



Transparency, conflicts of Interest, or ?

7 messages

Sun, Sep 28, 2025 at 2:52 PM

To: mcaruso@wintersringsfl.org, pdiaz@winterspringsfl.org, vbruce@wintersprings.org, Sarah Baker <sbaker@winterspringsfl.org>, cresnick@winterspringsfl.org
Cc: Christian Gowan <cgowan@winterspringsfl.org>

Commissioners, Bruce, Baker, Caruso, Diaz and Resnick.

Almost two months have now passed, and this commission's silence, regarding the events that unfolded on Item 500 at your August 11, 2025 meeting, is troubling. You will recall that Realtor Partyka's secretly handed some notes to Commissioner Bruce while she was on the dais, then retrieved them when he again approached Commissioner Bruce on the dais, and she handed the notes back to him. Partyka then immediately walked out of the Commission meeting with his notes and left City Hall.

What was or was not in Partyka's notes which Commissioner Bruce reviewed, then demanded an already made and seconded motion to be voted on, be delayed until she could ask more questions: raises serious scandalous and unprecedented questions under Florida Sunshine Law? Incredibly disappointing too is the complete silence of WSCA's Jesse Phillips, Ken Greenberg and Winter Springs Community Association's Officers and Directors. They helped most if not all of the current commission to get elected, and falsely alleged Commissioners then in office, had ruined the city's reputation? The Item 500 events of August 11, 2025, regarding the votes of Commissioner's Bruce, Caruso and Diaz is a scandal, and more so by WSCA's continuous silence concerning any apparent commission misconduct this year? One is reminded of Third World Countries where such things happen all the time because residents are warned to look the other way.

Each of you now on the dais were endorsed and vetted by WSCA in your successful election campaign of 2022 and 2024. And residents now wonder how they could have been so badly misled with the events of August 11, 2025, when three of you (Diaz, Bruce and Caruso) voted to pay Partyka's client \$227,000, of which Partyka may have obtained a ten percent commission of \$22,700? And now public information has come to light about private meetings the week before with each of you, and other possible gatherings at the local Oviedo Winter Springs Rotarians, where three of you are believed to be members, and Commissioner Diaz the Rotarians new President? And Partyka a past president? Two week later Commissioner Caruso, apparently realized Partyka's earlier demand for a vote on the 11th, may have been prematurely rushed by Realtor Partyka and his client, and so Caruso decided to change his mind two week later. But Bruce and Diaz still continued to support Partyka's \$227,000

payment. Residents with baited breath now await Realtor Partyka's repeated public threats to sue the City if it did not honor his agreement.

Now residents are also troubled by Partyka's earlier conflicts of interest that older residents remember; like his \$32,000 lawsuit against the city, that only Partyka, as the then City Mayor, could fire and hire Winter Springs City Attorney's. While the City's Charter clearly stated only a super majority of the City Commission could hire or fire Constitutional Officers. Then, as Mayor he arranged the sale of unuseable property behind the City's Junkyard, to the Catholic Church for a new County homeless center. The property in the jungle by Lake Jessup, with no support facilities was unviable, and the City challenged the idea, and the homeless center failed. Next was a cemetery beside Saint Stephens Church. Annoyed Tuskawilla residents said no! Then Mayor Partyka annoyed West-Side city residents when he publicly referred to the City's West Side as a "Shitty Place to Live."

And now the August 11, 2025 Commission meeting, in which Partyka illegally passes documents to Commissioner Bruce while on the dais, and during a vote on his item 500 meeting, then retrieves them from Bruce before anyone could see them? And the next day Partyka turns in a two page document to the City Clerk, while Bruce two weeks later states she put Partyka's documents on her web site... but they are not the same documents, so the Partyka/Bruce Plot thickens?

Realtor Partyka insists his "Exclusive Buyer Representation Services Agreement with the City of Winter Springs," from early 2020, remains in force in perpetuity. In it he insists he is the only real-estate representative the City of Winter Springs can ever use. Already five years old it has only been used once when it was created, and in that transaction his five percent commission netted him a substantial \$180,000.00 fee.

In closing, I am in hopes this commission will seriously seek to make our City the best place in Florida to live, and not the laughing stock, and joke, that many believe it has become. I am also passing a copy of Partyka's contract with the City, to the City Clerk, and asking he provide each of you with a copy. It appears there are numerous inconsistencies which seriously need to be looked into before this entire tragedy is swept under the dais?

Robert Miller
Former City Commissioner 1998-2009
Winter Springs
