



Community News Update

March 2023



President's Message

This year DSCA is celebrating its 25th Anniversary. How time flies since the originally named Bayfront Condominium Association was formed in 1998. What a different Sarasota it was then and now.

In our changing world DSCA continues to respond to informational needs of our members with periodic workshops for condo board members, for building managers, realtors, and other downtown stakeholders. Just last week DSCA hosted "The Exploding Cost of Living in Paradise" Panel-format Workshop. A summary of this content rich event follows along with links to the PowerPoint presentation and video of the panel discussion. These are must see items for every DSCA member representative and condo board members....and, a should see for all. I guarantee you will learn something.

At the Annual Members Meeting on April 4th DSCA will host another informational panel format be a portion of the meeting. Please check out the outline of this panel discussion in the flyer posted below. Importantly, time will be taken to celebrate DSCA's 25th anniversary. So, please plan to attend.

The final news item reported in this month's news release is progress regarding the establishment of the first park in the Rosemary District. Final design work is well underway with construction anticipated to start this summer. A summary follows along with images.

Have a good month,

David Lough

DSCA President

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DowntownSarasotaCondoAssoc.com

March Workshop Wrap Up The Exploding Costs of Living in Paradise!

It's official! DSCA's recent workshop, "The Exploding Costs of Living in Paradise" was a huge hit! The sold out event attracted downtown condo residents, realtors, and business owners alike. Participants learned about milestone inspections, how to mitigate rising association costs, and asked panelists about obtaining insurance in an increasingly dwindling insurance market. A special shout out and thank you to our team of expert panelists including Michael Angers of Brown & Brown Insurance, Patricia Staebler of Staebler Appraisal and Consulting, Cindy Hill, Esq., Tannenbaum Lemole & Hill, Stephanie Burtwell of Lighthouse Property Management and Casey Ward of Socotec Engineering. And, of course, a huge thank you to Darrin Caldwell of Wrightway Emergency Services for his outstanding job as moderator. Stay tuned for future DSCA workshops and make sure to sign up early so you don't miss out!

[View Workshop Video here](#)

[View PowerPoint Slides here](#)





Event organizers were pleased with the compliments we've received..... here's one:

"I wanted to thank DSCA Board and event organizers for your efforts in providing the workshop on condo cost of living increases. I thought DSCA had the absolutely correct panel to discuss two of the most daunting issues facing all of us: Insurance and pro-active State legislation. It was unquestionably well attended and well received.

After hearing from the informed and not-so-well informed members of our condominium community, it's clear that further engagement by the DSCA Executive Committee into the state's developing policy on condo inspection, maintenance and repair would be both productive and well received. Thanks for listening and again for the superb workshop." And...

We would like your feedback if you participated in this event as an attendee or sponsor. Your input will help us to improve on future events and to make sure we are meeting the needs of our members and community.

[Provide Your Feedback - Take Quick Survey](#)

Thank you to our Amazing Platinum Sponsors for your support!



DSCA Town Hall

Downtown: Dysfunction or Diversity?

Don't Miss This Important Event - Register Now



Downtown: Dysfunction or Diversity?

Are these growing pains from an expanding, diverse, urban community; or are some city system functions impacting public wellbeing?" Attend the DSCA Town Hall & Annual Member meeting to learn the latest on these topics and, more importantly, what is being done about them!

Your most burning questions about downtown resident concerns answered here!

Our panel of experts are here to help. We welcome you to bring your questions and concerns to this comprehensive discussion!

Register Here:



Tuesday, Apr. 4, 2023 4:00 - 7:00pm
Goewey Hall (Church of the Redeemer's Robinson Center)
222 S Palm Ave Ste B,, Sarasota, FL 34236

Moderated by:

Jon Thaxton – Senior Vice President for Community Leadership,
Gulf Coast Community Foundation

Panelists:

- **David Lough**, DSCA President
- **Julie Ryan**, Operations Manager, Downtown Improvement District
- **Richard Harris**, President, Sarasota Coalition of City Neighborhoods
- **Tara Booker**, Interim CEO for Suncoast Partnership (INVITED)

Additional panelists to be announced

This event is free to DSCA Members and the public; but space is limited and you must REGISTER to attend.

3:30 P.M. - 4:00 P.M. Attendees Check-in & Meet the Speakers
4:00 P.M. - 4:45 P.M. Annual Members Meeting & Board Organizing Meeting
5:00 P.M. - 6:30 P.M. DSCA Town Hall - "Downtown Resident Concerns"
6:30 P.M. - 7:00 P.M. Members Reception - 25th Anniversary Celebration

Contact Us: Phone: 941-357-6224 | Email: Downtown.Sarasota.Condo.Assoc@gmail.com

Van Wezel Foundation Update

Arts and Cultural - Two initiatives are proceeding

Architect selection status:

The Sarasota Performing Arts Task Force on Architect Selection met on February 27 to tightened up the list of architectural firms being considered for design of the potential new Performing Arts Hall.

They started with 18 firms from a list of over 40 firms that had responded to the City's Request for Qualifications from a previous meeting and after a 3 hour discussion were able to reduce the list of 6 firms which will be evaluated against a set of criteria and personal insights from personal knowledge of works created by these architects. The list includes six world renowned firms.

The in-depth knowledge of the Task Force members was on impressive display recently on display as they discussed the individual firms responses to the RFQ. This since most had personal knowledge of a number of the structures created by these architectural firms.

Purple Ribbon Committee:

The Sarasota City Commission will select a seven member, Blue Ribbon committee to recommend reuse options for the Van Wezel performing arts venue.

Details of news coverage follows:

[**Seven-member committee to study future of Van Wezel**](#) The Sarasota City Commission will select five diverse experts and two citizens to study the reuse of the 53-year-old bayfront venue.

[Membership criteria set for 'Purple Ribbon Committee' to focus on future of Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall](#)

The Rosemary District hosted a second, community input event last week seeking community opinions to aid in the final design of the new Rosemary Park. Over 100 members of the community participated.

The park will be the Rosemary's first park to help serve the needs of its now over 3500 resident population, 95% of whom live in multi-unit dwellings with little green space.

A ribbon cutting ceremony is very much a goal to happen soon, engineering drawings are said to be virtually complete and tree selections right around the corner.



Check out the latest news and events happening in the Rosemary District, a blend of modern culture, food and activities you can schedule your whole day around. [Click here to view Rosemary District Events](#)

Getting Around



Gulfstream Roundabout Webcam

Intermittent work on the roundabout area continues. This work is a moving target. Week by week things are improving.

[Marina Tower Roof](#)
([Marina Tower Roof](#)) | [Nest](#)

NOTE - once the link loads, hover over the image and click on the play (>) button.

Landscaping work in the areas adjacent to the roundabout will be proceeding soon. Your DSCA Greenspace Committee is pleased to have helped influence the final landscaping plan that now includes more canopy trees.



SRQ Airport

Sarasota-Bradenton Airport begins \$100 million dollar expansion that will add five gates to the existing 13 gates. The new gates will be ground level, are less expensive to build than elevated gates and can be built faster.

The airport has seen 158% growth over the past three years. It is scheduled to be completed in 2024 before peak season.

[SRQ Airport Approves \\$72 Million Expansion Project](#) The Sarasota Manatee Airport Authority approved a \$71.5 million contract on Monday for the construction of a ground boarding facility and expansion of the existing concourse.

DSCA Board March Wrap Up

As has been the recent practice, the 3/1 DSCA Board meeting was held in hybrid fashion, both in person at the Broadway Promenade Club Room and via Zoom. Following is a link to the full board meeting.

[View Meeting Video HERE](#) - DSCA Board Meeting 2023-03-01

DSCA Upcoming Events

DSCA 2023 Annual Members Meeting & Board Organizing Meeting

Tue, April 04, 2023, 4:00 PM – 4:45 PM @ Goewey Hall (Church of the Redeemer’s Robinson Center), 222 S Palm Ave Ste B,, Sarasota, FL 34236

4:00 P.M. – 4:30 P.M. Members Annual Meeting (Condo/Townhouse)

4:30 P.M. – 4:45 P.M. Board Organizing Meeting

[DSCA Town Hall - Downtown: Dysfunction or Diversity?](#)

Wednesday, April 4, 2023 | 5:00 PM – 6:30 p.m. - Goewey Hall (Church of the Redeemer’s Robinson Center), 222 S Palm Ave Ste B,, Sarasota, FL 34236

DSCA Board Meeting

DSCA Board Meeting | April 5, 2023 | 4:00 PM – 5:30 p.m. held via Zoom & Broadway Promenade, 1064 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34236

DSCA Board Meetings are for Board Directors, with designated Condo Member Representatives, Liaison Association Representatives and invited Guests attending as observers. Contact President, David Lough (760) 497-9230, if you wish to be invited.

Associate Member Events

[CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT YOUR EVENT](#)

Upcoming Community Events

Fresh Friday's

GOOD FRIDAY PILGRIMAGE: STATIONS OF THE CROSS DOWN MAIN

STREET Twenty-three Sarasota congregations will participate in a Stations of the Cross pilgrimage down the center of Main Street on **Good Friday, April 7**. An estimated 1,000 pilgrims will gather for the event, which includes stops at 14 Stations with readings, prayers, and songs. Pilgrims gather at 7 a.m. and the pilgrimage begins at 7:20 a.m. on Main Street at the Regal Hollywood movie theater (1993 Main St., Sarasota, 34236). [Click here to find out more.](#)

SIP-SHOP-STROLL | Downtown Sarasota, Lemon Ave and Main Street

April 7, 3rd, 5-8 p.m. The Sarasota Downtown Merchants First Friday event runs along the 1400, 1500, 1600 blocks of Main Street, Palm Ave., 1st & 2nd Street. The event is open to the public. Stroll trendy fashion boutiques, art galleries, experience wine tastings, and live music throughout Main Street. Tourists and locals, even the occasional celebrity, enjoy caricatures as the perfect souvenir, something hand-drawn and one of a kind.

Visit DestinationDowntownSarasota.com to learn more.

A TASTE OF PALM AVENUE | An Affair to Remember 6-9 p.m. Palm Avenue hosts a monthly Art Walk. Browse the fine art galleries, jewelers, and restaurants of Palm Avenue while enjoying dancing, live music, and refreshments. This has been one of the traditional ongoing monthly events in Sarasota for many years. Visit [Palm Avenue in Downtown Sarasota for more details.](#)

ART IN THE PARK | State Street | Friday, April 7, 7-10 p.m. The Downtown Improvement District's freshest block party continues with ART IN THE PARK. Join us on Friday, April 7 in Selby Five Points Park to experience a night of entertainment and culture. Featuring live music and art displays that showcase the work of some of Sarasota's best local talent. As always, come early for your free signature giveaway and enjoy the tasty food and drink options offered by our wonderful hospitality partners.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

The Bay Park Conservancy

Sarasota's bayfront is an iconic, public destination that welcomes the diversity of Sarasota, enhances our status as a cultural capital and serves as a venue for multi-generational, inter-neighborhood, broad-based enjoyment of our bayfront.

[Click to view the updates from The Bay Park Conservancy](#)

[Click to view The Bay Park - Calendar of Events](#)

We Are Downtown Sarasota Residents partnering with Businesses!

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