

Highlights of the April 16, 2008 COBWRA Meeting at Valencia Shores

Officials' Reports

Commissioner Kanjian began by congratulating the incoming Officers. He then spoke of

- Complaints of strangers knocking on doors, the commissioners working on updating the soliciting laws.
- The "Green Task Force" in government who by example will lead everyone to help the environment recover.
- Autism: Something will be done this year to help parents of autistic children.
- The 15% increase of fees for water is unfair.

Commissioner Aaronson agrees with **Commissioner Kanjian's** effort on behalf the Parents of Autistic children. He disagrees with him on the increase in water bills because during the Hurricanes of 2004 & 2005, Palm Beach County Water Utilities supplied clean water to the unincorporated area. The plant did not go down as in other cities. 80% of the water fees collected goes to maintenance of the water pipes and facilities in order to keep the water clean and healthy.

Capt. Martin Bechtel announced the Grand Opening of the new District 6 Sheriff's Sub-Station, on Tuesday, April 29, 2008 at 10 a.m. It is located at 7894 South Jog Road. Everyone is invited.

Crime Statistics for March 16 to April 13

- 28 stolen vehicles: 6 recovered, 2 arrests
- 4 residential burglaries
- 55 vehicle burglaries: 37 unlocked
- 4 robberies

Scam Warning: Beware of anyone approaching, especially in a home improvement store, and identifying themselves as contractors then offering to install any item. Before you hire any contractor and/or pay any money, check him out through the Better Business Bureau or call The Dept. of Professional Regulators at 1-850-487-1395 or locally call Dept. of Planning, Building and Zoning at 1-561-233-5000.

Chief Mike Wells, PB Fire-Rescue reminded us that hurricane season is approaching. Please cut back all vegetation that hinders entry to a home or development. Because of recent swimming accidents, be sure to have a swim buddy any time you enter the water. Fire Station 44 (Flavor Pict near Jog Road) is on time to open in August.

Installation of COBWRA Officers

Commissioner Aaronson discharged the outgoing officers: Barbara Katz, President; Sandy Parker, 1st Vice President; Harriet Helfman, 2nd Vice President; Frank Cuomo, Treasurer and Stuart Caine, Secretary. COBWRA Certificates of Sincere Appreciation for their contributions were awarded to Parker, Helfman and Cuomo.

Comm. Aaronson installed the **new officers for 2008-09:**

President: Barbara Katz, Valencia Shores
1st Vice President: Ken Lassiter, Pipers Glen Estates
2nd Vice President: Roberta Levitt-Moccia, San Marco
Treasurer: Bruce Gumble, Ponte Vecchio
Secretary: Stuart Caine, Ponte Vecchio West

COBWRA President Barbara Katz nominated and the Delegates approved the following as Directors on the Executive Board: **Harriet Helfman, Sam Hershkowitz, Bob Katz, Jack Leicher, Bob Mayer, Mitch Radin**. Then Barbara, as the new COBWRA President, gave her inaugural speech. Barbara quoted the *Palm Beach Post* editorial from July 19, 2007, "**COBWRA is one of the county's largest and best community organizations.**" She acknowledged and thanked the many individuals behind the scenes who do and accomplish the thankless jobs—the workers who have helped make COBWRA the most respected and influential organization that it is.

COBWRA Reports

ICE: A letter to everyone explaining the "ICE" (In Case of Emergency) program and its benefits, will be sent shortly.

A New COBWRA Web Site is being investigated.

Sam Hershkowitz, agreed to be chair of the **By-Laws** committee, to review and recommend amendments.

Committee Reports

Mitch Radin, Membership Committee Chair made a motion to accept **Coronado Estates** as COBWRA's newest member. Unanimously accepted. This make 87 members
Bob Katz, Communications Chair: The directory will be distributed at the June 18th meeting. Please, be sure to send in updated Community information,

Joan Brunswick and Stu Caine, Flu Shot Co-Chairs asked that the Flu Shot survey forms be sent in ASAP.

Madelyn Saul, Volunteers Committee Chair, reported on the progress of committees that volunteers have joined. She asked that anyone who would like to work contact her. There still many openings unfulfilled.

Roberta Levitt-Moccia, Legislative Committee Chair, spoke of positive meetings with Sen. Deutch and Rep. Machek. She reported on the excellent presentation by Barbara Zee, VP of The Delray Alliance at the Legislation Committee meeting April 15. She discussed pending bills in Tallahassee and how we can affect their outcome.

Sam Hershkowitz and Bob Mayer Growth Management Co-Chairs: A motion was made to deny the variance requested by the Marquez/Jones PUD on Hypoluxo Rd. Motion approved unanimously. After a lengthy discussion, a motion to approve a variance for 24/7 use of a Emergency Room to be constructed on Boynton Beach Blvd next to The Grove and manned by JFK Hospital was approved.

Future Meetings (Open to the Public)

Special meeting date & time TBA to discuss the county staff proposal to allow civic sites in the Ag Reserve.

Tues., May, 6, 6:30 PM Growth Management at OMS

Tues., May, 13, 6:30 PM Legislature Comm. at OMS

Wed., May 21, 9:30 AM: Delegates Meeting at Valencia Isles. Program: Legislative Reports

By Bob Katz, COBWRA Communications

<http://communitylink.palmbeachpost.com/groups/COBWRA>