

## ALLIANCE OF DELRAY

### SPECIAL WEBINAR MEETING - MAY 22, 2020

Lori Vinikoor, Executive Vice President of the Alliance, opened the Webinar meeting at 10 am and introduced her co-host Paul Finkelstein who implemented the Zoom meeting. She then welcomed the audience.

Captain Rob Sandt of the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office announced that the lobby of the office is closed until further notice. Within the department all is well. The crime statistics are noticeably down, however scams are becoming more elaborate. DO NOT provide any information, especially credit/debit/social security card numbers to any unknown callers or internet sources that you have not contacted. Call the Sheriff's department and report these calls. Captain Sandt thanked the community for its support during the coronavirus crisis.

Chief Tozzi of the Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Department expressed appreciation for the high level of teamwork between the Fire Department and the Sheriff's Office. He also advised that the P.B.C. Fire Rescue department sent a unit to Collier County to fight the out-of-control blaze there. Home testing for the virus is now being conducted by the EMTs for persons who are not able to leave their homes. As we enter the hurricane season he urged that all residents make plans and stock up on needed supplies.

President Bob Schulbaum thanked both Captain Sandt and Chief Tozzi for their presentations and welcomed everyone who joined the webinar. He and Lori then introduced State Senator Lori Berman.

The Florida Legislature in Tallahassee was in session until March. Senator Berman provided figures that showed how some of the Florida budget of \$95 billion was being allocated:

- The housing fund is fully funded.
- Teachers' pay to increase by \$500 million, including bringing existing teachers' salaries commensurate with their years of service.
- \$100 million to buy land for conservation.
- \$400 million to fight the coronavirus and its effects.
- Local projects are also included in the proposed budget.

Senator Berman noted that the Governor has not yet reviewed the budget yet, and therefore has not approved nor vetoed any portions of it. She also noted that unemployment compensation has to date provided relief to only 10% of the applications receiving compensation before the virus. The applications have increased substantially in the past two months and it is expected that the federal government will supplement. Also, the CARES Act supplies additional money.

Senator Berman's phone number is (561) 292-6014. She encouraged those who need help with unemployment contact her office. Food banks have been set up in various locations in Palm Beach County.

The next webinar from the Alliance of Delray is scheduled for Wednesday June 3, 2020 at 10 AM. Tommy Strowd, PE, Executive Director of the Lake Worth Drainage District will be speaking on water issues and Agricultural Reserve Development.

Meeting (webinar) was adjourned at 10:35.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Klausner, Director