

NEWS RELEASE from SANDPIPER BAY COMMUNITY

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Contact: Contact@SandpiperBayCommunity.org

Sandpiper Bay Community Through the Decades

By Kathy Barrett and Phil Millevolte

Why does an established Community organization change its name? Sandpiper Bay Homeowners Association will now be doing business as SANDPIPER BAY COMMUNITY (SBC).

Since February 24, 1965, this community organization has undergone 4 name changes, before this one.

- 1965-1966-1967 - PORT ST LUCIE HOME AND PLAN OWNERS ASSOCIATION
- 1968-1969, 1970 - The name was legally changed to THE CITY OF PORT ST LUCIE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
- 1971- The name changed again to ST LUCIE COUNTRY CLUB HOME-OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Then for the next nine years (1971-1980) we get a breather with the new name working well. Surely though, there are those long-time, well versed and experienced Sandpiper Bay resident historians, who have the detailed facts of each name change and the reason for those changes.

This article, however, will only briefly focus on the name with which most of us are familiar: Sandpiper Bay Homeowner's Association, Inc.

- June 22, 1981, the Association's name was legally changed to SANDPIPER BAY HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, NCORPORATED (A Florida Not-for-Profit 504(c)(3) Corporation under state Statute, Chapter 720. This name stuck and for the next twenty-seven years and beyond, Sandpiper Bay Homeowners Association, Inc. was well known in the community.
- October 16, 2008, the Association was reorganized under State Statute Chapter 617, a Florida not for Profit Corporation without the 504(C)(3) charity status. This was done because the state statutes for homeowners changed eliminating volunteer organizations like ours. But, we kept the same name, SANDPIPER BAY HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.,

Despite controversy, trials and criticism over certain periods of those many years, the organization stuck together through the thick and the thin of it for more than three decades. So, why the name change now to **Sandpiper Bay Community**? Inquiring minds want to know!

The fact is we have not been a HOA for many years. We do not monitor, restrict or enforce laws or codes as is the function of typical HOA's. However, there exist ten (10) HOA's in Sandpiper Bay. SBC is often confused with those HOA's and many of their residents think we have nothing to offer. But that is unfounded, because there is the distinction of function of both organization. The HOA's have statutory responsibility within their own borders. SBC is concerned about all the public infrastructure and services outside their borders that effect all of us and bring the community together for our mutual benefit. Consider water, sewer, drainage ditches, roads, police, fire protection, park & recreation, code and code compliance, taxes, city management, etc. are all items of mutual interest.

To pique the interest of all residents in the Sandpiper Bay area: (west of US Hwy 1, east of the St Lucie River and south of Port St Lucie Blvd) we have given the organization a facelift, so to speak. In 2017, we created a new Mission Statement to better define who we are, which included the addition of the fictitious name **Sandpiper Bay Community**. This fictitious name is registered with the State of Florida. We remain Sandpiper Bay Homeowners Association, Inc., but will be doing business as Sandpiper Bay Community.

Also, to be more inclusive of all who reside in our community, we updated the Articles of Incorporation to change the word "owner" to include "resident" to qualify an SBC member.

So, while our organization has undergone some changes, it has always been to further the social and civic good of all residents. SBC is still effectual in our communication with the City of Port St Lucie. City officials listen to and respond to concerning issues, especially regarding home values and quality of life. In numbers we have strength.

The SBC Board of Directors has "spiced" up the monthly meetings with interesting and informative community speakers following Board business.

Community service is also high priority, and so, we welcome volunteers to participate in such programs as Community Patrol training, Adopt-a-Street and entry sign maintenance.

SBC has partnered with local businesses to offer residents great savings on many types of products and services. Watch for our mail-out and thank our local Sponsors by visiting their businesses. Our long time association with BJ's and Sam's has benefitted our members with huge discounts.

Last but not least, if you attended the 2017 Annual Holiday Dinner/Dance and danced the night away, you already know that this is the anticipated SBC social event of the year. With a sprinkling of charity events (raising over \$6000 for local cancer patients), summer barbeques and such throughout the year, you will find that SBC is the place to be.

For just \$25 per year per property, we sponsor social and charity events, provide a place for neighbors to meet neighbors, and a place to lend your voice to issues affecting us all.

So, forget the former things! **Sandpiper Bay Community** is doing a new thing and welcomes you, because, ***We know that together we can make a difference!***