

REALITY CHECK: NORTH BEACH CIVIC ASSOCIATION

This week's column focuses on misrepresentations which have been made in the local *By The Sea Times* newspaper regarding the North Beach Civic Association.

FICTION: The North Beach Civic Association is a political organization.

FACT: The North Beach Civic Association is incorporated in the State of Florida as a non-profit corporation. As such, the organization is prohibited from engaging in any political activities and does not do so. The mission of the NBCA is to serve as a liaison between the condominiums and homeowners associations in the north end of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea on issues involving the local, state and federal governments. The NBCA was first established in 1997, when it was known as the South Beach Civic Association. The initial purpose of the organization was to help negotiate the annexation agreement with LBTS, which was approved by the voters in 2001. Since that time, the NBCA has worked to make sure that the town follows through on the promises which were made in the annexation agreement, such as burying the utility lines along A1A and extending municipal sewer system hook-ups. The NBCA is also working to unify the zip code in LBTS and sponsors several programs a year on insurance and other important subjects.

FICTION: The NBCA was involved in the 2004 municipal election in LBTS and made contributions to Commissioners John Yanni and Chuck Clark.

FACT: The NBCA took no part in the 2004 election or any other election. Neither Commissioner Yanni nor Commissioner Clark received or accepted any contributions from the NBCA during the 2004 campaign or any other time. No complaint has ever been filed with the Florida Election Board alleging that the NBCA engaged in political activities.

FICTION: The NBCA is a non-representative corporation which elects its members in secret.

FACT: The NBCA holds its annual meeting and election at Jarvis Hall during the last week of January. Notices are mailed to every condo and homeowners association in the north end of town advising them of the election and urging any interested residents to run for the board. The election is also publicized on Channel 78 and in the local media. Monthly board meetings of the NBCA are publicized on Channel 78 and are open to all residents of the north end of town.