

Countryside Living...

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

Important Notice

This information is being provided to you in place of the scheduled newsletter for February because of a timing issue.

There is a very important meeting of the South Indian River Water Control District on Thursday, February 16, 2017 and there was not enough time to put together the usual newsletter format. So, the information that would have been contained in the newsletter is enclosed. Please read the information carefully.

Also enclosed is a membership form for 2017 dues. **IF YOU HAVE ALREADY SENT IN THE MEMBERSHIP, THANK YOU AND PLEASE DISREGARD THE NOTICE.** If you have not sent in your membership, please consider supporting the landowners association for the benefits that it provides to the community.

There will be one additional full newsletter mailed to all landowners scheduled for April 2017. After that time, only members of the association will receive the newsletter either via email or by printed copy (your choice... see membership details).

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING the
PALM BEACH COUNTRY ESTATES
LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION.

Officers and Committees

Officers;		
President -	Ken Trapasso	578-9323
	TrapassoK@comcast.net	
1st Vice President -	Tim Brown	676-5527
	TJBrown10@comcast.net	
2nd Vice President -	Jason McFarland	951-9977
	Jason.T.McFarland@gmail.com	
Treasurer -	John Jones	408-2503
	John@JJonesCPA.com	
Secretary -	Bob Berman	627-1118
	BobBerman@comcast.net	
Committees & Information:		
Newsletter -	Kevin Baker - Editor/Ads	748-3376
Neighborhood Watch -	Cindy Divine	744-8122
	Divinelabs@aol.com	
Park/Playground -	Chris Reinhardt	762-1281
	Sarah Applegate	741-1140
	Bob Berman	627-1118
Mom's Club -	Rose Moon	
	rdlouca@yahoo.com	
July 4th & Beautification -	Ken Trapasso	578-9323
	trapassok@comcast.net	
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	
COP Patrol	Martin Spiro	371-4485
	LineDancer50@bellsouth.net	
	Bob Berman	627-1118
SIRWCD -	www.sirwcd.org	747-0550
Equestrian -	Kerie Franco	762-7988
	Kerie_Hudson@yahoo.com	
Webmaster -	Bob Berman	627-1118

Living Oaks Ministries

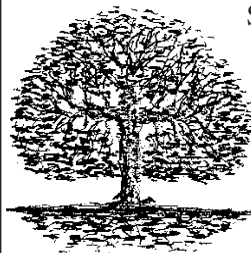
Sunday Worship Service 10:30AM

We welcome you to join us!

Ministries available for the whole family.

Please check us out on the web!

www.livingoaks.org



14156 64th Drive N, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418



**South Indian River
Water Control District™**

You are cordially invited to attend

26th Annual Landowners Family Day

*Jupiter Farms • Palm Beach Country Estates
Egret Landing • Jupiter Commerce Park*

Saturday, March 18, 2017

11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

District Work Center - 15600 Jupiter Farms Road, Jupiter



*Enjoy Barbeque & Live Entertainment by Tom Jackson
Meet the Supervisors & Staff
See Community Exhibits & Displays
Face Painting, Petting Zoo & more for the kids!*

RSVP to Holly or Carol at 747-0550

IMPORTANT MEETING
OF THE SOUTH INDIAN RIVER WATER CONTROL DISTRICT
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M. at JUPITER HIGH SCHOOL

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IS CONSIDERING A
CHANGE TO THE WAY ROADS ARE PAVED.

PLEASE REVIEW THE PROPOSED CHANGES CAREFULLY AND BE PREPARED TO
EXPRESS YOUR OPINION REGARDING THE PROPOSED CHANGE.

**PLEASE ATTEND THE MEETING IF YOU CAN OR
SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS DIRECTLY TO THE SUPERVISORS:**

Steve Hinkle: hinkle@sirwcd.org

John Meyer: meyer@sirwcd.org

Tom Powell: powell@sirwcd.org

Michael Howard: howard@sirwcd.org

Mike Ryan: ryan@sirwcd.org

Preamble to Road Paving Policy

After completing the 18th Plan of Improvement and working on the 19th Plan of Improvement, I have come to the conclusion that these Plans of Improvements are taking too much Staff time and Board Meeting time. Our District needs to refocus on water control especially our secondary water control system. As time progresses, we need to ensure our quality of surface water runoff remains in the acceptable levels as it has in the past. We need to stop spending so much energy and time concerning whether a dirt road gets paved or it remains a dirt road.

Under the proposed policy, all funds to cover the costs will be required prior to paving and landowners not wanting the improvement are not required nor can be forced to pay for the improvement. There are other Special Districts that use this policy for paving.

Steve Hinkle

SIRWCD - Enhanced Stabilization (Paving) Policy

I. PURPOSE

To create a systematic procedure for South Indian River Water Control District's Landowners to apply for road surface upgrades on "District Roads" (no more than ½ mile in length).

II. PROCEDURE

The South Indian River Water Control District Board of Supervisors hereby establishes the following:

1. A simple majority or more of the property owners must agree to have the road paved.
2. No roadway will be considered for paving unless the drainage swales and road base are considered suitable for paving by the District's Operations Manager and Engineer.
3. Paving shall be in accordance with the design and specifications approved by the District Engineer.
4. Should a roadway need additional work, the owners may:
 - a. Pay the additional costs of these improvements in addition to the paving.
 - b. Wait until the roadway has been completed as part of the District's road operations and maintenance program approved by the Board of Supervisors.
5. The Board of Supervisors approves the Petition after Staff review.
6. The District shall receive 100% of the cost of paving (grading, asphalt, spreading, rolling, etc.) in advance of the work being undertaken.

III. ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

1. The District shall consider no more than five (5) petitions for paving within a Fiscal Year. This limitation is imposed based on current Staffing and workload considerations. Additionally, petitions may not be considered until the following Fiscal Year due to work schedules.
2. There will be no financing from the District.
3. Petitions are only for one road.
4. The funds will be held in escrow in a noninterest bearing account until all costs are collected. If all funds are not collected within a year of approval, funds will be returned less administrative/staff fees incurred by the District.
5. Those landowners who do not want the improvement are not required nor can be forced to provide funds.
6. District Roads do not qualify for traffic calming devices after paving.
7. Paving a road does not abandon or reduce the annual road maintenance assessment on landowner's Non Ad Valorem taxes.

MINUTES OF THE DONALD ROSS LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

NOVEMBER 15, 2016 7:30 PM MEETING

OFFICERS PRESENT: Ken Trapasso, President, Tim Brown, 1st Vice-President, Jason McFarland, 2nd Vice-President, John Jones, Treasurer, Bob Berman, Secretary

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

10 MINUTES-MEET and GREET between landowners present

PBSO REPORT: Deputy Russell reported that there were two cases of theft reported and some minor vandalism in the past 2 months but no other crime reported

SIRWCD: Steve Hinkle gave a report on activities (outline included on opposite side of this page)

SECRETARY REPORT: Minutes of the September 13, 2016 meeting were presented and approved.

TREASURERS REPORT: Operating Account \$14,087.69; Legal Account \$ 11,995.09

OLD BUSINESS: Ken Trapasso reported progress of the entry sign landscaping. The Board of Directors approved a plan to have the entry signs completed and professionally decorated for Christmas.

This year the Truck-or-Treat Halloween event was very successful. The board expressed their appreciation for all the volunteers involved.

Landowners were reminded about the annual Sand Hill Crane Run with proceeds benefitting the Margaret Berman Memorial Park.

OPEN DISCUSSION: Several residents expressed their concern about discontinuing the printed bi-monthly newsletter and replacing it with electronic delivery and whether that was the general consensus at the previous meeting. The directors agreed that that was the consensus. The February 2017 newsletter would be the last one printed and distributed to all landowners in PBCE. The December mailing would be the annual membership drive with a section added for suggestions.

It was recommended to have a sign-in sheet at the meetings and have a recording of the meeting.

Ken Trapasso explained that his goal for the next year was to encourage all landowners to constantly participate in general clean-up of the neighborhood - especially the main 69th Drive corridor.

BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:15 PM.

Submitted by Bob Berman, Secretary

Steve Hinkle's Outline:

- Culvert replacement program is doing very well. Over 100 culverts replaced and back logged to February 2017
- Questions have come up regarding the number of culverts per parcel. County has an ordinance for 2 but are no longer enforcing. 1/8th acre parcel can have the same as a 100 acre parcel. Leaving it up to Operations Manager and Engineer. Decision will be based on restricting the flow of water.
- New tractor with mower boom – longer boom and larger head – auto brake on head when lifting
- The 19th plan of improvement ballots are trickling into the district office. Due by Dec 9th – My goal is to process the 19th poi as fast as possible after receiving results from Supervisor of Elections
- Hard Drives is working on the 18th Plan of Improvement. Currently they are about a month behind due to survey issues but have assured us they will finish on time
- Aquagenix is terminating their contract with SIRWCD at the end of the year. Currently they mow the park and the county roads. Please contact the office if you would like to bid.
- SIRWCD has completed several drainage outfalls but 3 or 4 will require surveying due to heavy vegetation
- SIRWCD is researching and receiving quotes for security cameras for the Berman Park due to vandalism
- Berman park for Business Activity – my opinion – twisty pines play ground
- Proposed new paving policy

MINUTES OF THE DONALD ROSS LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

JANUARY 17, 2017 7:30 PM MEETING

OFFICERS PRESENT: Ken Trapasso, President, Tim Brown, 1st Vice-President, Jason McFarland, 2nd Vice-President, John Jones, Treasurer, Bob Berman, Secretary

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

10 MINUTES-MEET and GREET between landowners present

PBSO REPORT: Deputy Russell reported that there were 4 cases of vehicle burglaries and 1 stolen car reported and some minor vandalism in the past 2 months but no other crime reported. All 4 vehicles were unlocked with valuable items visible. The stolen car was unlocked with keys in the ignition.

There will be additional enforcement polices from PBSO regarding speeding & ATV/Golf Carts (OVER)

BUSINESS OWNERS: John Jones CPA described the services his business provides

SECRETARY REPORT: Minutes of the November 15, 2016 meeting were presented and approved

TREASURERS REPORT: Operating Account \$23,147.00; Legal Account \$ 11,995.00

MEMBERSHIP: Approx. 200 members had joined for 2017 so far. Tim brown reviewed comments from 175 membership forms. These were the areas of concern: 1. Speeding on 69th Drive; 2. Crime in general; 3. Inadequate trash pick-up; 4. Maintenance of sidewalks; 5. Obstruction of sidewalks with lawn debris; 6. Additional street lights; 7. Standing water on 150th & 155th at intersections; 8. Illegal ATV-Golf Cart use; 9. Swale drainage; 10. New sign requested for corner of 64th & Donald Ross; 11. Fire Dept. coverage-additional station; 12. Exercise station at park.

OLD BUSINESS: Landowners expressed their appreciation for the Christmas decorations at entrance.

NEW BUSINESS: Susan Deckert and Manny Bueno volunteered to attend a "Safe Streets" conference in Ft. Lauderdale next week and report back if there is something that can be accomplished for PBCE. It was approved to reimburse them for any expenses involved with the attendance and travel.

Donnelle Jones volunteered to chair a new "Welcoming Committee" for the Association.

Bob Berman reported that the exercise station for the park was ordered and should be installed in February. Also, SIRWCD has ordered a camera surveillance system for the park.

BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, the meeting was adjourned approximately 9:15 PM.

Submitted by Bob Berman, Secretary

NOTICE FROM PBSO REGARDING SPEEDING & ATV/GOLF CART USE:

At the last Landowners Meeting, Deputy Russell from the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office said that there is a new Captain for District Three which includes Palm Beach Country Estates. Their office has received many additional complaints from the neighborhood regarding speeding on 69th Drive N., and the continued illegal use of ATV's and Golf Carts.

Those two issues were also within the top 8 concerns that landowners expressed in the comments section of the membership forms for the Association.

Deputy Russell wanted the community to know that there will be additional enforcement attention paid to Palm Beach Country Estates and that there will be no warning issued by order of the new command. If you get caught speeding or operating an ATV or Golf Cart illegally, you will get a ticket. There will not be any warning issued. There is an attached brochure detailing the responsibilities of ATV/Golf Cart owners and operators. PLEASE READ IT.