

Presidents Letter

November 2020

Fellow Association members,

The Board would like to welcome back all our seasonal residents and wish all a very Happy Thanksgiving.

We had our first “Virtual” Annual Members Meeting on November 12th. While it was sparsely attended by members, the mail in proxy and board members ballots were enough to attain a quorum of the membership.

Regarding the election of Board Members to the open seats, Shari Thornton and Ed “Butch” Miller were elected to fill the seats.

Regarding the question of moving surplus funds to our Replacement accounts, the vote was to approve the move of the surplus to the Replacement accounts. The Board is also pleased to announce that the Annual Assessment will remain at \$350.00 for 2021. The 2021 Budget is available for viewing on the association website at:

<https://www.myjacarandawest.com/files/financials/2021/JW%202021%20Approved%20Budget.pdf>

Thanks to our Treasurer Don Meyer for his work on the budget.

The meeting was adjourned and then the Board started its organizational meeting. There was a motion to postpone the organizational meeting until November 19th at 9:30am. On that date the Board met via Zoom meeting and selected the following persons to fill the Board of Directors officers’ positions.

President: George J Jackowski

Vice President: Shari Thornton

Secretary: Clayton Harrington

Treasurer: Don Meyer

Thanks to Ed “Butch” Miller for his time spent as Vice President of the Association. Butch will remain on the board as a director and as part of the roads committee.

With the limited participation by members via Zoom, there were no questions to the Board. One item discussed by the Board was the coming need for infrastructure repairs and how to financially prepare for them.

Now to other matters.

Members continue to express concerns about speeding in the association neighborhoods. While some improvement has been seen, members have still been exceeding posted speed limits, running (the few that we have) stop signs, and ignoring the rules of the road. Out of respect for our neighbors please take note and help respect our traffic rules. **Remember (to paraphrase Smokey the Bear), Only you can prevent speed bumps.**

While we are discussing respect, a few words to all our pet owners (myself included). Again, members and residents are expressing concern about the amounts of animal excrement that is being left in yards other than the owners. It is both a Sarasota County and HOA requirement to clean up after your pet. Lets all be considerate of each other in this matter and if you should see someone who has “forgotten” a bag to pick up with, kindly offer them one.

We would also like to thank all of our members and residents for taking care of their properties. Overall, compliance issues are down from last year. Lets all keep up the good appearances of our association.

2020 has (and continues to be) an extremely hard year for us. Covid, political and environmental issues, separation from loved ones and the loss of those close to us have all extracted an emotional toll on us. **Let’s face it, Jacaranda West needs a little Christmas this year.** I would like to encourage all members and residents to decorate to whatever level of a “Griswold Christmas” suits you, perform some random act of kindness to each other , or perhaps play carols in your front yard or (with appropriate social distancing) go caroling sometime during the Holidays. This is not a contest, just a way of saying Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Joyous Kwanza, Merry Saturnalia (I had to look that one up), or Festivus for the rest of us to our community and each other.

Be well, stay safe and have a Happy Thanksgiving

Jack Jackowski

