

Countryside Living...

A PERIODIC PUBLICATION OF THE DONALD ROSS LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Donald Ross Landowners Minutes

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 by Kevin Baker. In attendance: President Kevin Baker, 1st Vice President Carol-Sue Ryan, Treasurer Kevin Parkes, and Secretary Ellen Meehan.

Security Report: The Sheriff's Department provided their regular update on criminal activity in the area. PBCE had three residential burglaries in November and none in December. There were three reported car burglaries and a few petty thefts and vandalism. The boat thefts have stopped. Protect your property by keeping serial numbers and photos of valuable property. Thank you to the officers who assisted with the Sandhill Crane Run.

Treasurer Report: We ended 2014 with: \$7000 in the operating account, \$11,000 in the legal account.

Secretary Report: The minutes from the November 2014 meeting were approved as written.

Old Business: Sandhill Crane Run: PBCE held our First Annual Sandhill Crane 5K/10K Run on Saturday November 29th; thank you to the Ryan family and all the volunteers who helped with the event. The Run was very successful with 88 registered runners and volunteers, \$2150 in sponsors, and \$2226 in funds raised for our park.

Communication: We are looking for a volunteer to take over as the new Webmaster for our website MYPBCE.org which requires using Adobe Dreamweaver. Be sure to like our Facebook page (Palm Beach Country Estates Neighbors) to get current, ongoing information about PBCE.

DRLA Status: We've received the good news that the IRS has approved our petition for the Donald Ross Landowner's Association
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Neighborhood Watch

Think Safe! If you see Suspicious Activity Call: PBSO Non-Emergency Dispatch: 561-688-3400. If you see a crime in progress call: 911. COP Program Mike Ryan: a1aei@bellsouth.net or Bill Bolds Bbolds@bellsouth.net. Please consider joining the COP.



Officers and Committees

<u>Officers:</u>		
President -	Kevin Baker Kevin.Baker@TheStreet.com	748-3376
1st Vice President -	Carol-Sue Ryan ca.sueryan@yahoo.com	747-3233
2nd Vice President -	Jason McFarland jason.t.mcfarland@gmail.com	951-9977
Treasurer -	Kevin Parkes parkescpa@yahoo.com	441-2855
Secretary -	Ellen Meehan ellen1981@live.com	401-9331
<u>Committees:</u>		
Newsletter -	Kevin Baker - Editor Carol-Sue Ryan - Advert.	748-3376 747-3233
COP Patrol & Disaster Assistance -	Mike Ryan a1aei@bellsouth.net Bill Bolds Bbolds@bellsouth.net	762-3514 626-7638
Neighborhood Watch -	Cindy Divine Divinelabs@aol.com	744-8122
Park/Playground -	Sheri Murray Chris Reinhardt Sarah Applegate Bob Berman	601-1647 762-1281 741-1140 627-1118
Mom's Club -	Rose Moon rdlouca@yahoo.com	
July 4th & Beautification -	Ken Trapasso trapassok@comcast.net	578-9323
<u>Information:</u>		
Website -	www.mypbce.org	
Facebook Page & Group name -	Please Like & Join: Palm Beach Country Estates Neighbors	
Park/Playground -	www.twistypinesplayground.org	
Neighborhood Watch -	pbcenw@aol.com	
SIRWCD -	www.sirwcd.org	747-0550
Equestrian -	Kerie Franco Kerie_Hudson@yahoo.com	762-7988
Webmaster -	Volunteer Needed!!!!	

Important Dates: March 10th, 2015 - Come to our landowners' meeting for a very interesting update on the health of our river by Bud Howard, Director of Water Resources Loxahatchee River District.

March 14th, 2015 - SIRWCD Family Day. Free BBQ lunch, petting zoo, pony rides & face painting for kids!

March 26th, 2015 at 5:30 PM - Be heard at SIRWCD Improvement Policy Workshop/Meeting at Jupiter HS

May 19th, 2015 - PBCE Landowners' Assn Annual Meeting: Please contact a current board member if you are considering joining our board as President, 2nd VP, or Treasurer. A webmaster is still an immediate need.

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to become a tax exempt organization.

PBCE Entrance: We are still working on replacing the cranes that were stolen off the front entrance sign and doing so at a reasonable cost.

PBCE Park: SIRWCD and PBCE are moving forward in completing our Park and finishing the pavilions, basketball court, racquetball court, and exercise path.

Neighborhood Watch: The COPS program continues to operate successfully and regularly patrol the neighborhood. Thank you to the new volunteers who were recently trained; we are always looking for additional volunteers.

New Business: PBCE Running Group: Thank you to Chrissy Phillips who is organizing a new running group in the neighborhood.

Guest Speakers: Bud Howard of the Loxahatchee River District will be the guest speaker at our next meeting. Let the board know if you have other recommended speakers to address the community.

Neighbors Working Together: Two residents, Nan-

dini Gosine-Mayrhoo and Francisco Rodriguez are in the process of organizing a neighbors working together program and website for residents wanting to grow their own food. See the website: www.pbcountrystates.com

Meeting was adjourned 8:10pm.

Submitted by Ellen Meehan, Secretary

Minutes, Tuesday, November 11, 2014

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 by Kevin Baker.

In attendance: President Kevin Baker, 1st Vice President Carol-Sue Ryan, 2nd Vice President Jason McFarland, Secretary Ellen Meehan. Treasurer Kevin Parkes was unable to attend.

As the meeting was held on Veteran's Day, the two veterans in attendance were acknowledged as they announced their names, ranks, and where they served. Resident Joseph Hines suggested that a PBCE Veteran's group be formed. Please contact him via Facebook if interested.

Sheriff's Report: There has been 4 residential burglaries and 3 vehicle burglaries since the last report.

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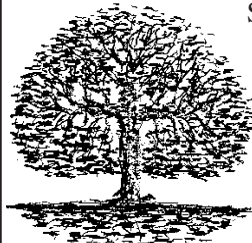
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All vehicles burglaries occurred at night and all were unlocked. The recent home burglaries were not the pillowcase ring. One burglary was deterred by the alarm system. There has been an uptick in theft of lawn maintenance equipment. The sheriff clarified that if you do not have permission to be on a property, it does not matter if a property has a house on it or not when it comes to trespassing.

Treasury Report: The association has \$10,417 in the operating account and \$11,475 in the legal account. Thank you to all residents who made the dues payment.

Secretary Report: The minutes from the meetings will be in the newsletter and online.

Old Business: Trunk-or-Treat: The Sixth Annual Halloween Trunk-or-Treat event was held on Nov. 1 and was a great success with 200+ participants. Thank you to participating trunks and the organizers.

COP: Additional volunteers are needed for our neighborhood watch COP program. Congratulations to Carol-Sue Ryan for being selected as Palm Beach County's Volunteer of the Month for September. She alerted PBSO to a suspicious person in our neighborhood while on patrol for the COP. The attending Sheriff nominated Carol-Sue for her quick thinking and innovative actions in securing irrefutable identification evidence of the suspect while helping one of our residents. There are over 3,500 volunteers that work with the PBSO throughout Palm Beach County and this award is presented to only one volunteer per month. Thank you Carol-Sue, and all the volunteers who make a difference for our community.

MYPBCE.ORG: This is our community website; we still need a volunteer Webmaster to update and administer the website. Contact a Board Member if you are interested.

Community Cleanup: PBCE residents participated in the International Coastal Cleanup on Sept 20 picking up the garbage on our streets. Thank you to the Ryan family for organizing the event and thank you to all the residents who assisted.

Communication: Stay updated on ongoing events on our Facebook page: Palm Beach Country Estates



Neighbors. If you do not receive our neighborhood email blasts, give your email to the Secretary.

Front Entrance: We want to replace the Sandhill cranes that were stolen from the PBCE entrance signs. The quote to replace the original cranes is \$1600 so we are looking at less expensive options.

DRLA Status: We are working with the IRS to make the Donald Ross Landowner's Association a tax exempt organization and hope to have this process completed by the end of the year.

New Business: Sandhill Crane Run: PBCE will host our First Annual 5K and 10K Sandhill Crane Run 2014 on Saturday, November 29, to raise funds for our Twisty Pines Playground and exercise stations. All residents are encouraged to participate as runners, walkers, volunteers, or spectators.

Meeting was adjourned 8:02pm with residents enjoying Ellen's freshly baked cookies

Submitted by: Ellen Meehan, Secretary

Minutes, Tuesday, September 9, 2014

Meeting was called to order at 7:32 by President Kevin Baker. In attendance: President Kevin Baker, 1st Vice President Carol-Sue Ryan, 2nd Vice President Jason McFarland, Secretary Ellen Meehan, and Treasurer Kevin Parkes.

Sheriff's Report: Deputy Russell from the Sheriff's Office addressed the residents on security in the neighborhood. There has been an increase in boat thefts where perpetrators are removing outboard engines from boats along with other boat electronics and equipment. In addition, there was one residential burglary in PBCE since the last meeting in August. Residents have an option to obtain a No Trespassing sign through the Sheriff's Department which includes an affidavit saying police can arrest people found on your property. If you witness anything suspicious, call 911. You can call the Sheriff's Office at 561-688-3400 or email Deputy Russell: RussellK@pbso.org

Secretary Report: The August 2014 minutes were approved and will be online and in the newsletter.

Treasury Report: Treasurer Kevin Parkes presented a full financial report for the PBCE residents on the Donald Ross Landowners Association. Copies were distributed including the DRLA Balance Sheets and Profit & Loss Statements for 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014. In synopsis: the dues and income received annually are approximately \$16-\$18,000 annually

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and that income is spent every year on newsletters, community events, neighborhood improvements & enhancements, taxes, insurance, and other small miscellaneous expenses. Revenues in 2014 are significantly lower thus far in 2014 (only \$5345) so a dues letter is being mailed to all residents this week. We are in the process of changing the status of the DRLA to a non-profit organization.

Old Business: Neighborhood COPS: Bob Berman spoke to residents regarding our neighborhood watch COPS program. We are in urgent need of more volunteers; six of our volunteers are retiring. Additional individuals are needed to make sure we retain use of the cars now assigned to PBCE. Training is provided and you can get additional information from Mike Ryan at 561-747-3233.

Community Cleanup: The International Coastal Cleanup is Saturday, Sept. 20. We will be meeting at the Park at 8:00am, starting with a breakfast. Everyone in PBCE is encouraged to attend and help clean up our streets.

Communication: We are still looking for a new webmaster to administrate our community website: www.mypbce.org: This requires working with Adobe Dreamweaver; please contact the board if you can assist. Make sure the DRLA secretary has your email. We might need to do our next Newsletter electronically.

Facebook: Joining the facebook group of Palm Beach Country Estates Neighbors is a good way to stay informed on all events in our neighborhood. Please keep comments reasonable and neighborly.

New Business: Trunk-or-Treat: The 6th annual Halloween Trunk-or-Treat event will be held on Saturday, Nov 1, in the usual location along the canal on 160th. Children in PBCE love this event so bring your families and join the Halloween fun. Keep an eye out for signs and email updates.

Community Park/Assessment for Completion: Residents addressed their concerns regarding the issue of the SIRWCD assessment to complete the Margaret Berman Memorial Park. This issue was heavily discussed on Facebook. Several residents voiced a strong dissatisfaction that this tax assessment was decided without the consent of the residents. Clarification was made that the DRLA Board, which was the first to inform PBCE about this tax, never asked for a tax and does not assess taxes. This

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decision, to finish the major structures in the park, was made by the SIRWCD Board. Mike Danchuk, current president of the SIRWCD's Board of Supervisors, addressed the residents in attendance. He explained the history of the DRLA Board, the Park, and entire funding process of the Park. In depth discussion ensued on the procedures for making neighborhood improvements and the tax structure for PBCE. Residents desiring further information can contact SIRWCD or any member of the Board. SIRWCD Board Supervisor Michael Ryan also spoke on this subject. Immediate Past President of DRLA, Chris Reinhardt, noted that residents had already contributed more than \$80,000, thru Twisty Pines Playground Foundation, which has been used to build the park and playground.

Meeting was adjourned 9:24pm

Submitted by: Ellen Meehan, Secretary

Minutes, Tuesday, August 12, 2014

Meeting was called to order at 7:32 President Kevin Baker. In attendance: President Kevin Baker, 1st Vice

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President Carol-Sue Ryan, 2nd Vice President Jason McFarland, and Secretary Ellen Meehan. Treasurer Kevin Parkes was unable to attend.

Guest Speakers: Multiple guest speakers presented at the meeting:

1. Sheriff's Office: Detective Shea, Sgt Matlock, and Deputy Russell addressed the community regarding crime in PBCE. Many residents are very concerned about the number of break-ins and asked the police officers questions regarding options for improved security. The PBSO reported six residential burglaries since June and an increase in the number of boat thefts, particularly engines and electronics. Residents are asked to call immediately if they witness anything suspicious.

2. Congressman Patrick Murphy spoke to the residents regarding his experience thus far as Representative of District 18 and his current political campaign. He addressed multiple issues including tax reform, Social Security, Medicare, government efficiency, fraud, and waste. He also addressed local issues including the environment, the beaches, and Flood Maps/Insurance. For more information on his campaign you can visit his website: www.patrick-murphyforcongress.com.

3. SIRWCD: Two of the three candidates running for a seat on SIRWCD Board of Supervisors addressed the residents. The elected Supervisor will serve a three-year term

A) Tom Powell - has served on the Board for 30 years and started the DRLA

B) John Meyer - Resident of Jupiter Farms for 20 years; works for the S. Fla Water District.

C) Rick G. Lee - Resident of Beach Country Estates - was unable to attend.

4. Jupiter Inlet District: Shawn Lopez spoke to the residents. He is a candidate running for Jupiter Inlet District 4. His focus is on appreciating the beauty of our waterways and educating the public on the value of our waterways. The other candidate, Kenneth Mays, was unable to attend.

5. Children's Services Council: John Burstein of CSC along with a Representative of the nonprofit Friends of Children's Services addressed PBCE about the upcoming reauthorization of the CSC in the November Election. The CSC funds more than 50 programs which assists more than 77,000 children and families

in Palm Beach County. They are encouraging residents to vote yes to reauthorize the CSC and continue the funding.

Treasury Report: The association has \$800 in the operating account and \$10,000 in the legal fund.

Secretary Report: The minutes of the May meeting were published in the June Newsletter.

Old Business: PBCE July 4 Celebration: Thank you to Ken and Debbie Trapasso for organizing our annual July 4 parade and celebration in our community park. Thank you also to the event sponsors.

DRLA Newsletter: Kevin Baker will remain editor of the newsletter. Residents interested in advertising in the newsletter should contact Carol-Sue Ryan.

MyPBCE.org Website: Thank you to Noemi Perrera for updating our website; you can now pay your annual dues or purchase advertising on the website. We are still looking for a volunteer to be our web-master.

Facebook: Be sure to like and join Palm Beach Country Estates Neighbors on Facebook.

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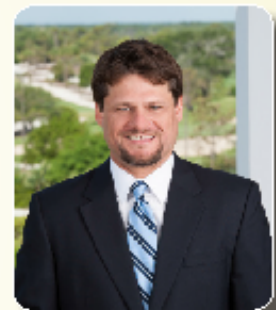
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Neighborhood Watch: Mike Ryan reported that the COPS program has had an excellent presence in our neighborhood with more than 6000 miles and 90 volunteer hours posted in July. House checks can be provided if you go out of town. Addition volunteers are always welcome.

New Business: International Coastal Cleanup: Save the Date - September 20! This will be our next community cleanup. This time we will start with breakfast at 8:00am in the Park. Teens can earn community service hours. Residents are encouraged to participate.

Security: Various security options were discussed at length by attending residents including security cameras and email or text alerts. Another idea being discussed is the option of issuing PBCE decals for the vehicles of residents to help identify cars that belong in the neighborhood. All options are being carefully considered as this is an important issue for most residents.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10pm

Submitted by Ellen Meehan, Secretary



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