

ALLIANCE OF DELRAY MEETING SUMMARY January 3, 2024

The January 3, 2024 Meeting video is available on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/B1gWNF4iTIk>

President Lori Vinikoor opened the meeting at 9:30 am with a big welcome back greeting. She announced that a Board Certification class will be Zoomed on January 25th at 6 pm for those who are considering running for their Board, are current Board members, or anyone who would like to learn about Florida Statutes 718 and 720. To register and receive the link to the course, contact President Vinikoor at [vinikoor@bellsouth.net](mailto:vinikoor@bellsouth.net) or call or message her at 561-715-1530. All attendees will receive a certificate via e mail following the course. Also, the Palm Beach County Water Utilities Department will be testing the system between January 4 and January 25, 2024. The water is still safe to drink.

First responders then provided reports. Lt. John Wink reported that there were no major incidents of criminal activity in our shopping centers during the holidays. In the year 2023, they handled 5,500 calls for service. The Lieutenant urges residents to reduce vehicle burglaries by locking the car, and removing key fobs and firearms from the vehicle. Also, programs are available for communities, examples include VAST (Volunteers Against Scams Team) and Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE) which can provide presentations.

Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Chief Bill Stansbury reported on Battalion 4 Activities. Battalion 4 encompasses West Delray and West Boynton. There were nearly 3500 calls during December and a total of nearly 40,000 calls in 2023. Station 45 (Jog & Linton) and Station 41 (Woolbright & Military) are the busiest running more than 20 calls a day from each station. There is a 9th station in the Battalion located at Flavor Pict & Lyons Road. Right now there is a trailer on the site and rescue calls are being dispatched from there. When the station is actually built out, there will be fire trucks housed there and it will be fully operational.

State Senator Lori Berman reported that the Legislature is constructing a \$114 billion dollar budget for the state in the 2024 Legislative Session. It will provide both standard and new services for the population. Also, property Insurance will be a high priority item (to which the audience applauded).

Palm Beach County Mayor Maria Sachs urged more participation from the audience. She emphasized that there are many areas in our county that are in need of volunteers. Anyone interested can contact her office. Volunteer examples: "Adopted grandparents" and "Play time" volunteers for dogs or cats at the local rescue center.

Attorney Joshua Gerstin presented the 'ins and outs' of protecting the community and dealing with the importance of attending to the requirements of insurance companies. Since the Surfside collapse, condominium buildings over four stories must have a structural integrity appraisal. All condo reserves must be fully funded and a reserve study should be implemented, although insurance premiums are excluded from the study. In condos it is necessary to have security measures in place to reduce lawsuits. These measures may include, but are not limited to cameras, adequate lighting, deadbolts, locking devices, door peepholes, etc.

In Home Owner Associations the agenda of Board meetings must be publicized. Directors and Officers may not receive 'kickbacks' of over \$25.00 in value. Violations of any of the HOA rules are subject to fines. Homeowners may fly up to 2 official country, state, and official department flags, but not purely decorative flags. At the conclusion of the meeting Mr. Gerstin answered many questions and addressed many situations by the audience. Here is the link to the completer handout of legislative updates: <https://allianceofdelray.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/2023-Alliance-Legislative-Update.pdf>

Greg Waltz, Vice President of Assured Partners Insurance, spoke about saving money. Since litigation is the cause of rising rates, appraisals are important to all condo or individual home owners. Appraisals should be conducted every three years.

The February 7, 2024 Meeting of the Alliance will feature Sheriff Ric Bradshaw with a County Security Update. The Bomb Squad, SWAT team, Motorcycle and Mounted Units, and the Therapy Dogs will be present. There will also be other displays. PLUS pick up your packet of the newest proposed HOA and COA legislation for 2024. Use this information to let your legislators know what proposed changes to condo and HOA law you approve of or *not* approve of.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Klausner, Secretary  
Sylvia Borrellie, Director