

ALLIANCE MEETING SUMMARY July 1, 2020

Meeting on Zoom was called to order at 10 am. Lori Vinikoor, Executive Vice President, enumerated the many significant projects that the Alliance has either objected to or endorsed, not the least being three projects that the Alliance opposed that would have increased the commercial cap and/or housing density in the Agricultural Reserve. The Planning Commission denied all three applications. Two were withdrawn before the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) meeting and one was denied by the BCC. The application to build a McDonalds on W. Atlantic Avenue and Legends Way has been postponed until the August meeting of the Palm Beach County Commission. The Alliance will send representatives to the meeting to voice opposition to the project. At the request of one of our member communities in East Delray the Alliance is working on a covered bus stop on Linton Boulevard which the residents have been asking for. Lori then introduced Sheriff Ric Bradshaw.

Palm Beach County Sheriff Bradshaw announced that there have been fewer protests and that the protests that have been held were more civil and law-abiding than those depicted in other areas. He had concerns that COVID-19 is on the rise in our area, therefore all Palm Beach County beaches will be closed for the Fourth of July weekend. The budget for his office was only a small 4% increase.

Lieutenant Michael Morales of District 4 PBSO announced that the District 4 lobby remains closed because of the coronavirus. On a positive note, he reported that crime is down 30%. However, he told of scams on the telephones asking for the answering parties to purchase gift cards and give the card numbers. Don't do it! He strongly suggested that if you don't know who is calling (caller ID) that you do not answer the phone. If a message is left you can then decide to call back...or not.

Lori then introduced Rep. Lori Berman of District 31. She will be running unopposed in the primary election for the office of State Senator. She said that the Governor of Florida slashed \$1 billion for local projects, but gave a tax credit to large corporations. The COVID-19 virus is rising in Florida.

Representative to the Florida House Tina Polsky is running for the Senate in District 29. She introduced legislation that was subsequently passed that significantly increased holocaust education in both public and charter schools.

Former State Representative Irv Slosberg entered the race for Senate District 29. He is promoting public safety and education as his primary goals.

Michael Weinstein, Esq is seeking election to the House in District 81. He is a criminal attorney and hopes to build a bridge between the community and law enforcement.

Also in District 81 Kelly Skidmore, former House Representative, is again seeking that position. Some of her priorities are health care, climate change and related community needs.

Emily Slosberg, State Representative in District 91 is running unopposed. She has worked, and will continue to work, for public safety, mental health, and senior citizen needs.

Palm Beach County Commissioner Dave Kerner of District 3 is running for reelection. He told of his past successes and is looking forward to being returned to the Commission.

Maria Sachs is seeking election to the Palm Beach County Commission, District 5. She spoke of her prior experience on the Commission and her interest in the environmental issues of her district.

Meeting was adjourned at 11 am.

Submitted by Carol Klausner, Director, Alliance of Delray