

DeLeon Springs Community Association, Inc.
Monthly Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 10, 2018

1. Welcome and Reception for DSCA, Inc. Merit Scholarship winners Esmeralda Paulino and Hayden Scharf (awarded on May 16th). President Amy Munizzi welcomed Esmeralda Paulino and her parents and brother and showed off the cake in honor of her and Hayden Scharf, who was unable to attend due to a family vacation. Esmeralda told us about her plans to attend University of North Florida and study the field of nursing. Hayden has been accepted to UCF and will major in business. Everyone enjoyed cake and refreshments, and Amy thanked Andrea Smiley for setting up the reception.

2. Call to Order, Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance, introductions: Amy called the meeting to order, lead us in prayer, Pledge of Allegiance and shared more information on our two scholarship recipients: impressive GPA, Volunteer hours, Essay and over all achievements. During introductions, Amy also recognized and thanked visitors Jim and Leisa Schanz for volunteering their time and equipment to remove the large stumps on the Porter House property.

3. Review of May 8th DSCA, Inc. meeting minutes: Laurie Haas, Secretary reported the minutes have been distributed via e-mail to all members and are available on our website. She asked for comments/corrections and seeing none, Jim Simmons moved approval; Pat Patterson seconded and the motion passed.

4. Taylor High Wildcat 5K: Coach Josh Ebert shared information on the Wildcat 5K Run which will take place on November 7th, 2018. This is a professionally timed race and a fun run/walk for all ages and levels. Money raised from this event will go directly back into their Cross Country Program. The cost to host this event is \$5,000.00 to cover professional timing, DJ t-shirts, awards, etc. Sponsorship is available at 4 levels; he passed out a document showing all of these levels. Tammy stated that we have supported this event each year with a budgeted line item amount of \$250 to make us a Silver Level Sponsor. However, we had an additional \$50.00 donation and Tammy challenged us to move up to the \$500 Gold Level Sponsor position, if we could get another \$200 by the end of the evening. Coach Ebert thanked us for our continued support. The additional funds were donated, so we will sponsor this event at the \$500 Gold Level this year.

5. Town of Pierson July 4th Family Fun Celebration support: Tammy Schuler stated the request for support came in after our May meeting and the DSCA, Inc. Board voted to support the event in the amount of \$100, since they had sponsored us in that same amount at the October 2017 Festival.

6. Reports:

A. Vice President's Report: Jason Sampsell, Vice President had an urgent work matter and had to leave the meeting early; there was on report.

B. Treasurer's Report: Tammy Schuler, Treasurer reported the following: Current expenses: \$2,827.84, income of \$335.00. After deduction of the dedicated line items that leaves an available balance of \$1,473.77. She asked for any questions and hearing none, Jennie Mero moved approval subject to audit; Andrea Smiley seconded and the motion passed.

C. Benevolence:

Troop-ons© Coupons for Soldiers: Andrea Smiley reminded all of the importance of these coupons and how they benefit the Soldiers. She thanked everyone for their contributions and reported she has shipped 10 lb. 12 oz. of coupons so far this year.

Cell Phones for Soldiers: Andrea Smiley explained that used cell phones are recycled to pay for phone cards for our soldiers. She thanked everyone for the phones and accessories, and said she's shipped 12 lbs. of used phones and accessories in 2018

Malloy Head Start Food Pantry: Amy stated that they have added early Head Start to their existing Head Start program. Their summer hours are 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. but when school starts the hours

will be 7:30 a.m.-2:15 p.m. with extended day program from 2:15-5:30 p.m. She thanked everyone for their continued generosity and said she will take the evening's donated items to MHS the next day.

D. McInnis Elementary School SAC: Laurie Haas reported that there has not been a SAC meeting since school is out for the Summer and will report next month when school is back in session.

E. River of Lakes Heritage Corridor Board: Fundraising efforts continue with emphasis on the sponsorship of interpretive panels. Entities are encouraged to sponsor the River of Lakes Heritage Corridor at an entry level donation of \$250. More information is available on the River of Lakes Heritage Corridor website. Harry Price also shared information on the history information he has gathered by interviewing DeLeon Springs locals and he has compiled several DVDs. An abbreviated version is available for \$10.00 and is being sold at our Festivals. Amy thanked Harry for the many hours he donated to tape these interviews and commit them to DVD. As yet we have no one who has come forward to host an evening where we can view them as a group but hopefully someone will volunteer to put on such an event. In the meantime we have these treasures preserved to DVD.

F. DSCA, Inc. Ride Into Reading Third Grade Challenge Awards: Amy reported that on May 23rd, Ron and Dianne Hermanski represented the DSCA, Inc. at McInnis Elementary to award a new bicycle (and helmet donated by Hidden Valley Park) to third grade winner Kaelynn Dover with 592 points, and to third grade winner Jayden Rodriguez with 478 points. Honorable mention and a gift card went to both Danna Palacios with 514 points and Alexa Nunez with 412 points earned. This year marks the 10th bicycle the DSCA, Inc. has donated and awarded to McInnis Elementary School students through this DSCA, Inc. reading incentive program. 100% of the third graders participated, and the total number of points earned by the 3rd grade students this year was 8,236. The bikes have been purchase each year from Walmart but we are considering purchasing them from JC's Bike Shop if we can get them at a reasonable price.

G. Art Among the Trees student artists ribbon and certificate awards: Amy reported that Bobbie Witt, Laurie Haas and she presented certificates and ribbons to all the students that participated, from 1st through 5th grade in all five of those grade level ceremonies.

H. Chuck Lennon Park and Mountain Biking Trail: Kevin Phelps reported that the final two miles of trails have been approved and are currently under construction and expected to be completed in October, if not sooner. This will make the total length of trails 10 miles, which classifies these as 'destination trails'. Keven stated that on November 9th his group will be hosting a SORBA (Southern Off Road Biking Association) event here in DeLeon Springs. Pat Patterson stated that the 'destination trails' designation helps bring tourism dollars to our area. He gave detailed information about the new boat launch going in on Lake George, on Shell Harbor Road, to be completed November, 2018. It is the only boat ramp on the Volusia County side of Lake George. He also stated that the land was donated and that there is a stipulation that no airboats use this ramp because of the noise. Pat said other plans are under way that will allow airboats elsewhere. This ramp will also bring tourists and tourism dollars to our area.

7. FDEP mandated changes to septic systems in springshed basins: Amy explained that as of July 1st, the FDEP has implemented a BMAP (Basin Management Action Plan) for the DeLeon Springs basin to help reduce nitrogen in the waterways. The targets for these changes are mostly septic systems and the reduction of fertilization of residential lawns, sports fields and commercial areas such as golf courses, and other businesses. New or failing septic systems within the spring basin will now be required to have some type of nitrogen reducing system added to it, such as an aerobic system. She referred everyone to the DeLeon Dispatch article on it, and urged everyone to visit the FDEP website for more information. Pat Patterson stated that Ginger Adair, VC Director of Environmental Management recently put on a presentation regarding this issue and he would be happy to have her come do a presentation for us if we would like, as this will affect all of us living in this spring basin.

8. Autumn in the Oaks Festival Board meeting: Amy stated that the first Festival Board meeting would be July 17th at 6:00 p.m. The Festival Board is responsible for heading up each team that makes the Festival possible. That includes exhibitors, grounds, advertising, music, finance, COPs, sponsorships, KidZone, volunteers, volunteer luncheon, food service, etc. This is open to any DSCA, Inc. member.

9. DSCA, Inc.'s Seventh Anniversary covered dish party in August. Amy stated that it has become a tradition to give ourselves a birthday party in August to celebrate our incorporation as a 501(c)3 organization. She asked if everyone wanted to do that and the answer was a resounding 'yes'. Everyone is encouraged to bring a covered dish item and Andrea and her team will set up everything else, including beverages.

10. Discussion on adding links to our webpage: Amy stated that from time to time we get requests to add a link to an organization's website, from a person, business or organization that is not a member of the DSCA, Inc. An example is the River of Lakes Heritage Corridor, which promotes our area, and the Travelling Foodie, who wrote several articles about our area's attractions and restaurants. Amy asked for comments and discussion followed. Some people felt we benefit from these additions; others felt we were setting a precedent. Others stated that we should only have website links for our paid business members. Jennie Mero moved that we do not allow any sharing of links on our website, other than that of paid business members. Andrea Smiley seconded the motion and the motion passed.

11. Hand out Summer DeLeon Dispatch. Amy handed out the Summer Edition of the DeLeon Dispatch and pointed out the articles about several of the things we discussed at this meeting. She requested that people take as many as they can to distribute, and we will also have them at local businesses, the post office, the school, Pioneer Arts Settlement, etc. and on our website.

12. Public Comments: (participants have up to 4 minutes to speak). Jennie Mero stated that Capt. Adkins of the VCSO said crime is down in our area but warned us to keep our doors locked and do not leave keys, valuables or loose change in vehicles for the smash and grab. Jim Simmons reported that he is meeting with the McInnis principal next week in hopes of opening a summer library for the children in this community. DSUMC Pastor Arch Fisher also shared that the United Methodist Church will be hosting a free Orchestra concert on August 17th at 7pm. Jim Simmons asked about how we could have signage in DeLeon Spring for church and other advertisement on the north and south end of town. Amy shared that we had looked into this previously and the DOT will not allow this unless we have architectural drawings, landscape plans, etc. which can run over \$100,000 to accomplish, with signs that meet their directives for breakaway installation, in case a driver hits it, which is exactly what happened to the signs that were there last year. One has been installed anonymously at the north end of town and there is a breakaway frame at the south end of town for us to place festival banners on.

Amy adjourned the meeting and reminded all our next DSCA, Inc. meeting will be a Seventh Anniversary covered dish party, Tuesday, August 14th 6:00 p.m., the Porter House, 5030 US Hwy. 17 N.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Haas
Secretary