

District 4 Meeting  
City of Deerfield Beach  
Monday, May 11, 2009

Commissioner Bill Ganz held a District 4 Meeting on Monday, May 11, 2009. City Manager, Mike Mahaney, and BSO Chief Jay Fernandez and Code Enforcement Officers were in attendance to answer questions.

Bill Ganz asked residents to e-mail him (bganz@deerfield-beach.com) their thoughts on the City purchasing the strip of land on the beach which is privately held. Bill Ganz stated that Broward County has approved \$310,000 in grant money for the City to make the purchase. The City Commissioners will vote next week if they should spend \$200,000 of City funds in addition to the grant money for this purchase.

BSO reported there have been 70 burglaries of vehicles in District 4 this year. 60 of those were items stolen from *unlocked vehicles*. Persons arrested have stated they walk a neighborhood and see if the car door is unlocked. The BSO COPs (Citizens Observer Patrol) was discussed. These are volunteers who patrol neighborhoods and report problems to BSO. Al and Helen Santana who are actively involved in the program were in the audience for anyone wanting more information or residents can call (954) 321-4100.

CYBERVISOR is the new notification system from the Broward Sheriff's Office. Residents can sign up on line ([www.sheriff.org/cybervisor](http://www.sheriff.org/cybervisor)) and get notifications about crime and other important issues for either specific cities patrolled by BSO or the entire area they cover. Cards with information were given out to all in attendance. Chief Fernandez sends Bill Ganz an e-mail each morning advising him of the crime in District 4.

A number of questions and comments were relating to Code Enforcement and the state of neighborhoods in Deerfield. A copy of the current City Codes were given to all in attendance. There are two (2) Code Enforcement Officers that work in District 4. Residents should call (954)480-4241 to report violations or ask questions. Code Enforcement has been complaint driven meaning the officers will respond when someone makes a complaint and the City Commissioner direct the officers on the type of violations they should act upon. Private communities wanting Code/Parking Enforcement to take action in their neighborhoods must provide BSO with written direction. Bill Ganz is asking the current Commission to consider making changes to the direction code enforcement should be taking. One item under consideration is issuing violations to vehicles parked over a sidewalk although this is against City Code each neighborhood has its own issues relating to adequate parking. It was noted that it is not against code to park on the swale. A change the Commission made last week was to dissolve the volunteer Code Enforcement Board and replace it with a Special Master. Violators will now plead their case to an unbiased professional who will impose the penalty and the actions needed to resolve the infraction. At the same meeting the current Commission also developed a board relating to unsafe structures in the City. The old Burger King on Hillsboro near Powerline may be addressed by this board if it is in violation of regulations governed by this board. The wooden sign structures located on Hillsboro at Powerline and at Federal Highway used to advertise functions in the city will be phased out.

Water rates and watering restrictions were discussed. Twice a week watering is still in effect. Handouts on watering restrictions and Florida friendly landscaping were available. The City is in the process of evaluating the current rate schedule although Bill Ganz warned that there may not be a reduction in the cost of water as the water plant is an enterprise fund meaning they are self supporting in their revenue must cover all expenses. It was pointed out that only Century Village has a community service rate for their water. This special rate will also be looked at in the City's evaluation. A comment was made that residents should consider replacing or adjusting their toilets and controlling any dripping water in their home to reduce water consumption.

Respectfully submitted,  
Denise Bogner