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BOARDROOM REPORT

News from recent REIS board meetings

Luncheon Programs:

Scott Fischer explained the concept and future potential for the Six Bends project in Fort Myers at the January 13th luncheon meeting, sponsored by [Velocity Engineering](#).

Lee County's goals and challenges will be reviewed by County Commission Chairman Brian Hamman at the February 10th luncheon meeting.

John B. Jung, Jr., head of BB&T Capital Markets, returns to SW Florida to discuss current economic issues at the March 10th luncheon meeting.

The May luncheon will feature a review of the Legislative Session by Representative Dane Eagle.

REIS welcomes your suggestions on programs and speakers you would like to see at the luncheons. Please share your ideas with [Amanda Brock](#), 239.344.1269.

Membership:

All REIS memberships expired December 31. Members may renew on the [website](#). Dues remain at \$125. A limited number of memberships are also available for new members, who may apply online. Contact [Bill Burdette](#), 239.936.1404, with any questions about membership.

REIS Website:

The [REIS website](#) is now the "go to" site to access market information and connect with leading professionals in the real estate industry. Content includes direct links to elected officials, government agencies, related professional organizations, and sources of market data. The membership directory facilitates networking with other professionals and the calendar includes meetings and events for the entire industry.

Luncheon Registration Policy:

Registration is required for monthly luncheons. Luncheon fees are not refundable but may be transferred to another member or colleague prior to the deadline by contacting reservations@reis-swfl.org

LEE COUNTY IMPACT FEE UPDATE

On January 6, Lee County Commissioners voted to extend the exemption from impact fees for change of use on commercial properties. They also discussed impact fee rates, which are currently assessed at 20% but the discount rate is due to expire March 13. On January 20, Commissioners will consider an ordinance that will provide a 6-month review period for permit applications and allow applications received prior to March 13, but approved after that date, to be assessed at the 20% rate. They are also expected to schedule public hearings regarding impact fee rates beyond March 13. An overview of the issue and economic implications will be provided at the February 10 luncheon. The latest details on meetings will be posted on the [REIS calendar](#) with links to backup materials.

BONITA DRGR MORATORIUM ENDS

The year-long moratorium maintaining the 1 unit per 10 acres limit expired January 16. In December, the Citizens Water Strategy Task Force provided Bonita Springs City Council with recommendations to prevent flooding and protect water resources on the 5,300 acre DRGR resource area in northeast Bonita Springs. Council plans to discuss the recommendations in a workshop on January 22. The workshop is at 9am in Council Chambers at City Hall. The [recommendations](#) include increasing property taxes for projects to store and cleanse water, low-impact design standards, and planning future development on municipal water and sewer systems.

HORIZON COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

The Horizon Council and Horizon Foundation present an overview of economic development efforts at the annual meeting January 30th in Fort Myers. Keynote speaker is John Boland, vice president of business development for Hertz Equipment Rental. Andy Levine, CEO of Development Counsellors International, to report findings of "The View from Corporate America: Winning Strategies in Economic Development Marketing," a survey of corporate executives involved in site selection. Details and registration at www.horizonevents.com



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MARKET INTELLIGENCE

Emerging Trends - Local Market Outlook presented by ULI Southwest Florida on January 14, 5:30 - 7:30 pm at The Quarry in Naples. Real estate investment and development trends, finance and capital markets, and local market outlook presented by Andrew Warren, of PwC, and Michael Timmerman, of MJT Realty Economic Advisors. www.swflorida.uli.org

Southwest Florida Real Estate Outlook Conference presented by Southwest Florida CCIM District January 29 at Harborside Event Center in Fort Myers. The program begins with an overview of the regional economy and business trends, then analyzes individual real estate market sectors. The event is from 7:30 am 'til noon. Information and tickets at [CCIM website](#).

MarketWatch - Real Estate presented by Fort Myers News-Press February 24 at Harborside Event Center, 4:30 - 7:30 pm. Overview and forecast for local market sectors by former REIS President Stan Stouder, CCIM, REIS member Randy Thibaut, and Realtor Denny Grimes. Agenda and tickets at [event website](#).



Mike Doyle, Scott Fischer, Matt Simmons, Lisa Sands and Mark Morris, with \$5,700 check for the scholarship fund.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND ENDOWED

Scott Fischer presented a check for \$5,700 to the Paul Sands Memorial - REIS Scholarship Fund at the REIS January luncheon. The generous donation was from the annual Paul Sands Memorial Slaw Dog Invitational Golf Tournament. Information on REIS scholarship programs, including online donation form, is on the [REIS website](#). Criteria for applying for scholarships is also provided.

WELCOMING LEE COMMISSIONERS

The Real Estate Investment Society (REIS) hosted the newly elected Lee County Board of Commissioners at a reception at Edison National Bank on December 11th.

The festive holiday event allowed REIS members to spend time with their Commissioners on an informal basis. Over 120 attended the reception,

generously sponsored by [Edison National Bank](#) and [Henderson Franklin, Attorneys at Law](#).



REIS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Please join in welcoming our new members:

- David Cook, Henderson Franklin
- Mike Joyce, Fireservice Disaster Kleenup
- Ellen Fox, Fox Insurance, LLC
- Casey Byrus, Hyperion Title

Membership is limited, but a few remain available. The membership application is on the [REIS website](#).

RSW PROJECTS NEAR COMPLETION

The I-75 connector roadway to SWF International Airport is scheduled for completion in February. Design work on Skyplex Boulevard is also scheduled for February and designs for expanding Terminal Access Road due in April. The Skyplex rezoning application, to create about 200 acres of potential development land on airport property, is scheduled to be done the end of this month.

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