

**Palm Beach Polo POA
3031 Fortune Way - A-11
Wellington, Florida 33414**

January 20, 2021

Dear Fellow Residents,

In the aftermath of a disquieting, disruptive summer and fall, it has been comforting to see Palm Beach Polo settling back into its normal, unharried routine.

As a result of the increased pedestrian and vehicular traffic crossing over various points in the preserve and dog park, we are asking all residents to stop their cars when they approach crosswalks where pedestrians, golf carts and bicycles may be waiting to cross. This is an obvious safety precaution as well as a gesture of courtesy by the vehicle's operator. Service and visitor vehicles at all the gates will be warned of the new policy and violators will receive fines.

After a long hiatus, we are pleased to announce that the association's office is finally returning to the property. Your Board of Directors (BOD) expects to complete the purchase of the old Halfway House (Concierge/former Polo Café building) at 11585 Polo Club Road on January 27, 2021. If the purchase closes as anticipated, the building will be re-named "Polo House" and will provide the following benefits to the residents:

- On-site access to residents receiving decals, signing leases, documents, and other association business.
- On-site location for our General Manager, Jim Taccone, his staff, and an operations desk for the Director of Security.
- Meeting spaces for HOA's, Condominium's, various committees, and the BOD.
- Hurricane proof over-night facility for the security staff. The Palm Beach Sheriff's Office and contract security companies require their employees to return to their home station when winds exceed 45 MPH during storm conditions.
- UPS & FedEx drop-off facilities.

The Concierge office will continue to occupy the Polo House until May 31, 2021 when it re-locates to the real estate office building at the main entrance to the community.

As you travel through your community, please take note of the following improvements that have taken place over the last budget cycle:

- The Dunes Preserve continues to evolve with the inclusion of additional "natural", uncut spaces around ponds and trees to encourage growth and afford protection for our exploding avian population. The new "natural" spaces are gradually erasing the unwelcome visuals of abandoned sand traps, tee boxes and greens. The Landscaping & Dunes Preservation Committee envisions further additions including Monarch Butterfly sanctuaries, continuing re-forestation, additional aviaries, and new signage. Please do not walk or drive golf carts through these restricted areas.
- The bridge along Polo Club Road between Kensington and Shady Oaks has been completely re-built to the delight of those who claim to have missed it.



- The re-construction and new signage at the west entrance off South Shore Blvd are both complete. The guardhouse is now hurricane proof and has received a new air conditioning unit and bathroom facility. The landscaping and lighting have been upgraded and the overall appearance is now in harmony with the main entrance on Forest Hill Blvd.



- A row of 26 Calophyllum trees has been added to Polo Club Road enhancing the entire section of road from the construction gate to the entrance of Bagatelle.



- New Ficus trees have been installed along Long Meadow Drive.



- A Banyan tree nursery which will supply future “show piece” trees in selected locations to be determined.



- An experimental, man-made floating island “refuge” was placed in the pond at the entrance of Golf Brook Drive and was condescendingly ignored by every bird in Palm Beach Polo. The turtles, however, found it mildly amusing. Then, out of the blue, the duck network declared the island to be the height of chic and the squabbling over reservations began. That island will be expanded due to the newly unprecedented demand and more will be added in other strategic locations to be determined by the Landscaping & Dunes Preservation Committee. We will notify you where they have been placed. Although the floating islands are anchored, they are not easily visible from land because the water flows over them.
- In the interest of tighter security, we have begun a program to place a VISITOR notice on the dashboard of all incoming visiting cars and trucks. The sign will also instruct drivers to stop for all traffic crossing at the cart paths and to not park on the grass anywhere in the community.



- Two sculptures of cranes have been installed at the entrance of the Dunes Preserve near the Dog Park parking area. The cranes were donated by the family of Agneta and Brownlee Currey in their memory. The Currey's were original resident of Palm Beach Polo and the cranes lived on Maidstone Drive for 35 years. The Currey's horse, "Touch of Class" ridden by Palm Beach Polo resident, Joe Fargis, won the gold medal at the 1984 summer Olympics. A plaque will be placed at the site.
- 25 new Ficus trees will be planted along the Stribling Way berm in January. The installation will, in small measure, begin to mitigate the man-made destruction that took place in years past. New irrigation lines and pump are operational and the Clusia hedge is growing as a result.
- A few new residents have asked why we are planting trees in a, seemingly, maturely landscaped community. The answer is simple; other than trees installed at homeowners or HOA & Condominium expense, the hundreds of trees destroyed by 29 years of hurricanes have been lost to the community. It is our intent to rectify that disparity.

- Rumble strips on Polo Club Road have been added to crossings at Muir Circle, Long Meadow Drive at the Dog Park entry and on Polo Club Road in front of the entry to Windsor Way. We are in no doubt they will be ignored, but if they generate a feeling of guilt it will be worth the effort.

It has come to our attention that a few residents have taken to walking in the Dunes Preserve at night. Entry into the preserve at night is a terrible idea as alligators, coyotes and other critters are active at night and close encounters could be a tad scary and difficult to run from in the dark.

As for coyotes: Coyotes have inhabited Palm Beach Polo since its inception and, to date, no untoward human-coyote incidents have occurred, although occasional sightings are reported. We are attempting to find trappers who neither kill the coyotes they catch nor employ non-humane traps in those efforts. At the risk of receiving some incoming flak, we ask you to remember that it is we who are occupying their native land.

Please note that all the above has been accomplished within the limits of the 2020 budget and has no effect on our annual association fee which remains unchanged for the year 2021 at \$2,950 per year or \$8 per day. Additional quarterly charges you incur are from your separate HOA and Condominium associations and have nothing to do with the master association.

With kindest regards,

Andrew Carduner
President
Palm Beach Polo POA