

**ST. JOHNS COUNTY CIVIC ROUNDTABLE
MEETING MINUTES JULY 8TH 2019**

The meeting was opened at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Tony Bosco.

There was no Treasurer's report.

The minutes of the June meeting were approved as presented.

Chair Bosco introduced Corp. Buck of the SJC Sheriff's Office who spoke of a new Neighborhood Watch program called "**NEIGHBORS BY RING.**" The SJC Sheriff's Office has joined the Neighbors App to share alerts and to help make SJC communities safer for all. The free program can be gotten by visiting download.com/sjco or texting JSO to 555888.

Chair Bosco then introduced Emily Harrison, Director of Career and Technical Education of SJC. Ms Harrison addressed Career Academies, a program available to high school students. SJC schools has entered into a partnership with the local business community in sponsoring these opportunities. Some of the business partners are VyStar Credit Union, Northrop Grumman and Citi along with many others. Engineering, law and security, arts, medical and health and architectural and building careers are some of the programs offered.

Member Bill McCormick updated the Roundtable on the acquisition of the Fish Island issue. An offer from the No. Florida Land Trust has been accepted and the City of St. Augustine has voted to accept responsibility for managing the property. Florida Land Trust has asked community members to reach out to cabinet members to show their support for preserving Fish Island. The Civic Roundtable has sent a letter to Gov. DeSantis in support of the purchase by the Land Trust.

Chair Bosco then read a letter from County Commissioner James Johns regarding the 2020 U.S Census Bureau announcing that the County planned

to establish a Complete Count Committee. The goal of the committee is to ensure that all residents of the county are aware of the upcoming census. The census influences allocations of millions of Federal, state and local dollars. It also determines electoral redistricting representation of the state of Florida in the U.S. Congress. Commissioner Johns requested that the Roundtable appoint a representative to serve on that committee. Member Janet Patton offered to serve.

Respectfully submitted
Mary Saunders, Member