, Assistant County Administrator, BMSD Administrator	
Dan West, Director Parks	Erik Westberg, Assistant Dir. Parks
Val Wolberg, Parks	Joshua Moore, Parks
Kemma Foreman, Parks	Arnela Ombasic, Budget
Willowstine Lawson, Building Code	Elaine Barrett, Solid Waste
Sean Miller, Building Code	Gerald Henry, Building Code
SunJin Zanker, Budget	Patrice Paldino, HOSS-D
Kiara Weir, Human Services	David Watkins, Human Services
Efrem Crenshaw, Human Services	Pamela Vance, HOSS-D
Daniel Cohen, Transit	

Property Appraiser:

Viviana Gallinal

Susan Kung

Broward Sheriff's Office:

Lt. Chauncey Cade
Deputy Robert Petoskey
Deputy Tania Registre

Deputy Cameron Boswell
Deputy Joshua Hunsinger
Deputy Sam Dakraub

Attendees

Tee Edwards
Alvin Lewis

Lisa Curry
Leann Barber



Attendees continued

Calvin Williams
D. Jackson
Debra Scott
Clarence Fuller
Janet Harp
Wilbert Brimm
Betty Bryant

Lateshia James
Denise Lyas
Andre Godfrey
Sandra Thomas
Tereese Antoine
Barbara Williamson
Katavia Woods

1. **Call to Order-** Mrs. Brihm called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm and announced the meeting's decorum. She recognized BMSD Administrator, Laurette Jean.
2. **Roll Call-** Ms. Lawson called attendance. Quorum was met with 4 members present.
3. **Approval of May 21, 2025, Minutes-**
 - a. Before approving the minutes, Mr. Curry asked if there were follow-up items from the May 21st, 2025 meeting that were resolved. He also asked if CCCAB members could receive in writing the follow-up items from the last meeting and a summary of action in writing that can be circulated to the residents who couldn't. Willowstine Lawson replied that she provides the minutes to the CCCAB members and it's posted on the website. In following up on a request or concern, Willowstine contacts the person directly by email or phone and provides the information. Laurette Jean, BMSD Administrator stated that if Mr. Curry prefers a summary of follow-up items in writing, we will follow up and can make written information available at meetings.
 - b. Barbara Williamson, resident of Roosevelt Gardens asked how she could receive a copy of the minutes. Willowstine responded that a weblink to the minutes is also included in the email sent with the meeting notifications, and by request a printed copy can be made available.
 - c. Mr. Curry moved approval of the minutes of May 21st and it was second by Rev. Scipio; the members voted approval.



4. **Chair's Opening Statement**, Alverine Brihm- welcomed everyone and stated the primary goal for the meeting was to receive information on programs and services in the BMSD area. CCCAB members will ask questions first, and names are called from the speaker cards during the presentations. She announced residents who would like to ask questions need to complete speaker cards and submit them at the check in the table at the back. She recognized Laurette Jean, BMSD Assistant County Administrator, Dan West, Parks Director, and Arnela Ombasic representing the Office of Management and Budget.
5. **Broward Sheriff's Office Report** - Lt. Chancey Chaney, Executive Officer Central Broward/Lauderdale Lakes
 - a. Lt. Chauncey Cade introduced the members of the Targeted Response Team (TRT) and Deputy Cameron Bosewell. He stated the TRT and Neighborhood Support Team have done a great job and have been addressing homelessness and quality of life issues. Without a warrant, they can't do much with the homeless. TRT has addressed prostitution. He asked that residents bring any issues to their attention. Some things they can see and address.
 - b. Mr. Curry asked how do you use current crime trends to compare them to last quarter and what areas of Central County are most impacted. What are the additional resources or partnerships have helped to reduce crime effectively such as lighting, cameras or community policing. Lt. Cade said that crime overall is trending down. A lot of issues in the BMSD are being addressed by the TRT. He's spoken with residents in reference to putting up the cameras, still in the process, working on the funding. Hopefully they should have funding to get cameras placed on the main thoroughfare. The cameras will allow real-time crime center to monitor areas, see something that requires a deputy's response and see someone trespassing on a property. BSO's goal is to make public places safe and accessible to the community. As far as partnerships, each TRT member has cell phones and business cards and they will hand out so residents can call them. They will email the monthly reports and residents will see the results. Lt. Cade stated that, in the past couple of weeks, they have removed drugs from several homes.



- c. Mr. Kaplan stated he receives texts every day about crime in the Roosevelt Gardens community and inquired if the TRT members present at the meeting are the ones handling them. Lt. Cade responded yes. Mr. Kaplan thanked the team.
- d. Chair Brihm thanked the TRT and Neighborhood Support Team. Said she noticed the hot spots were covered and the BSO is doing a great job with the help of Code Compliance in the past months.
- e. Wilbert Brimm, resident, stated there have been posts on social media about missing kids. He asked if they have received calls about missing kids. He finds it strange that 100 kids are missing and there is no media coverage? Lt. Cade said he hasn't heard about that issue in our jurisdiction; they're good with recovery.
- f. Katavia Woods, resident Washington Park, asked what is the process when BSO catches a prostitute? How many warnings do they get? What happens when they see prostitutes in action? How long does it take? How are they charged? Lt. Cade said the goal is to get them to jail. It's not up to the sheriff's office; it's the State Attorney's. They enforce statutes. When they are arrested, they get out on bonds. She asked when are they going to be charged. Lt. Cade said it's not something the sheriff office can control. He encouraged residents to contact their elected officials.
- g. Deputy Hunsinger said there is a County ordinance in place when it comes to people standing on the side of the road and dressed in a certain way. BSO is taking a new aspect where they just don't wait until they get in the car; they build up documentation as soon as they see them. He stated that most have moved out of the area and there are only 2 or 3. He stated that they are really trying.
- h. Andre Godfrey, resident of Franklin Park, said he lives across from Lewis Chisom Park. He complained of habitual cars stopping every other evening, getting girls from under the bridge on NW 8th Street and doing drugs under the bridge. He has brought this up to Code Enforcement that something needs to be done about those persons living under the bridge. Godfrey said that BSO passes by and after they leave, the people come back to Lewis-Chisom Park and hang out. He's afraid to go to the park and will not take his kids to the park. They need to get rid of the homeless



and riff raff. Lt. Cade stated they are trying to get cameras at Lewis Chisom Park.

- i. Mr. Godfrey stated that someone was on his property and he gave pictures from his camera to the BSO deputy who responded. Mrs. James explained an incident where someone was sitting on their porch, she called the dog out and the dog ran the intruder off. Mr. Godfrey's wife was told by the deputy who responded that there's nothing BSO could do (although he left drugs in his shoes on their porch).
 - j. Denise Lyas, resident of Boulevard Gardens, thanked the TRT. She said, BSO listened to her at the last CCCAB meeting when she asked for more presence by the BSO in Boulevard Gardens. Ms. Lyas acknowledged that she has seen the TRT in the community and thanked them.
 - k. Barbara Williamson, resident of Roosevelt Gardens, stated according to the minutes of 5/21, BSO needs to be more visible but, she never sees anyone. There's a big problem at 3010 NW 13 Street. That house is a problem. They play loud music and kids can't sleep at night. When she calls the sheriff's office, they are rude. Agreed to put a shot spotter on her house, it's costing her electricity, but not getting any service. She stated it's a drug center that has been there over 52 years, she asked what they can do? Cars are there every Friday night and people hang out on her lawn and in the City of Fort Lauderdale's vacant lot. She asked what support residents can give, to help get the people out. Lt. Cade asked to confirm the address, which Mrs. Williamson responded that it is in Roosevelt Gardens, 13th Street. Lt Cade also stated that she can call BSO and they will respond; and she can email him.
6. **Broward County Property Appraiser's Office-** Viviana Gallinal, Crimes Against Properties Investigator
- a. Ms. Gallinal discussed the Property Alert Program which started about 3 - 4 years ago. She reminded homeowners to sign up for Owner Alert, a free program that puts an alert on the home if someone files documents to try to change the ownership. The owner will be notified within 24 hours. She investigates and hopefully the perpetrator is arrested. They work with law enforcement of various jurisdictions; there's a unit that combats deed fraud. The property appraiser's office is here to help prevent deed



fraud; it's a free program. She encouraged homeowners to sign up for Owner Alert at bcpa.net, or at the meeting in the back of the room.

- b. Mrs. Alverine Brihm asked about taxes.
 - i. Ms. Gallinal replied that the program does not deal with taxes. That falls under the County's Tax Collector. However, they work on deed fraud, people contact them when they haven't received their TRIM notices and learn there was an issue with their deeds.
- c. Susan Kung, BCPA Outreach Specialist, said when homeowners get their B.A.D. trim notices, if they find value is too high, they can call and speak with an appraiser. You'll be transferred to the single family/residential or commercial division. TRIM Notices (values) are based on the previous year. She highly advises homeowners to speak with an appraiser in the property appraiser's office before filing a petition to the Value Adjustment Board (VAB) because there is a fee for petitioning.
 - i. Mrs. Brihm inquired if she'll need an attorney to petition. The County told her she needed an attorney.
 - ii. Ms. Kung stated she doesn't need an attorney; if she wants an attorney, she can hire an attorney. Do not need an attorney to go before the VAB. The deadline to file for homestead is September 17th, but Broward County also has late filing
- d. Andre Godfrey, resident of Franklin Park asked if they still file for homestead exemption even though taxes are being raised?
 - i. Ms. Kung explained that homestead is a discount on your property taxes. If your primary property is valued over \$75k, the homeowner receives a \$50K exemption. She also reviewed a list of other exemptions on property taxes (like widow exemption, VA service connected disability, VA total, senior, first responders, etc) and encouraged residents to pick up the list from the table in the back. These exemptions are created by Law. She reviewed a vote from last year that gives a discount, \$722.00 exemption on top of the \$50,000 exemption. She also stated that she can help with questions and guide them to the right place.
- e. Marquis Curry, representing Franklin Park asked how does this relate to the state auditing? Laurette Jean replied, it doesn't.



- f. Barbara Williamson, resident of Roosevelt Gardens, stated they need Marty Kiar to come in, he explained things better. She's concerned if the state pass paying taxes to the state and not the County, how that will impact residents. She is concerned about what's going to happen to the County's budgets if that passes?
 - i. Willowstine Lawson informed the residents that the Property Appraiser, Marty Kiar, was invited but he sent his staff tonight because he had another engagement. It was posted on social media that Marty Kiar attended another meeting. We will reach out to his staff.
 - g. Dee Jackson, resident of Franklin Park asked if the first responders have to be disabled to qualify for the exemption. Ms. Kung replied yes.
- 7. Broward County Office of Management and Budget-** Arnela Ombasic, Senior Budget and Management Analyst
- a. Marquis Curry stated before tonight's budget presentation begins, he'd like to frame a simple question that will help the community. With the state audit, residents are asking how do you track, audit and protect the dollars that flow from our neighborhood. While presenting the numbers, please highlight the safeguards and accountability processes already in place so the residents don't see just figures but the protections behind them.
 - i. Laurette Jean replied there's a difference between the budget office and the accounting office. Budget does the planning and prospectively plans, the dollars, do forecasts/anticipate what you will receive from your taxes and other revenue sources. Accounting goes backwards. County is required by law to report every penny that we accumulate and spend through an external auditor. County contracts with an external auditor to report all expenditures and receipts. We also report to the State. We can show you where that's posted on the State's website, dollars that come in and go out. Also, we have to account for federal grants, report to the feds or the State depending on the source of the grants. Willing to have Accounting staff talk to you all. As far as the State Audit, the County was clearly targeted. State audit wasn't a



typical audit; they weren't auditors. County employees were exemplary, they had every document ready, 55,000 documents were reviewed and uploaded for the state auditors to review; and we didn't hear anything back. The State was extremely complimentary of the County's professionalism. Most of the questions asked by the state was largely focused on DEI and some on environmental like electrical vehicles. We provided everything, was very transparent, after 2 days of audit visit, we haven't heard back; can sit with anyone to explain accounting and audit processes.

- b. Ms. Ombasic presented the FY26 recommended BMSD budget. There are four categories property taxes support: the operating fund, streetlighting fund, waste/garbage collection fund, and capital fund. The operating funds are supported with property tax revenues. Ms. Ombasic presented a slide of property tax revenue over the past ten years in the BMSD Operating Fund. In FY25, the adopted revenue was \$3.2 million, and the FY26 projected/ recommended revenue is \$3.4 million. Similarly, for the streetlighting district Fund, the FY25 adopted property tax revenue was \$290,000, and the FY26 projected/recommended revenue is \$330,000. She highlighted several areas where services are funded in the BMSD: law enforcement (\$9.6 million), fire rescue (\$8.1 million), neighborhood parks (\$4.8 million), waste collection (\$2.5 million), zoning, and code enforcement (\$1.3 million), non-departmental (\$340,000), streetlighting (\$213,000) and a small appropriation for school guards (\$47,000). Ms. Ombasic reviewed operating highlights. Compared to the adopted FY25 budget, there is an increase in other personnel services to maintain historical staffing levels at BMSD parks, a purchase of a litter collection truck, and an appropriation for an Equipment Operator Senior position. She provided background on the streetlighting fund, emphasizing that the fund supports streetlighting at Boulevard Gardens, Broadview Park, Franklin Park, Washington Park, and Roosevelt Gardens. Ms. Ombasic then reviewed the BMSD Capital fund, which supports one-time projects. In FY26, the recommended program includes \$7.2 million for Local Parks Improvements and \$1.3 million for Community Improvements. She highlighted capital improvements including \$5.9 million for parks



investments across BMSD parks, \$4.2 million programmed for adaptations for parks future investments, \$8 million allocated in FY27-28 for major building improvements at Delevoe Park, \$2.3 million programmed for the Public Works Department BMSD Safe Streets Project, and an additional \$9.6 million programmed in the General Capital fund for drainage improvements at Delevoe Park.

- c. Dee Jackson, resident of Franklin Park asked how the street lighting projects are allocated. Also, she asked how would they know if a pole belongs to FPL or the cable company pole?
 - i. Laurette Jean replied she doesn't know the answer but she will get the answer from Public Works since they manage those project funds. She stated that FPL just did a project at the BMSD and we have to work with them. It is her understanding that they will be going to more areas. Mr. Curry brought up an idea where more lighting is used for crime prevention but he got back lash from some of the residents. He stated that we can do better finding the right pick.
 - ii. Willowstine Lawson announced that the residents need to call FPL directly. FPL would like the customers to contact them for tracking purposes (instead of Willowstine reporting it).
 - iii. Mr. Godfrey said the residents are required to trim their trees.
- d. Rev. Jessie Scipio stated the residents want lighting, but once it's installed, they complain that it's too much (too bright). Are there different watts or bulbs that can be used?
 - i. Mr. Godfrey said if there's light insensitivity, residents can call FPL and request an adjustment of the lighting, but FPL has a standard.
 - ii. Rev. Scipio said that it's never enough.

8. Broward County Parks and Recreation- Dan West, Director

- a. He thanked the CCCAB members and residents for attending the meeting. He recognized the BMSD Parks' staff and said they are the heart and soul of the community. Things are getting done at BMSD parks, thanks to his staff, thanks to Laurette and the County Commissioners. In the last 16 – 18 years, we have seen a lot of improvements. The community parks are being rebuilt. There are 6 neighborhood parks.



- b. Parks staff distributed slides for Dan West's PowerPoint presentation to the attendees. He reviewed the various programs offered at the BMSD parks. He stated a big one is the afterschool program that includes a free meal. Parks get help from support groups, agencies, non-profit organizations, children services and others, do a lot with different components. They serve 24,000 kids, do homework assignments, focus on health, enrichment and recreation and bring together resources. Free Summer Camp for 17,600 children, ages 6 - 17. Longterm benefits, kids develop life-changing experiences, and harvest energy.
- c. Seniors Program is embraced by the community; it's one of the best programs nationally.
- d. Mr. West discussed special events and referred to the Parks handout. He recognized that staff has made the programs successful.
- e. NewGen Program is fairly new for teens ages 16 – 18; builds character and leadership. Paid internship. 25% of the teens have gone to college and 100% have graduated from high school and 50% were employed in Broward County. The last class visited St. Augustine and learned about the culture. Your money in the BMSD is being utilized.
- f. Florida Atlantic University Interns' STEAM Program- science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics, prepares students for college or technical schools.
- g. He thanked Rev. Scipio for his hard push to get Boulevard Gardens Park renovated. He announced the grand opening of the Boulevard Gardens Community Center is September 13th, 11 am – 1 pm and invited residents to attend. Mr. West said it's a very small park but he's very proud to get it off and running.
- h. Lafayette Hart Art Installation- A public art project is underway to be installed with community feedback.
- i. Revitalization effort, Parks staff from all over the County recently deep cleaned all of the BMSD Parks; will continue to do this. Worse thing at the parks is irrigation.
- j. Expand outreach and begin a Park Ambassador Program
- k. Capital Improvements: Boulevard Gardens Park's parking lot and signage, Delevoe Park's \$1.1 million Solar Canopy over the basketball court, Lafayette Hart Park's fencing, drainage project at Delevoe: elevate



buildings, build new maintenance building, an amphitheater, restrooms and manatee observation (\$9.6 million for Delevoe Park). Thanks to the County Administration and Commission got the funding. Sunview Park basketball court resurface. Roosevelt Gardens benches and (playground), \$1.4 million, interior painting of Roosevelt Gardens, security lighting project at Delevoe Park and playground replacement, and Lafayette Hart parking, 18 new spaces. Franklin Park roof replacement. Develop resilient adaptation at Delevoe and Sunview Parks. Spent since 2010 \$16,000,000 in this community (from buying land, etc.). Would like to build a fitness area at Lafayette Hart Park.

- l. Alverine Brihm, Chair, said thanks and she stated Lafayette Hart has a trailer, will they ever get a new building? It's the only one that doesn't have a building.
 - i. Mr. West replied that they met about fifteen years ago and discussed Lafayette Hart and Boulevard Gardens Parks. After a lot of deliberations, they put in a modular at Hart, spent three times as much, and it's been a great building. It will cost \$1.5 million to take the module out and put in another building. Thanked Mrs. Brihm for her support and said he's not saying it can't happen. He thanked the community for their support. Trying to do the best for the community. Since they built the module, the cost of building has gone up. It doesn't mean that someday we won't be considering. Trying to do our best with the money they have.
- m. Alverine Brihm, Chair, stated that summer camp at Lafayette Park was closed. They need to do better; didn't know why it was closed. She asked what steps have you taken to identify and eliminate potential bodies within your department. Will it open for after school programs? Why is it closed for Afterschool Program?
 - i. Mr. West said for summer camp they didn't have enough students at Lafayette Hart and Boulevard. In afterschool, need at least 25 kids to give a meal. There were around 13 registered at Lafayette, but only 6 showed up. Will do better!
 - ii. Mrs. Brihm said there were 70 kids in the summer.
 - iii. Val Wolberg stated that in the summer last year/2024 there were 30 - 40 kids. One year Mrs. Brihm donated food and parks brought



over more kids to Hart Park. We have to research/ask what does the community want, what type of program they want. 6 kids in math class is wonderful. 6 kids in a recreation program, the kids get bored. It may be after-school isn't wanted; Martin Luther King, Dillard, and Delevoe offer afterschool for the kids.

- iv. Katavia Woods said that the parents didn't know Lafayette Park would be closed. The community didn't get notice. No communication. Ms. Wolberg said that the day they made the decision to close, they communicated with the parents of the 4 children who were registered. Stated you're right we should have let the community know.
- n. Marquis Curry, CCCAB member, asked based on the budget, what can you do with BSO to get Lewis Chisom Park under control? And, at the Dillard Greenspace, encampments are starting up there.
 - i. Dan West said they have been working with BSO. To work on Lewis Chisom Park, it's been a problem in the BMSD. It's not just a law enforcement problem. Will do things to deter activity but not be able to address the problem completely unless the park is closed. Doesn't know if it's one solution, talked about fencing. I hear you!
 - ii. Laurette Jean mentioned she has reached out with Lt. Cade about the park and they'll work together on that park.
 - iii. Dan West said he can't promise something they can't do. Lewis Chisom is special. Fencing and other things may be a strategy, will look at it. Said to Mr. Curry he won't apologize because parks was going through hefty changes.
 - iv. Dillard Green Space
 - v. Mr. West said for the Summer Program, they've offered more programs when they put the children together. It's expensive to bring in meals. Agree they need to do a better job.
 - vi. Laurette Jean said in addressing the homeless, they work with BSO, Code, HOSS-D, and Human Services staff to speak with the homeless. Where there are hot spots, encampments, HOSS-D staff go out to do outreach services and work with BSO.
 - vii. Patrice Pandino, HOSS-D, said they deal with Hotspots and encampment, services available. She spoke tonight with Lt. Cade



in the event they need a backup with the homeless. They work with parks and Code Enforcement all the time.

- viii. Andre Godfrey, said he noticed that some of the bus stops have been taken out, so standing only now, and do not have bus shelters. Laurette said there is no answer. The bus shelters and stops were purchased with federal dollars and in some areas the shelter can't be removed. Received complaints about drug sales at stops. We're working with BSO and Transit to put up no trespassing signs. Patrice Paldino said they have a partnership with Transit.
- o. Katavia Woods, at Lafayette Park, can you put the gate to the bridge down? She was told it was locked because there wasn't an After School Program. Also asked when was the bridge cleaned and the trees trimmed.
 - i. Jessica Telusmond, Parks Manager clarified that the gate for the bridge is open every day at 7:30 am – 6 pm.
 - ii. Dan West said that there have been occasions when a staff member has gotten sick and the bridge wasn't open. Please call Val or Jessica with questions.
- p. Jessica responded that the trees were trimmed back because of the waterway.
- q. Mr. Godfrey asked, with the recent administration budget cuts, has any programs you're looking to implement, what programs have been cut?
 - i. Dan West said they went through a budget exercise and decided to pause until they got through the vacancies. No cuts in the BMSD. Laurette clarified that they weren't sure of domino effects would be if kids in other programs would come to our programs. They are currently monitoring. Dan said thanks to the Budget Office, Laurette, Commissioners and everyone else, there are no cuts in the BMSD budget. We heard you and will send monthly newsletters to the community.
- r. Therese Antoine, a resident, said her question was already answered.
- s. Leann Barber, resident, see if you can provide transportation to Roosevelt Gardens Park afterschool program. Also swimming pools, there are none in the BMSD, and do not know the relationship with Fort



Lauderdale for using their pools. Would like the 4H program at BMSD Parks, has a lot of resources for kids.

- i. Dan West said they'll look into the programs and see how to expand. There are Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences programs in the BMSD, not enough.
- t. Andre Godfrey, resident stated that he never heard anything about the Movies in the Park event. Do the parks come together and show the movie outside?
 - i. Kemma Foreman said it's a hundred-foot inflatable screen, family event. She announced the various events they sponsor at the BMSD parks. All of the events are free. Look at the Dillard Green Space jumbo sign and email blasts.
 - ii. Dan West encouraged residents to pay attention to the board at the Dillard Greenspace. He invited residents to attend the events at the parks. He said Commissioner McKinzie wants to see music events.

9. Upcoming meetings-

- a. Mrs. Brihm announced the next CCCAB meetings, October 15th special meeting with the Broward County Sheriff Tony and Commissioner McKinzie and regular meeting November 19th. Please email Willowstine Lawson your agenda items you'd like discussed.

10. Unfinished Business- N/A

11. New Business- N/A

12. Adjourn

Chair Brihm thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 8:23 pm.

Disclosure: The above captioned minutes are transcribed in a summary format. To obtain a complete audio recording of the meeting, approved summary minutes, or any presentation or handout materials, submit a public records request through Building Code Division, 954-765-4400.