

ENGLEWOOD ISLES PARKWAY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER FOR SPRING 2018

Another year has flown by and much has happened on the Parkway since I wrote the newsletter at this time last year.

The current Parkway board members are working together with forward thinking projects for the Parkway. We hired a CAM in April 2017 to take the place of SeaBreeze Management and found that the officers of the board could handle the day to day operation more efficiently than an outside company, so we discontinued the new service in early June 2017. We opened a new Post Office Box. The Parkway also has its own website Elparkway.org thanks to Don Bayley (Unit 4). We voted in June 2017 to open a separate bank account titled Irrigation Fund. The money used to open that account was \$5386 which represented surpluses from 2015 and 16 as well as \$1525 which was the amount allocated to the line item in the 2017 budget called Well and Pump Contingency. That gave us an opening balance of \$6911. That account has not been needed so continues to grow. The Parkway currently has 3 separate bank accounts titled Operating Account, Improvement Account and Irrigation Fund.

Another accomplishment of the Parkway Board in 2017 was the replacement and repair of the lights and outlets at the front entrance. With the generous donation of new lights by Bob Fred (Unit 3), we were able to only pay for the labor of installing the new LED spot lights on the walls and in the trees in the center island.

It was noted in the 2017 Parkway Association newsletter that the walls and lettering at the front entrance needed attention. A committee was formed in the fall of last year to explore options, put together a design and obtain prices to renovate and update the entrance walls. The last time an update was done was in 1998-20 years ago- when SR 776 was widened. We are fortunate to have a resident in our community put on paper the ideas of members of the committee. We have also obtained prices from a stone mason to replace with block the areas that have the iron fencing which is deteriorating as well as repair the foundation under the fencing in the last section of the south wall. Those areas will then have stucco applied. Our design also calls for increasing the height of the end posts and to add an arch to the top of the walls. We are looking to move the medallions to the center of the new stucco areas. We have an idea to use a medallion made of foam coated with concrete and painted and have a price for that design from a local company. The committee has also explored many options for the new posts and have settled on a stacked stone in a grey color palate. The lettering will be in a different font than what we currently have. The walls will be completely different from what is currently there, and we hope much more updated and esthetically pleasing.

The Parkway Board is looking to fund part of this project with a matching funds grant from Sarasota County. As part of the grant project we need to gather signatures of support from all residents in Englewood Isles. Since the grant is matching funds we will need donations from the community at large to complete this project which is roughly estimated to cost between \$20,000 and \$25,000. The length of each wall is over 75' which is a substantial area to transform. The committee is researching products and prices to achieve the greatest result at a fair price. There are 700 homes in Englewood Isles and if everyone gave as little as \$25-30 we would have enough money to transform the front entrance to our community and bring it into this era. Units 4,5 & 6 have pledged \$4,600 to support this project.

You may also remember from the 2017 newsletter it was mentioned the Board was exploring the feasibility of replacing the current sodium vapor street lights on the Parkway with more efficient LED lights. Since the time of the newsletter last year, it has been learned that Sarasota County will not participate in such replacement. In talking with FPL their stance is that they will replace the lights but at a cost to the Parkway and hence to all of Englewood Isles. The Parkway Board feels we should focus on a single project at a time for a more successful conclusion and therefore we are working diligently to update the front entrance to Englewood Isles.

In closing, the Parkway Board needs two things from the residents in Englewood Isles. The first is to go to our website: Elparkway.org (contact Alice or a Board member if you need the password) and sign the letter of support for the grant which will be presented to the county as part of the grant process. The second is to send a check to Englewood Isles Parkway Assn., Inc. which will be added to the Improvement Fund account. That account has not been used in several years and has a nice start toward our goal of updating and enhancing the front entrance walls. The address for the Parkway is:

Englewood Isles Parkway Association., Inc.

1811 Englewood Road # 208

Englewood, FL 34223

Enter "Improvement Fund" in the memo line

Attached to this newsletter (and on the website) is the current drawing for the improvements. Remember the color palate will change to grey and blue which will be completely different from any of our neighboring developments. The Parkway Board thanks you in advance for your support.

Alice Anastasi and the Board of Directors

Englewood Isles Parkway Association, Inc.