

Alliance of Delray Residential Associations
July 1, 2026 Meeting Summary
This meeting can be viewed on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/MN80p8NIIvs>

President Lori Vinikoor called the meeting to order at 9:31 AM announcing a celebration of the USA's 250 th Anniversary. The membership received many mementos for the 250 th celebration including red white & blue leis, hats, pinwheels, key chains & fans. The day's celebration was also for the Agricultural Reserve's many exotic fruit crops that can be grown. Attendees "tasted the tropics" with Jack Fruit truffles, macadamia nut biscotti, oatmeal gogi berry cookies, and fresh avocados, papaya, Surinam cherries, dragon fruit, ice cream bean, Jamaican cherry, lychees, mango, and other delicacies.

The membership completed surveys which will be sent to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) ahead of the BCC's July 14, 2026 meeting at which the future of the Agricultural Reserve will be discussed.

Lt. Wink from the PBSO provided updates on phone scams. If you receive a phone call and answer it, even if you hang up, your phone number is considered an "active user" and you will receive more spam calls. Therefore, you should update your phone and use call filters which can filter spam calls. 20% of crime is fraud in west Delray. Last year it was 30% so it has decreased. PBSO has presentations on fraud and scam prevention which can be brought to your community. You can contact District 4 to request a presentation, phone : 1(561)688-4760.

Also, visitors are coming in for the World Cup from foreign countries so PBSO has beefed up patrols. Keep in mind that fireworks in Florida are allowed on 4th of July, New Years Eve and New Years Day. We are reminded to take care with fireworks.

Capt. Tony Keeler representing the Firefighters Local 2928 provided an update for Battalion 4. There were nearly 3100 calls at Station 45 this month. Be prepared for hurricane season which is here. People are exercising more and dehydration is an issue in the summer heat. Drink water; you need fluid & electrolytes. There have been many heat related calls for PBCFR so far this summer.

Rep. Kelly Skidmore provided an update. There were 6 special sessions. Governor DeSantis signed the budget on June 30, 2026. Monies were allotted to improve the Burt Aronson Park in west Boca Raton. Appropriations for the Morikami were vetoed. Appropriations were approved for waste water treatment and Green Cay.

Companions Plus sponsored the breakfast. Phone # 1(561)495-4771 for home health assistance and long term care.

Ron Rice, Ph.D., Director of the Palm Beach County Agricultural Cooperative Extension Department was the keynote speaker. Dr. Rice introduced Lisa Amara, former PBC Zoning Director, and new Agricultural Development Coordinator and the newest advocate for agriculture. Ms. Amara works with the growers, manages the Agricultural Enhancement Council, reviews Planning Zoning & Building applications affecting the agricultural areas and assists small and large farm operations. Dr. Rice then proceeded to present information on the Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) which is situated in the western portion of PBC and the Agricultural Reserve which is located just west of the Fl. Tpk. in portions of Boca Raton, Delray Beach, and Boynton Beach.

The EAA produces such crops as sugar cane, corn, rice, lettuce, radishes, and celery. The Agricultural Reserve produces beans, peppers, tomatoes, flowers, and is the area for many nursery businesses and packing houses.

The meeting ended with a free raffle for the membership and five attendees left with bottles of bubbly to celebrate the 250 th Anniversary of the USA.

There will be no August meeting. The next meeting of the Alliance will take place on September 2, 2026 where our Supervisor of Elections Wendy Sartory Link will be presenting a 2026 Election Update. Meetings take place at the South County Civic Center (now the Dr. Andre' Fladell Civic Center) 16700 Jog Road Delray Beach.

Dr. Lori Vinikoor, President