

ALLIANCE OF DELRAY RESIDENTIAL ASSOCIATIONS MEETING SUMMARY February 2, 2022

Lori Vinikoor, President of the Alliance of Delray, opened the meeting at 9:30 am. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a 4 minute video was viewed regarding the proposed “Land Swap” explaining how this is not an “even swap” since the Agricultural Reserve has a different climate than that in Loxahatchee and is considerably warmer (there is at least a 5 degree difference) than the land in northern Palm Beach County, therefore, more different types of tropical fruits and vegetables that are sensitive to the cold can be grown in the Agricultural Reserve. Also, the Big Apple Bazaar application has again been postponed. The Alliance brought the developer and neighboring community together and the developer agreed to substitute the proposed fueling station with a restaurant. There should be more improvements to the site plan over the next month and the Membership will be continually informed of them.

Captain Sandt of the PBSO provided an update on the busy holiday season. He reiterated the need to lock vehicles and remove the key fobs. Recently, a vehicle was stolen out of a community but was recovered in Broward County along with all of the personal items of the victim. An ATM system was broken into in Delray Beach and the robber was captured. Construction sites in the area are a subject of potential crime so if you “see something, say something” and contact the PBSO. Captain Sandt related that the recent accident on 441 resulted in the vehicle rolling over several times and if the speed limit is respected, an accident like this should not happen. Speed trailers have been deployed so that PBSO can obtain data regarding the times of day when speeding is greatest and act accordingly.

PBC Fire Rescue Captain Tony Keeler announced that there is additional personnel on the trucks that are now fully staffed. He warned that space heaters can be dangerous if not properly handled. Special attention is needed when in use. Never get too close to them!

The Office of Elections advised that some municipal elections and an election for House Representative for District 88 is coming up shortly.

Dorothy Jacks, Property Appraiser for Palm Beach County, addressed the group. She explained that her job is not to set the rates, but rather to value the property. It is the increases in the market that impacts upon the property values. Additionally, there are several exemptions for property owners – domiciled residents, first responders, senior citizens, disabled residents, veterans, and more. These exemptions are automatically renewed every year. Homestead exemptions cap the value increase of homes at 3%. Real estate marketing is quite active. In 2021 there were about 85,000 transactions, which reflect a 10 – 15% increase. The increase in 2022 was a 20% increase. Portability allows homeowners the benefit to move within Florida to new property and not lose any monetary benefits.

The next meeting of the Alliance of Delray will be held on March 2, 2022 at 9:30 am. Doors open 9 AM. Eric Call, Director of Parks & Recreation will be presenting an overview of PBC Parks & Recreation and an update of the Morikami Museum & Gardens Master Plan including the Ryokan (Japanese Inn). Delegates/Alternates & Presidents attending the meeting will receive a VIP pass to visit the Morikami Immediately following the meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Carol Klausner, Secretary