General Membership Meeting

October 13, 2015

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order by Marilyn Mammano, President at 7.30pm

**Roll Call**: Taken by Ron Centemore – Quorum declared

**Approval of the minutes** *Motion made* to accept minutes of Sept 08, 2015 –Chuck Black, 2nd –Betty Shelley, motion passed

**Treasurers Report** – Rochelle Golub – none

**Announcements/GuestIntroductions-**John Bertino, Community Liaison from the office of Tim Ryan, Broward County Mayor and District 7 Commissioner

**Police report** –Lt. Bill Shultz introduced team which was there to give report/update on Flaka, new drug epidemic. The presentation was made by Officer Zach Barrow, from the FLPD District 1 Neighborhood Action Team. The presentation highlighted the rapid growth of the problem from 2 cases in 2012 to over 5000 cases year-to-date in 2015. This synthetic stimulant comes from China and is very cheap, which is probably main reason it’s so prevalent. However, China has just outlawed it, so the police are hopeful we’ll see a decline soon. **Lt. Schultz encouraged anyone with questions or issues to contact him:** **wschultz@fortlauderdale.gov** **or 954-828-5794.**

**Votes**-*Motion made* to nominate Barbara Weinstein to position of Secretary-Betty Shelley, 2nd-Rochelle Golub, motion passed. *Motion made* to cancel February 09, 2016 meeting-Rochelle Golub, 2nd-Mary Sessions, motion passed. (February meeting is being cancelled because Neighborhood Support Night is on Feb. 11th.)

**Presentations**-*Henry Snieczek, Deputy Director, Environmental Protection and Growth Management, #BrowardNext*. He explained the goal of #BROWARDNEXT is to review the Broward County Land Use Plan to ensure it is reflective of Broward County’s current and anticipated conditions and priorities. His presentation reviewed history of Broward County’s Comprehensive Plan and the current review process which was started last year and is targeted for completion by summer, 2016. In the Q & A after his presentation there was a lot of discussion of flex units and role of city and county in controlling these. **If you want to have input during comprehensive plan review process, go on their website and get on their mailing list as well as complete their survey.**

*Elkin Diaz, Project Manager, Canal Dredging Program for the City of Ft. Lauderdale*, gave a report and update on the canal dredging project. The plan covers only city owned canals, not rivers or the intracoastal. In Ft. Lauderdale, there are a total of 115 miles of canals; 65 miles of which are city owned. Completing all the dredging is a 7-year master plan with an estimated cost of $9 million. It is within the Public Works department and overseen by the Marine Advisory Board. To-date, they have found about 10 miles (15%) that need dredging, but the full survey is not finished, with about 14 miles (22%) still needing to be assessed. Funding options for the dredging are: assessments (about 113,000 properties have direct benefit), taxing districts and/or millage rate/general fund (as in the past). So, this is an important issue for us to watch and stay involved.

**Updates-**Rob Larsen from Flagler Village/”Our Central Park” gave an update and new procedure for collecting petition signatures. They would love to have strong supporters in all neighborhoods as they view this park as a city-wide benefit**. For more information, go to the website ournextpark.org.**

**Adjournment –**meeting adjourned at 9.15pm

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Weinstein, Secretary