

ALLIANCE of DELRAY MEETING SUMMARY March 4, 2020

President Bob Schulbaum called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. He announced that no one applied to become a new member of the Board, so the elected Board members are Bob Schulbaum, Lori Vinikoor, Susie Zuckerman, and Paul Finkelstein.

Captain Rob Sandt of the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office recommended leaving extra time for automobile traveling because of the increased traffic at this time of year. He warned that thirteen car thefts, particularly of Toyotas and Hondas, have occurred recently. He also warned that calls supposedly from the DEA (Drug Enforcement Agency) are scams.

Chief Tony Tozzi of Palm Beach Fire Rescue reported having a marked increase in calls.

Octavio Diaz, MD, Chief Medical Officer from Delray Medical Center warned of deaths due to the coronavirus. He did emphasize that the flu is rife, but the coronavirus is more lethal. Hospital staffs are being educated about it and are partnered with EMS. He urged the audience to use protective measures such as frequent hand washing, use of disinfectants, no handshakes, and general caution.

Karen Brill, member of the Palm Beach Board of Education, reported that staff is deep disinfecting all cafeterias and teaching better hygiene to the faculties and students.

Nick Uhren, Executive Director of the Palm Beach Transportation Planning Agency, explained that federal and state gas taxes are used to implement multi-modal systems of transportations. Measures are being made to reduce the many accidents and fatalities in our area. These measures include more and better street lighting, bicycle and pedestrian lanes, and additional infrastructure. These plans are being formulated in partnership with the Department of Transportation. He also provided an update on the expansion of Atlantic Avenue. Widening Atlantic Avenue between Lyons Road and State Road 7/441 from 2 to 4 lanes and adding bike lanes and sidewalks will begin construction in summer 2022. Widening Atlantic Avenue between the Turnpike and Jog road from 4 to 6 lanes and adding bike lanes and sidewalks will begin construction in summer 2026.

Steven Abrams, past Palm Beach County Mayor and Commissioner, is the executive director of the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority. This Authority is responsible for both Tri Rail and Brightline. Steve informed that Tri Rail is experiencing high ridership because of tourism. Tri Rail now goes directly to the Miami Airport and will soon expand into downtown Miami. He also explained that Brightline is an inner-city access line. As such, it provides a solution to workforce housing.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am.

Submitted by Carol Klausner, Director