

# Highlights of the January 18, 2012 COBWRA Meeting at Majestic Isles

This meeting had a different format since the majority of the meeting involved adoption of Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation and there was no main speaker.

## Officials' Reports

**Commissioner Burt Aaronson, District 5.** At the December COBWRA meeting, Commissioner Aaronson promised that officials were working to solve the dilemma of a site for the **West Boynton Charter Schools** and promised a solution by the end of January. Today he reported that GL Homes had offered a new site on Boynton Beach Blvd that did not involve any Ag Preserve land. The 14-acre site is next to the Community Church site east of the Bethesda West Hospital site and is carved out of the Amstoy PUD. He also reported that the BCC voted unanimously to withdraw the request to initiate a Comprehensive Plan Amendment to permit schools on Preserve land.

## COBWRA Reports

**New COBWRA Member.** The Delegates voted without opposition to welcome **Winston Trails** to COBWRA membership. They are a family homeowners association with 1,891 homes on Jog and Hypoluxo Roads. The addition of Winston Trails makes 95 members including a total 114,000 residents.

**Charter School Report.** President Lassiter announced that a committee has been appointed to work directly with the architect, the charter school company and GL Homes to create a site plan that can be reviewed by COBWRA and the County. Lew Doctor of Aberdeen, Gerry Morrison of Bellaggio and Steven Oseroff of Tivoli Lakes were appointed to represent COBWRA.

**Growth Management.** Chair Gerry Morrison reported on a new community planned on SR7 and just north of the L-30 canal: **Monticello PUD**. It will be an equestrian community of 282 homes with a paddock and trails inside the community. There will be entrances from SR7 and Lyons Road. The Delegates voted without opposition to recommend approval as presented. The Delegates also voted without opposition **to recommend that the integrity of the Ag Reserve be maintained including all Preserve lands.** Finally, Gerry reported that the next Growth Management committee meeting on Feb 7 will include a presentation on the plans for a **Walmart Grocery** in the empty Winn-Dixie store in the Boynton Trail Plaza at the NE corner of Boynton Beach Blvd and Military Trail.

**Nominating Committee.** Chair Barbara Katz announced that the committee is accepting applications from candidates for the office of President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Deadline for applying: February 1, 2012

**Senate Hearing on Florida Election Laws.** Senators Bill Nelson and Dick Durbin will hold a **Senate Hearing in Tampa** on Jan 27. COBWRA has been asked to testify. The Delegates voted with two votes in opposition to authorize the President to testify on behalf of COBWRA about our concerns on these election laws.

## Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation

COBWRA's original Articles of Incorporation were filed with the State of Florida in March of 1982. These Articles were amended by the Delegates on Oct 21, 1998 but never filed with the State. When this was discovered, COBWRA sought the advice of four attorneys who advised that the 1998 Articles could still be filed properly. These 1998 Articles were filed with the Florida Secretary of State on Oct 14, 2011.

The attorneys pointed out that the 1998 Articles contained too much detail beyond what is required by Florida Statutes, Chapter 617, Not-for-Profit Corporations like COBWRA. They advised that details more properly belong in the COBWRA Bylaws.

A committee of fourteen volunteers has been working on Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation to comply with the State requirements and eliminate details that should be deferred to the Bylaws. This was the proposal that was presented to the Delegates and voted upon, Article by Article. Attorney Mark Alan Siegel was present to answer questions and gave his advice on suggested changes.

57 voting Delegates or Alternates were signed in. Revising the Articles of Incorporation requires an affirmative vote of a majority of COBWRA members. Since COBWRA has 95 members, a majority means that 48 YEA votes were required to approve any amended Article. The Delegates were in agreement and after some changes in some wording in several Articles, the proposals were approved without opposition votes with YEA votes of 57 or 56 (one Delegate had to leave.) The next step is to prepare a clean copy including all changes for our attorney to file with the State of Florida. After the new Articles are filed with the State, all Delegates and Alternates will receive a copy for their files.

## Future Meetings (Open to the public)

**Feb 7, 6:30 pm:** Growth Management, PBSO District 6

**Feb 15, 9:30 am:** COBWRA Delegates meeting at **Avalon Estates** (Hagen Ranch Road between Woolbright and Flavor Pict Roads.) Speaker: LWDD update on water issues.