

2017 OFFICERS:

President Karen Miller
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2017 GOVERNORS:

Noel Davies
David Fry
Arleen Hunter, AICP
Bill Morris
Mark Morris
Chris Pacitto
Kent Poli
Past President Amanda L. Brock, Esq.

BOARDROOM REPORT

News from recent REIS board meetings

Luncheon Programs:

The state of the local tourism industry will be discussed by Tamara Pigott, director of Lee County Visitor and Convention Bureau, at the January 9th luncheon, sponsored by [GHD Services](#).

The February 13th luncheon will look at Lee County's goals and challenges with County Commission Chairman Cecil Pendergrass, sponsored by [Stokes Marine](#).

REIS welcomes your suggestions for programs. Please share your ideas with [Alexis Crespo](#), 239-405-7777.

Sponsorships:

Contact [Kent Poli](#), 239-689-7174, for information and availability of opportunities to sponsor REIS events.

Scholarship Program:

The REIS Scholarship Foundation is a not-for-profit, registered 501(c)3 corporation that provides an opportunity to make charitable donations for local college scholarships. More information is available from Scholarship Chairman [Mark Morris](#), 239-671-2266. Donations may be made on the [Scholarship web page](#).

Membership:

All REIS memberships expire December 31st and may be renewed by logging in on the [REIS website](#). Annual dues remain \$135 and may be paid online with a credit card or by mailing a check. Membership reached the 250 person cap this year so please renew your membership by January 5th, as any memberships not renewed by the deadline will be offered to applicants on the waiting list. If you have any questions with your renewal, please contact [Bill Burdette](#) for assistance.

REIS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Please join in welcoming our new members:

Matthew DePaola, is the chief investment officer with Tortuga Capital and has a background in financial analysis of real estate development.

FLOOD INSURANCE EXTENDED

Congress approved another short term extension of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) to allow lawmakers time to negotiate a long term deal involving major reforms. The NFIP was originally set to expire September 30th but was extended to December 8th, then again to December 22nd. The latest extension was part of a resolution to fund the government until January 19th.

WATER RESOURCES CONFERENCE

"The Changing Climate of Regulation and Funding" for Florida's water resources is the theme of the annual Southwest Florida Water Resources Conference, a day-long event February 2nd at Pelican Preserve, co-sponsored by REIS. The conference brings together researchers, technical experts, managers, decision-makers, consultants, and other interested parties to discuss ongoing scientific research and innovative projects, share ideas, and increase awareness of water supply, water use efficiency, and watershed health. A panel of experts will discuss the effects of Hurricane Irma on our groundwater, stormwater, and natural systems. Registration is on the [American Water Resources Association website](#).

LEGISLATURE CONVENES JAN. 9TH

The 2018 session of the Florida Legislature will be considering bills to address the assessment, collection, and use of Impact Fees (CS/SB 324 and HB 697); fund Conservation Land Acquisition (SB 204); conduct Local Tax Referenda (CS/SB 317); and manage Metropolitan Planning Organizations (HB 575). Other proposed bills would restrict the creation and operation of Community Redevelopment Agencies (CS/HB 17 and SB 432).

REVISING THE STATE CONSTITUTION

Florida's Constitutional Revision Commission (CRC) will continue public hearings throughout the state to elicit comments on proposals. Proposed amendments approved by the CRC will be on the November ballot. Proposals may be reviewed at the [CRC website](#).



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MARKET INTELLIGENCE

Horizon Council Annual Meeting and annual report on the state of economic development in Lee County and preview of the coming year will be January 12th at the Westin Cape Coral. The keynote speaker is Stewart Colovin, Chief Creative Officer and Executive Vice President of MMGY Global.

CCIM Commercial Real Estate Outlook Conference takes place January 22nd Hyatt Regency Coconut Point in Estero. Nationally acclaimed economist, author and commentator Elliot Eisenberg will be the keynote speaker. Elliot is the creator of the multi-family stock index, used to track investment in that sector. Analysis of local market sectors will be presented by Southwest Florida experts.

[Click here for details.](#)

MarketWatch - Real Estate presents on February 27th at Germain Arena in Estero. Overview and forecast for local market sectors by: former REIS president Stan Stouder, CCIM; REIS member Randy Thibaut, and Realtor Denny Grimes. Details and registration at www.MarketWatch2018.com

Regional Economic Indicator Report is available every month on the [REIS website](#). The report is provided by the Regional Economic Research Institute of the Lutgert College of Business at Florida Gulf Coast University.

REIS BOARD MEMBERS HONORED

Outgoing members of the REIS Board of Governors: Arleen Hunter, Noel Davies, and Chris Pacitto were recognized for their exemplary service at the December luncheon. 2017 President Karen Miller was also presented with an engraved award by Vice President Bev Larson.



Above: Outgoing REIS Board Members Chris Pacitto and Arleen Hunter receive awards. Right: Vice President Bev Larson thanks President Karen Miller.



REAL ESTATE SYMPOSIUM 2017

The annual REIS symposium at Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) presented thought-provoking trends and strategies for commercial development in suburban areas. The REIS Education Committee of Noel Davies, Arleen Hunter, and Bill Morris arranged a fast paced program of commentary, presentations and a panel discussion on local conditions.



FGCU President Michael Martin, Ph.D.



Lee County Commissioner Brian Hamman.



Keynote speaker David Dixon, FAIA.

FGCU President **Dr. Michael Martin** presented the welcome address, followed by REIS President **Karen Miller**, Lee County Commissioner **Brian Hamman** and **Dr. Robert Beatty, DBA**, Dean of Lutgert College of Business. **David Dixon, FAIA**, of Stantec discussed mixed-use and redevelopment trends. His presentation is on the REIS [Resources Page](#).

The program was presented by REIS with partners: the Lutgert College of Business and Florida Planning & Zoning Association (FPZA). Roetzel & Andress was the Title Sponsor, Morris-Depew and The Sitti Group were Gold Sponsors, with Silver Sponsors LandQwest Commercial Property Management, VIP Commercial, Crown Roofing, and Office Furniture & Design Concepts.



Sean Ellis moderates a lively panel discussion which includes: David Dixon, Design Group Leader with Stantec; Dr. Christopher Westley, Director of Regional Economic Research Institute; Kent Poli, Senior Vice President of Busey Bank; David Fry, developer of The Place On First; and John Dulmer, Bonita Springs Director of Community Development.



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