

2009 OFFICERS:

President Sharon Jenkins-Owen, AICP
Vice President Hal Tate
Treasurer Kevin M. Fitzgerald
Secretary Kim Donnelly

2009 GOVERNORS:

Sean Ellis, Esq., LEED AP
Mary Gibbs, AICP
Janie Hooker
Steve Hurley

Vikki Luft
Matt Rocco
Shelton Weeks, PhD
Steven C. Hartsell, Esq.

BOARDROOM REPORT

News from recent REIS board meetings

Luncheon Programs:

There is no luncheon in November, in favor of the REIS Annual Party.

The December meeting will feature "Lee County Challenges & Goals for 2010" and is sponsored by Grandbridge Real Estate Capital.

In January, Horizon Council member and former REIS president Ron Inge will present the Horizon Council's economic development marketing strategy. Andrea Burson Realty is sponsoring the luncheon.

Legislative / Regulatory Action:

Public hearings for Lee Plan amendments on the DR/GR Study and Babcock Community road needs have been continued to October 28.

A free program on Property Rights, Takings, Eminent Domain and related issues will be presented by Florida Gulf Coast University on December 3. As soon as the program is finalized, details will be posted on the REIS web site and emailed to members.

Horizon Council:

Treasurer Kevin Fitzgerald and Secretary Kim Donnelly represented REIS at the Horizon Council's annual Industry Appreciation Event, which REIS co-sponsors.

Scholarship:

The REIS board has revised the criteria for applicants for the Endowed Scholarship Fund at Florida Gulf Coast University. The criteria will be posted on the web site.

Elections:

The Nominating Committee for REIS 2010 officers and governors is chaired by former president Steven C. Hartsell and includes former president Gerald Hendry, Treasurer Kevin Fitzgerald, Secretary Kim Donnelly, and former governor Jim Kinsey. Nominations will be announced November 12 with the election December 8.

LET'S PARTY!

The REIS Gala Annual Social Event takes place Nov. 12 at The Edison restaurant at Fort Myers Country Club. Members and their guests will gather to enjoy a mouthwatering spread of gourmet hors d'oeuvres, a full bar, and live entertainment by "Thin Ice." The members-only event is from 5:30 until 8 p.m. and reservations are required. See the "Events" page for details.

Entertainment and other special treats are provided through the generosity of Stevens Construction, Reliance Bank, Quattrone & Associates, Gulfcoast Consulting Group, Maxwell & Hendry Valuation Services, Inc., Gulf Coast Business Review, HSA Engineers & Scientists, and Oswald Trippe Company.

LEE PLAN AMENDMENT HEARINGS

Public hearings on proposed amendments to Lee County's Comprehensive Plan are scheduled for October 28 in Commission Chambers, beginning at 9:30 a.m. A special workshop on the DR/GR Study amendment will be conducted in Commission Chambers at 9 a.m. on October 26 and is open to all interested parties.

The public hearing agenda includes the DR/GR Study, which affects development, mining, and environmental issues in the Density Reduction / Groundwater Resource Area encompassing much of southeast Lee County. The Transportation Element of the Babcock Community project and the Buckingham Community Plan are also on the agenda.

GREEN DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS

"Understanding the Dollars and Sense of Green Development and Construction," will be presented October 23 by Urban Land Institute (ULI) Southwest Florida District Council. Panel of state and national experts address initiatives and financial aspects of green development using case studies. Begins at 8 am at Florida Gulf Coast University. Details at 800-321-5011, <http://swflorida.uli.org/>



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DONATION TO BUILDERS CARE



From left: REIS President Sharon Jenkins-Owen with Builders Care Board Member Randy Thibaut and Executive Director Heidi Taulman.

REIS has donated \$2,500 to Builders Care, a non-profit community service organization that provides no-cost emergency home repair and renovation services to needy elderly, disabled and economically disadvantaged homeowners. The award was presented at the REIS October 13th luncheon meeting.

Builders Care was founded by the Lee County Building Industry Association (Lee BIA) in 2005 and has since completed 44 projects and provided over \$1 million in construction services to deserving homeowners in Lee County. The program is funded through financial donations and grants, as well as donated services and materials from area builders, subcontractors and construction-related businesses. Information on Builders Care is available at www.leebuilderscare.org.

Sharon Jenkins-Owen, President of REIS, presented the donation and noted that, "REIS, on behalf of the real estate investment and development industry, applauds the work of Builders Care and is proud to be able to support its continued service to the community."

LEE 2009 CONCURRENCY REPORT

Lee County's 2009 Concurrency Report notes several roadway sections that do not meet adopted service standards. The report, which evaluates the capacity of public facilities to ensure that they keep up with new growth, is available at <http://www3.leegov.com/dcd/>

THE NEW MARKET REALITY

REIS presented "The New Market Reality for Commercial Real Estate," a timely half-day workshop on resources and tactics for success in today's economy. Speakers focused on property valuation issues, sources of business capital, financing, a capital markets update, and an overview of legal considerations relative to tenant defaults, foreclosures, and troubled assets.

The event was sponsored by Dawson Companies, BB&T,



HSA Engineers & Scientists, and Grandbridge Real Estate Capital.

Where's the money? Ed Tamer, vice president of Grandbridge Real Estate Capital discussed capital markets and forecasts.



Lori Moore, Esq., of Roetzel & Andress, discussed timely legal issues for commercial real estate.



What's it worth? Trey Starling, vice president of CB Richard Ellis Valuations explained value trends.

RURAL LAND RULES ADOPTED

The Administrative Law Judge has issued a Final Order which upheld the rules for the Rural Land Stewardship Program, developed by the Florida Dept. of Community Affairs. The program establishes criteria for designating Rural Land Stewardship Areas (RSLA) and adopting related amendments in Comprehensive Plans.

Legal challenges by the Florida Land Council, Florida Farm Bureau Federation, and Florida Chamber of Commerce resulted in elimination of development and design standards, development footprint limitations, requirements for development characteristics, landscape requirements, and timing requirements related to establishing development plans, feasibility, and need.

Program details are at www.dca.state.fl.us/fdcp/

The REIS October Luncheon is sponsored by



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