

ALLIANCE MEETING SUMMARY May 1, 2019

President Bob Schulbaum called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. He mentioned that this is the last meeting of the season at the Civic Center, and that the next meeting at the Civic Center would be in September. Delegates, Alternates, and Presidents of Alliance Member Associations will be receiving the June Breakfast invitation which will include a gate pass which should be displayed in the driver's side window.

Captain Rob Sandt was pleased to announce that the most common types of crime in the area are residential burglary, which saw a decline of 48%, vehicle theft, which declined 16%, and scams, which declined 7%. He spoke of several types of scams and advised the assemblage to remain on guard.

Fire Rescue representative Steen Eriksson informed the delegates that the safest place for refuge during a hurricane is in your home. However, if that is not possible, shelter will be available at Atlantic Community High School on W. Atlantic Avenue. The County website www.readypbc.com provides the official Palm Beach County Hurricane Planning Guide. Public Safety/Emergency Management can also be contacted by phone at 561-712-6400. At the meeting, pet stickers were made available for placement on or near the front door. If rescuers know there is a pet in the home, they will attempt to rescue it in an emergency.

Leslie Shriberg of the Palm Beach County Sheriff's office announced that all religious buildings in Palm Beach County are being monitored by the Sheriff's Office. That includes synagogues, churches and mosques.

Executive Vice President's Report: Lori Vinikoor distributed packets containing the time line for all phases required for road widening and improvements for sections of West Atlantic Avenue from 441 to Jog Road including a letter written to the Alliance from County Engineering stating that construction will begin this June for two lanes which will expedite traffic flow onto the Florida Turnpike. Exec. VP Vinikoor also announced the Alliance's State Approved Mature Driver Course for insurance discount. Alliance members will be able to sign up for the course beginning in September. Course dates: 10/17/19, 2/7/20, and 2/24/20. Classes will be limited to 40 and the discounted rate for members is \$10.

Wendy Link, Supervisor of Elections for Palm Beach County, spoke of the new equipment on order for forthcoming elections. She also said that many poll workers are needed, and encouraged audience members to apply.

Dr. Gregg Nuessly, Director of the Everglades Research & Education Center (E.R.E.C.), discussed 'Water & Soil Conservation'. He told the group that Palm Beach County grows 400,000 acres of sugarcane. The burning of this sugarcane enriches the soil with nutrients. Rice is grown on 30,000 acres in Palm Beach County. Since the field must be flooded in order for the rice to grow, this has the advantage in maintaining water conservation and distribution. New types of rice and lettuce are always being studied for more efficient and healthful strains.

Dr. Jehangir Bhadha of E.R.E.C. spoke of soil sustainability, water conservation, and nutrient management. In order to conserve the soil, which lost 1.7 billion tons through wind erosion, run-off water and oxidation, much research is being done.

Deborah Drum, Director of Palm Beach County's Environmental Resources Management (ERM) provided an overview of the department and will be returning next year with more details about ERM.

Shawn Reed, Public Information Services Manager with the Palm Beach County Water Utilities Department, showed how the new smart meters will record water usage and transmit to servers. That information will then be sent to the customer billing system. Advantages to the smart meters are billing accuracy, the ability to detect leaks in homes, hourly data reception, and customer portals. Smart meters will be installed in homes in PBC soon.

After wishing everyone a good, safe summer, meeting was adjourned at 11 am.
Submitted by Carol Klausner, Director