

ALLIANCE MEETING SUMMARY November 3, 2021

Lori Vinikoor, President, opened the meeting at 9:30 am in the South County Civic Center. She welcomed the assemblage and informed them that she is now the President of the Alliance of Delray and past President Bob Schulbaum is the Chairman of the Board. Lori welcomed the communities 'Dakota' and 'Eagle Point' to membership in the Alliance, as well as providing information concerning new development along the Atlantic Avenue corridor including the following: a proposed Public Storage facility at the southeast corner of Atlantic Avenue and the Turnpike; a new Dunkin Donuts (DD) at the corner of Atlantic Avenue and Legends Way (old DD will be razed and replaced by a smaller restaurant with one lane of drive-through); and proposed storage, fueling station, and car wash on the site of the The Big Apple Shopping Bazaar located on Atlantic Avenue between Military Trail and Sims Road. Note: Movies of Delray in the Oriole Plaza has reopened.

Captain Rob Sandt of the PBC Sheriff's Department reported that there has been a 5% increase in traffic in our area. He urged everyone to take special care to lock car doors at all times and to hide all valuables out of sight. He then introduced the handlers of the canine unit with their dogs. The dogs provide many benefits to victims of domestic violence and other crimes. They provide a welcome distraction to occasional chaotic situations arising in the home. It has been shown that when children have an opportunity to read to the attentive, non-judgmental dogs in a program called Read Along, their reading levels have increased. The therapy dogs are also trained to sit in a witness box at trial to calm the testifier.

PBC School Board member Karen Brill informed the group that Mike Burke was made the permanent Superintendent of PBC schools. Because of lower numbers in the transmission of Covid 19 a policy of optional masking will be implemented in the schools. Ms. Brill described some of the school board meetings lately, at which the public scream and threaten school board members.

Several members of the Palm Beach County Fire Rescue (PBCFR) team were introduced including Fire Chief Reggie Duren. PBCFR's Community Education Director discussed the change from battery operated household fire alarms to alarms that do not require changing the batteries. The audience was cautioned on cooking which is responsible for the majority of home fires. Pots left burning on the stove or using the oven for storage of combustible household items are two contributing factors. PBCFR suggests to not use the oven for storage (which could possibly be turned on accidentally), and when cooking, when leaving the kitchen, keep a spoon in hand to as a reminder that something is on the stove cooking.

Doug McGlynn, Department Chief of Operations, stated that all PBCFR trucks are fully staffed. The department has implemented Fire Cadet programs for teenagers. Battalion 4 is one of the busiest in the entire nation.

Division Chief of Operations Jose Gonzalez discussed the Urban Search and Rescue department which conducts searches for hazardous materials and the rescue situations which arise.

Medical services Chief Charles Coyle reported that South County Civic Center alone provided hundreds of thousands of Covid tests and vaccines to the public. They also provided the vaccine to homebound residents, as well as conducting contact tracings. He then introduced Fire Rescue Lieutenant Jose Santos who recounted his almost-fatal experience with Covid 19, and his amazing recovery.

Anyone who is considering running for the Board of their Condo or Homeowner Association or anyone who would like to understand condo & HOA law better can register for the Alliance's Virtual (ZOOM) Condo & HOA Board Certification Course. Participants can register by contacting President Lori Vinikoor via e mail at allianceofdelray@bellsouth.net or by phone or messaging at (561)715-1530. The is provided by Joshua Gerstin, Esq. of Gerstin & Associates law firm. Date: Thursday December 2, 2021 from 6 PM to 8 PM.

Bagels & coffee will be back at the next Alliance meeting which will take place on December 3, 2021 at the South County Civic Center where Palm Beach County Planning, Zoning, & Building (PZ&B) Executive Director Ramsay Bulkeley, Esq. will be leading the program with updates in PZ&B. Bring your questions for a Q&A with PZ&B.

Lori adjourned the meeting at 10:35 am.

Respectfully submitted, Carol Klausner, Secretary