

ALLIANCE OF DELRAY MEETING SUMMARY April 3, 2019

President Bob Schulbaum called the meeting to order at 9:30 am, at which time he welcomed both delegates and guests. Captain Rob Sandt of the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office was pleased to announce that vehicle crimes were down. He attributed this to more vehicles being locked when not in use and fewer items being left in cars. He again warned the audience to be very careful of and alert to scams which prey upon older people. He urged people to be very careful of the Linton Blvd. and Jog Rd. intersection which has become very dangerous due to speeding, jay walking, ignoring the traffic lights and other behaviors.

Fire Rescue representative Steen Eriksson urged replacing smoke detectors twice a year, preferably when the clocks have to be reset. He also mentioned that smoke detectors with a ten year life span be used so as to eliminate the need for replacing batteries. He suggested that people begin to prepare for the hurricane season now.

Lesley Shriberg of the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office proudly announced that Sheriff Rick Bradshaw testified before the U.S. Senate regarding the Behavioral Services Unit.

Executive Vice President Lori Vinikoor of the Alliance reported that Delray Medical Center was selected as one of the top 50 hospitals in the United States and number 1 in Florida. She also announced that the land being cleared on Atlantic Avenue just east of the Turnpike is designated to be used sometime in the future as a civic site. Both shopping centers, the Wawa site on Rt. 441 and Atlantic Avenue and the Joseph's Market center on Lyons Road will be opening in May and/or June of this year. Thanks to the support of both the Alliance and Rep. Lois Frankel the Post Office on W. Atlantic Avenue has been totally cleaned of mold and mildew and vegetation has been trimmed back.

County Commissioner Robert Weinroth urged people using ride sharing to be very cautious when entering the vehicle, making sure that it is indeed an authorized vehicle and driver from the company that you called. Anyone wishing to participate in the census which is coming in 2020 should apply now. It is important that all of the people in Palm Beach County be counted, since the project may well give us an additional 2 congressional seats. Working on the census is a paying position.

County Commissioner Mary Lou Berger told the audience that on Palm Beach County Day many local issues were addressed, including the proposition that Home Rule must not be diluted by the state.

Representatives from the Florida Dept. of Transportation (Fl. DOT) were present to discuss Atlantic Avenue design and timeline updates. Teresa Price, PE addressed the widening of the Turnpike interchanges at Glades Road and W. Atlantic Avenue. She outlined the phases that must be considered before any physical changes are done: Planning, Feasibility, Developmental and Environmental Issues, Concepts, Public Hearings, Design and Acquisition of

Property. The Turnpike is planned for widening from the current six lanes to ten lanes, including express lanes from the Sawgrass Expressway to Boynton Beach Boulevard.

Thuc Le, PE discussed the widening of W. Atlantic Avenue from Lyons Road to Rt. 441. The road will be increased from its current two lanes to four lanes with the potential for an eventual six lanes. This portion of roadway will include sidewalks and a bike lane. Public input will be sought around August of 2020 and construction will hopefully begin in Fiscal Year 2022 (Fiscal Year 2022 for the Fl. DOT starts in July 2021 to June 2022).

Alexander Estrada, PE told of future plans for the widening of W. Atlantic Avenue from Jog Road to Lyons Road, with the anticipated completion date in Fiscal Year 2027 (Fiscal Year 2027 for the Fl. DOT starts in July 2026 to June 2027).

After a lengthy question and answer session with the delegates the meeting was adjourned at 11 am.

The next meeting will be on May 1, 2019, addressing the topic "Conserving and Protecting Our Soil & Water".

Submitted by Carol Klausner, Director