### Alliance of Delray Residential Associations, Inc.

Serving the Membership ◆ Improving the Community Lifestyle ◆ Working Toward Sustainable Development
Applying Resilience Thinking to Our Natural Resources
Visit Our Website at: www.allianceofdelray.com
April 2023 issue of The Alliance Connection

# Next Meeting Wednesday, April 5, 2023 PBC Facilities & Operations\*

Speaker: Isami Ayala-Collazo, Director PBC Facilities & Operations.

Subject matter: overview of the department, especially explaining how "Art in Public Places" fits in, timeline for some local projects, i.e. fire stations, how PBC acquires property and disposes of excels property, and administration of leases, especially the West Delray Park. A Morikami/Ryokan update will be included.

Plus updates from PBSO, PBCFR, Elected & Government Officials

# Doors open 9 AM Meeting Starts 9:30 AM at the South County Civic Center 16700 Jog Road Delray Beach

Bagels/Coffee/Tea Served
The Public is Welcome

# ALSO... PICK UP YOUR COPY OF PALM BEACH COUNTY GUIDE TO SERVICES 2023 AT THIS MEETING.

\*See page 2 of this newsletter for a bit more about what "Facilities & Operations" is and how it impacts our communities the residents of and visitors to Palm Beach County.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE ALLIANCE: Lori Vinikoor, President

Arnold Katz, Executive Vice President Norma Arnold, Vice President John Gentithes, Vice President Allen Hamlin, Vice President Carol Klausner, Secretary Deborah Borenstein, Treasurer

Directors: Rob Cuskaden York Freund Judy Goldberg Evelyn Spielholz Susan Zuckerman

Assistants to the President: Rose DeSanto Rhoda Greifer Joel Vinikoor

Bob Schulbaum, Chairman of the Board

Legal Counsel:: Joshua Gerstin

## Facilities Development & Operations: an integral part of the PBC Government How are our Tax Dollars Spent?

Facilities Development & Operation's (FD&O's) responsibilities are varied and include siting and land acquisition, designing, constructing, managing, and providing audio visual, radio and security services to 707 County facilities and its fleet of 3000 vehicles and equipment for the Board of County Commissioners and its departments, Constitutional Officers, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office and the 15th Judicial Circuit Court. Its responsibilities include:

- Preparing specifications and design plans for capital projects;
- Administering capital project construction activity;
- Administering bids and other procurement related activities;
- Rehabilitating and renovating County facilities;
- Performing space planning;
- Acting as County's agent for all zoning, land use, and project development specifications;
- Conducting technical and user needs assessments and develop project specifications;
- Managing custodial services in designated buildings;
- Providing security services;
- Managing parking facilities;
- Performing preventive and corrective maintenance on County facilities/equipment/vehicles;
- Writing specifications, acquire, assign, fund, and dispose of equipment/vehicles;
- Managing County fueling sites; Acquire property and dispose of surplus properties;
- Administering leases for County leased facilities;
- Coordinating civic site acquisitions and use; and
- Responding to public inquiries regarding County property.

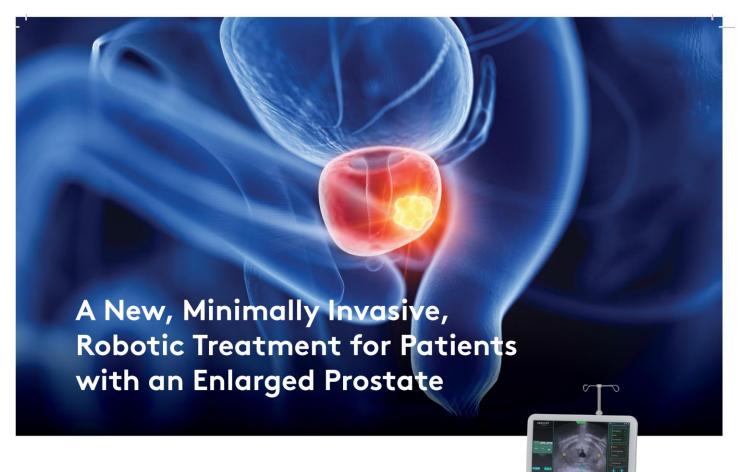
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#### Delray Medical Center, Our Neighborhood Hospital, Receives Many Awards

Delray Medical Center (DMC) our neighborhood hospital, is the recipient of many Healthgrades awards this year. Healthgrades excellence awards recognize the top ten hospitals in the country in 17 areas of medical care. Healthgrades uses three years of Medicare patient data and looks at the clinical outcomes across 4500 hospitals across the country. For the sixteenth year in a row, DMC received the 5 Star Stroke Care Excellence Award. For 21 years, DMC has received the excellence award in caring for heart failure. This indicates that the hospital is experiencing outstanding clinical outcomes and lower mortalities than expected all the way back to the 1990's. For over 20 years, DMC has received the Healthgrades award for treating sepsis. Overall, DMC has over 25 awards for excellent care in areas



including cardiac care, orthopedics, neurosciences, bariatric and colorectal surgery and pulmonology. In a ceremony receiving these awards, Daniel Listi, the CEO of DMC stated, "these distinctions are testaments to the hard work and dedication of the team." Photo: Alecia Dreyer, Director, Quality Solutions-Healthgrades presented the award. Dr. Louis Tumminia, President of the Medical Staff (center), Daniel Listi, CEO of DMC holding award.



Aquablation therapy is a new surgical treatment for Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia (BPH). Delray Medical Center is proud to offer this advanced, minimally invasive treatment to the community.

BPH, or an enlarged prostate, is a noncancerous condition where the prostate grows larger than average. If left untreated, BPH can cause significant health problems, including irreversible bladder or kidney damage, bladder stones and incontinence.

#### Aquablation therapy includes:

- An advanced, minimally invasive treatment that uses the power of water delivered with robotic precision to provide best-in-class and long-lasting symptom relief.
- A resective procedure to surgically remove the prostate tissue causing symptoms.
   No incision is made in the abdomen, as the procedure reaches the prostate through the urethra.
- An AquaBeam Robotic System, the first FDA-approved, surgical robot utilizing automated tissue resection for the treatment of lower urinary tract symptoms (LUTS) due to BPH.
- Low rates of irreversible complications, regardless of prostate size or shape.
- A safe and effective treatment for BPH patients suffering from lower urinary tract symptoms that affect the bladder, prostate and urethra and impact the ability to hold urine and empty the bladder.

To learn more, visit **DelrayMedicalCtr.com**. For a referral, call **866.961.2266**.



#### ALLIANCE MEETING SUMMARY March 1, 2023

The Alliance meeting was opened by President Lori Vinikoor at 9:30 AM. She then announced that since there was no opposition the current Alliance Directors were automatically reelected for a two year term and they are York Freund, Carol Klausner, Lori Vinikoor, Arnie Katz, Judy goldberg, Norma Arnold, and Susie Zuckerman. Elections are held each year where half of the Board positions are up for election. She mentioned various projects happening in the district. The Department of Transportation is working with Lake Worth Drainage District on final plans for the expansion of Atlantic Avenue from The Turnpike to Jog Road. A workshop will be held on March 28, 2023 9:30 AM at the Governmental Center 301 N. Olive Ave. in West Palm Beach to discuss the Agricultural Reserve. Several Alliance communities in the vicinity of the Delray Beach Golf Club which is up for redevelopment have requested assistance from the Alliance. Public Meetings will be held on 3/17 9 AM at the Fieldhouse at Old School Square, 3/23 6 PM at Pompey Park, and 3/25 9 AM at Delray Swim & Tennis Center.

PBSO Captain Rob Sandt of the PBC Sheriffs Office announced that the crime rate is down, but traffic accidents are up. The most hazardous intersections in our area are Jog and Atlantic, Linton and Military Trail, and Lyons and Atlantic. On March 2 there will be a meeting concerning the rise of antisemitism hosted by Mayor Gregg Weiss. PBSO's "Out-Smart the scammers" event and scams will be held on March 16, 2023 at the South County Civic Center from 1-3 PM.

Fire Chief Standsbury told of receiving many calls. There will be a new Fire Rescue station, #49, at the corner of Flavor Pict and Lyons Road. The road (Flavor Pict) will be paved out to Rt. 441.

Dan Pellowitz, Executive Director of the Solid Waste Authority (SWA), discussed protecting the environment by recycling. Palm Beach County residents are strong recyclers. The county uses two separate bins rather than one to avoid contamination. There are markets for recycled material in South East Asia and South America. The equipment in PBC has been updated and the County has achieved a 75% recycling rate. Some tips Mr. Pellowitz made included: Do not put lithium batteries in the garbage. Do not put paint in the garbage. Drop off at recycling center. SWA website: <a href="https://www.swa.org">www.swa.org</a> SWA Phone: 561-640-4000. He also informed the group that, concerning renewable energy, the new facility here in PBC is the cleanest in the world. It converts garbage into electricity. Also, reusing ASH for use in construction is environmentally sound. The Solid Waste Authority provides public outreach, education, and community engagement. He urged everyone to take all hurricane precautions.

After taking questions from the assembled, the meeting was ended at 10:35 AM.

The next meeting of the Membership will take place on April 5, 2023. The topic is "PBC Facilities & Operations" with an overview of the department, especially explaining how "Art in Public Places" fits in, timeline for some local projects, i.e. fire stations, how PBC acquires property and disposes of excels property, and administration of leases, especially the West Delray Park. A Morikami/Ryokan update will be included. Speaker: Isami Ayala-Collazo, Director PBC Facilities & Operations. ALSO...PICK UP YOUR COPY OF PBC GUIDE TO SERVICES 2023 AT THIS MEETING.

Respectfully submitted, Carol Klausner, Secretary

#### **Timeline Changed for Expansion of Atlantic Avenue**

In March, the Lake Worth Drainage District (LWDD) approved the design concept using the LWDD right of way for the roadway widening. The Department of Transportation (DOT) can now move forth with the Project Development & Environment (PD&E) study and hold public hearing. Soon the DOT will move into the next phase, Design + Right of Way (ROW)+ then Construction. Fundings have been programmed for both design and ROW. Construction phase has not been funded and the DOT anticipates that it will be for fiscal year 2029 or sooner if money becomes available.

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#### The DEA Explains the Cartel Business Model

State Attorney Aronberg's Addiction Recovery Task Force met on February 15, 2023 to discuss current issues and legislative proposals related to addressing substance addiction in Palm Beach County. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) representative Ernesto Garay-Lopez, Intelligence Collection Manager for the Miami Field Division of the DEA (see photo) explained the Cartel Business Model.

The demand for opioids has increased in the United States and Mexican heroin was weak so there was a desire to make drugs more powerful/potent so dealers turned to lacing powder/pills with Fentanyl. The value of a kilogram of heroin is thousands of dollars and the value of a kilogram of



Fentanyl is millions. Fentanyl generates greater profits than heroin. With 2 milligrams of Fentanyl per pill, 1 Kg of Fentanyl can generate 500K pills. 500K pills at \$20 per pill equals \$10 Million. The DEA is working on this newest challenge.

Photo: Ernesto Garay-Lopez Intelligence Collection Mgr. Miami Field Division Ernesto.j.lopez@dea.gov

Alliance of Delray's Mature Drivers Course for Insurance Discount It has been a successful year bringing the Mature Drivers Course for Insurance Discount to member communities. The courses will resume in the fall. Would your association like to have the Alliance bring this course to you?

Contact President Lori Vinikoor at (561)715-1530 or vinikoor@bellsouth.net



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#### **Advanced Proton Therapy Offered in Delray Beach**

The South Florida Proton Therapy Institute is located at 5280 Linton Boulevard on the campus of the Delray Medical Center. The Alliance recently toured the facility which is one of only 41 in the United States which offers proton therapy. Proton therapy is different from photon (X-Ray) therapy in that photons stop within the body with virtually no "exit dose" beyond their target. To clarify, photons increase the dose to a tumor without added toxicity to neighboring tissue and decreases the dose to normal tissue with reduced side effects.

The cyclotron which delivers the photon therapy weighs 90 tons. 500 cubic yards of concrete make up the proton vault which itself weighs 24 million pounds with doors that weigh 110 thousand pounds. The magnitude of this therapy is evidenced with concrete walls 14 feet thick in all directions. The benefits of photon therapy include but are not limited to treatment of sinus/nasal cavity, lung, prostate, breast, nasopharynx, esophagus, and pediatric cancers. For more information: <a href="https://sfpti.com">https://sfpti.com</a>

#### Senate Bill 598 & House Bill 575 Could Impact Waste Disposal in Communities

The Alliance is working for our communities. Certain essential services must be controlled by a governmental entity or special district created by an act of the legislature, such as the Solid Waste Authority (SWA). Incorrect waste management could prove deadly for the public and environment. Just as the purity of our water is carefully controlled by Palm Beach County's Water Utilities Department, so should our trash collection and recycling service be just as carefully managed as they are by the SWA.

The residents of Palm Beach County deserve to be protected and the accountability is there in the SWA. There would be no accountability with private parties hauling waste throughout the County. Further, licensing and permitting of dozens of haulers would require greater government oversight including code enforcement, contractors certification and environmental crimes division of the Sheriff's office; the financial burden would be on the taxpayers so no cost benefit to the public would be realized. Our legislators must be made aware of the needs of the community.

#### **National Slam the Scam Day Was in March**

#### Recognize the four basic signs of a scam:

- 1. Scammers **pretend** to be from a familiar organization or agency, like the Social Security Administration. They may email attachments with official-looking logos, seals, signatures, or pictures of employee credentials.
- 2. Scammers mention a **problem** or a prize. They may say your Social Security number was involved in a crime or ask for personal information to process a benefit increase.
- 3. Scammers **pressure** you to act immediately. They may threaten you with arrest or legal action.
- 4. Scammers tell you to **pay** using a gift card, prepaid debit card, cryptocurrency, wire or money transfer, or by mailing cash. They may also tell you to transfer your money to a "safe" account. **Ignore scammers and report criminal behavior. Report Social Security-related scams to the SSA Office of the Inspector General (OIG). Visit <a href="www.ssa.gov/scam">www.ssa.gov/scam</a> for more informatio**

#### **Delray Beach Golf Course Redevelopment**

Public Meetings to present four proposals for the redevelopment of the Delray Beach Golf Course were held on March 17 th, March 23 rd, and March 25 th at various public venues in the city of Delray Beach. Links to the four proposals were sent out via e mail to the Alliance distribution list and can be found on the Alliance website.

Challenges include an aging golf course, \$15 million in repairs and renovations needed, and competition with other City projects for funding priorities. Options include issuing bonds, increasing taxes, entering into a Public Private Partnership, and funding what the City can afford through existing revenues.

#### Alliance of Delray Residential Associations, Inc.

Preserving the Community Lifestyle 10290 W Atlantic Ave. #480504 Delray Beach, Florida 33448



Important Information Contained in this Newsletter

TO:

### Alliance of Delray Residential Associations, Inc.

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