December 10, 2018

Hurricane Michael Recovery

The Bay Point community recovery team continues to meet but now on an as needed basis. As debris pick up continues every week our community looks better. It is disturbing to see contractors dumping on our right-or-way inside the community and on the County right-of-way along Magnolia and Delwood. Hopefully the recent TV and news articles about this being a felony will slow this down. As residents you should require your contractors to take the damaged roofs and interior materials away and properly dispose of them.

In the weeks going forward many of the items to be repaired and replaced will fall on our infrastructure committee. The chain link fence along Wahoo is being cleared of vines and debris to see what areas might be saved and what needs to be replaced. The County has begun the clean up behind the homes on Magnolia and Infrastructure is looking at the replacement fence and what height of that fence will be. Residents along Delwood beyond Jan Cooley have asked for a fence as their trees protecting their property are gone. All areas with the exception of the golf course and canal homes have a fence so it is understandable those few homes have concerns.

Last week I met with Ryan Mulvey, Director of the golf course and Jean Capps, General Manager of the Sheraton. The Golf course has signed a contract with Grow, same company BPCA employed to remove the trees along Magnolia to the resident gate and the damaged trees removed or pruned on the Nicklaus. I have asked Ryan to look at other trees on the Meadows that are damaged and endangering homes. Further work on Meadows is still being assessed. The short bridge on the #5 Nicklaus needs repair as well. While a reopening date for the course has not been set it is hoped to be mid to late January.

The Sheraton is finishing their remediation and will be moving into the reconstruction phase including new roofs and interior renovations. No spring date is known but the work progress is very encouraging.

On December 2nd the Baytown Board of Directors met and I was able to attend. My concern was rumors of the condition of Baytown and the future of our Post Office. The annex building which houses our Post Office is in good condition except the roof and the lack of water which comes from the main Baytown building which has extensive damage and is still being evaluated by their adjuster and structural engineers. The owners and Board of Directors do not have enough information at this time to determine the future of the main Baytown building. Because of the water issue, our Post Office employees presently have use of a port-o-let placed directly outside their back door. The Bay Point Post Office was the first to reopen in Bay County after the hurricane.

Coming back from Hurricane Michael will take a great deal of time, but BPCA and the commercial owners have open communication and reconstruction is moving forward.

Ed Helms, President, BPCA Board of Directors