

DeLeon Springs Community Association, Inc.
Monthly Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 12, 2021

1. Call to Order, Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance: Amy Munizzi, President. Amy welcomed everyone and asked that we please keep the Schuler family in our thoughts and prayers, as Jeane has had a stroke.

2. Review of Treasurer's Report: Amy reported for Treasurer Tammy Schuler. The report covered from November 10, 2020 to present. Current checkbook balance is \$2,319.56. With line items of \$424.00 for Thanksgiving Baskets and \$2,525 for the Merit Scholarship fund backed out, we have an available spending balance of -\$629.44. Amy stated that we need to remove some line items that were not actual line items but income related to jackets, backpack/school supplies, and food pantry. The Educational Enhancement Fund should be named the Ride Into Reading Fund, which is what it is. Amy asked if there was any discussions or objections to "cleaning up" the report. Hearing none she called for a vote, all were in favor of removal of the extraneous items, with the only line items with specific funds dedicated to them being the Ride Into Reading Line Item, the DSCA, Inc. Merit Scholarship Line Item and the Thanksgiving Baskets Line Item.

3. Reports:

A. McInnis Elementary School Warm Clothing Drive and Malloy Head Start Christmas Toys update: Amy Munizzi reported that we purchased 50+ toy and clothing items from cash member donations, and additional donations brought to the meeting gave a total of 200+ clothing items. The outpouring of support was phenomenal, Freedom Oaks Assisted Living donated a large portion of the toys that we collected. Amy requested that Sonia Larrabee speak. Sonia thanked everyone for the donations. MES staff organized all donations by family so that all family members received correct sized items. The deliveries took place over two evenings. Amy further thanked Sonia, Leida Del Moral, and Sara Montalvo for coordinating the effort.

B. McInnis Elementary School Teacher's Lounge Renovation: Amy reported that this project was initially brought to us and agreed upon in October by Sonia Larrabee. Terry and Sharon Pinder took it up by discussing it with Mr. Struska and Ms. Larrabee at the December meeting. Sharon reported that she and Terry obtained new and pre-owned furnishings and comfortable chairs that would allow for the teachers to have a space to relax and also socially distance in the lounge. Sharon informed us that she utilized funds from anonymous DSCA, Inc. donors, two coffee makers were donated by DSCA, Inc. members, Sharon made lovely window treatments and matching pillows to further beautify the lounge. The project was a huge success and pictures can be found on both the McInnis Elementary and DSCA, Inc. Facebook pages.

C. Volusia County Sheriff's Office Update: Amy asked that everyone give a quick introduction of themselves and introduced Lt. Bryan Barnard who was in attendance and has been assigned to our area. Lt. Barnard let us know that he is here to listen to our concerns as a community and provided several business cards with his contact information. Amy stated we are also grateful to Deputy James who recently attended previous meetings. Lt. Barnard reiterated the importance of not creating crimes of opportunity, by keeping car doors locked including inside garages. He further stated that the VCSO often utilizes individual homeowners' camera footage for property crimes. Amy asked member Chris Edge for his updates on the traffic concerns in Burwyn Park. He said he appreciates the efforts of VCSO to stop the speeding that the neighbors in that area are experiencing along Retta, Arthur and Audubon Streets. Lt. Barnard further reported that property crimes are down 20% in the unincorporated areas of Volusia County this year and that clearance rates for burglary are at 50% which is significant. Amy thanked Lt. Barnard for his time and we look forward to continuing to foster the partnership and communication we have with the VCSO.

D. McInnis Elementary School SAC and Science Fair update: Colleen Kurczi reported that the Reflex Math Intervention resource was fully funded at the December 10th SAC meeting. This month's SAC meeting will be held this Thursday, January 14th. Sonia Larrabee reported that the date of the Science Fair is February 12th. She will keep us updated regarding further details and if volunteer participation is possible.

E. River of Lakes Heritage Corridor Board: Amy Munizzi reported that they continue to meet virtually. Maggie Ardito, President, River to Sea Loop Alliance gave a presentation on the regional trails that include

the River to Sea Loop. Maggie said Volusia County is emerging as a trail hub with more state funded SUN Trail miles than any other county. The Loop has four gaps under construction: Gobbler's Gap in south Volusia, our DeLeon Springs section, the Debary Gap north of DeBary Plantation and the Beresford Gap that crosses Highway 44 and connects to Grand Ave. and our portion. Amy gave an update at that meeting on the progress of our portion of the trail, and that these trails are important, as they provide safe recreation for everyone, they attract community members and tourists alike, and provide an economic boost to the areas, while creating a low environmental impact compared to motorized activities. The River of Lakes Heritage Corridor provides a motorized opportunity to get off the interstate and into rural areas to explore, again, good for our community.

F. Chuck Lennon Park, Mountain Biking Trail and Hiking Trail update: Kevin Phelps reported that there are still improvements being made to the speed hump where wash out is being experienced. One side of the speed hump has been paved to help prevent further wash out. There is no update on the refinishing of the tennis courts due to budget cuts, and one court remains closed due to the need for repair. The mountain biking trails are slowly re-opening due to flooding that still needs to recede from the past months' rainfall. Kevin reported that there are coordinated night rides for anyone interested every Monday at 6:30. Kevin is in communication with Tim Baylie regarding the proposed Hiking Trail. Tim still supports it and is determined to do everything he can to see it through for the community, regardless of the continual obstacles to the project.

G. DeLeon Springs Trail/Spring to Spring Trail/River to Sea Loop update: Amy Munizzi reported that the paving is nearly complete, sod is being installed, etc. and the project is on schedule for Spring completion.

H. Benevolence:

Troop-Ons® Coupons for Soldiers: Andrea Smiley reported that she has collected 6 lbs., 8.53 oz. to date, and she has already sent out a shipment this month. She reminded everyone that she collects manufacturers' coupons expired up to one month, and clipped coupons are greatly appreciated.

Cell Phones for Soldiers: Andrea Smiley reported that she has collected 16.775 lbs. to date.

Malloy Head Start Food Pantry: Amy Munizzi reported that we will resume collecting for Malloy this year. Items accepted are non-perishable foods, diapers, wipes and other infant and toddler necessities.

I. Ride Into Reading update: Amy reported that Lisa Bertolami e-mailed that 3rd graders have accumulated 1,781 Reading Counts points and they have four students who are very close to exceeding 200 points each. Lisa is very proud of the 3rd graders. The kids are excited, and she thanks us for this wonderful program. Amy stated the last gift card left from last school year will be handed out at the end of January and asked if we could donate three additional gift cards for February, March and April. Amy moved that we allocate \$30 to purchase the cards, Andrea seconded, and the motion carried.

J. DSCA, Inc. meeting location update: Amy Munizzi reported that she went by LWNWR and they still are not allowing external use of the education building. They have no events planned for 2021. Amy thanked the CCDS for their generosity in allowing us to meet here and use every portion of their facility as needed, without any cost to the DSCA, Inc. They have been excellent community partners on several projects with the DSCA, Inc. and also allowed us to use their rooms to store donations, etc. Jim Simmons mentioned that the DS Methodist Church has offered their space should it be needed, and Alex Kinney also offered space at Camp Winona for any future meeting or event needs. Amy thanked all of our community partners for their generosity.

K. Water and Wastewater improvements update: Amy Munizzi stated this is a three mile project to bring modern water and wastewater infrastructure to our business district, that will end with connection to McInnis Elementary School who is in dire need of these improvements. She spoke with VC Utilities engineer Erin Reed who said the survey is almost complete, which is required for Jones Edmunds to complete the preliminary design. City of DeLand will be the area service provider, as required by Volusia County. The project continues to move forward and we hope to see construction commence by the end of this year.

4. Review of events and activities the DSCA, Inc. currently hosts and/or supports; discussion of activities members wish to pursue in 2021. Amy read our Mission Statement for review: "The DeLeon Springs Community Association, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to making DeLeon Springs a better place to live, work and play. DeLeon Springs Community Association, Inc. strives to foster positive economic and cultural advancement within the community of DeLeon Springs, Florida, while preserving its rural nature and agricultural heritage. As stewards of this unique area, the DeLeon Springs Community Association, Inc. works

to cultivate an appreciation for the environmental treasures that abound in DeLeon Springs through education, awareness, and conservation of natural resources. The DeLeon Springs Community Association, Inc. is dedicated to providing opportunities to increase and enhance community spirit, volunteerism and civic responsibility, thereby improving quality of life for all.” Amy stated the Board reviewed it and finds it is still relevant and continues to fit with our activities. Members agreed and the mission statement stands without need for correction or addition. With that in mind, members reviewed the things we currently support to decide if we wish to continue them:

- A. DeLeon Dispatch quarterly newsletter: yes
- B. Malloy Head Start monthly Food Pantry: yes
- C. River of Lakes Heritage Corridor Board: yes, Amy to serve
- D. DSCA, Inc. Merit Scholarship: yes
- E. McInnis Elementary Ride Into Reading Program: yes
- F. Cell Phones for Soldiers: yes, Andrea to lead
- G. Troopons© Coupons for Soldiers: yes, Andrea to lead
- H. McInnis Elementary School SAC: yes, Colleen to serve and open to the community
- I. McInnis Elementary School Back to School Backpack Drive: yes
- J. International Walk to School Day (first Wednesday in October): yes, depending on School District
- K. Chuck Lennon Mountain Biking Trails and Hiking Trail: yes, Kevin to lead
- L. DeLeon Springs Festival: yes, discussion ensued but no date was set or month decided on
- M. Malloy Head Start Thanksgiving Baskets: yes
- N. McInnis Elementary School Warm Clothing Drive: yes
- O. Ongoing relationships with Volusia County, FDOT, communications, forwards, etc.: yes. Members agreed forwards, etc. are relevant and appreciated receiving the information. Amy to continue this

5. Other business, reminders, announcements:

A. DeLeon Dispatch Annual Sponsorships (four issues per year) are needed (\$100 for non-members, \$60 for members). Annual sponsorships and Spring Edition articles are due by February 9th.

B. Amy reported that the 2021 DSCA, Inc. Merit Scholarship Application and Criteria is available online. Applications must be postmarked by March 31st

C. General Meeting dates for 2021: January 12th, February 9th, March 9th, April 13th, May 11th, June 8th, July 13th, August 10th Tenth Anniversary Celebration, September 14th, October 12th, November 9th, and December 14th Christmas Dessert Celebration

6. Public Comments: Pastor Arch Fisher invited all to the DSU Methodist Church on January 30th at 7:00 for a Community Prayer Service to be held monthly. And beginning February 4th at 6:30 DSUMC will host a weekly Biblical 12 step program. Flyers were handed out and Pastor Arch will e-mail them to us so that we can share the information on our Facebook page. Alex Kinney reported that Camp Winona is open for socially distanced group rentals, family camps and mini camps. Summer camp registration is now open, please visit their website for details. Jimmy Hawkins reported that this Friday, January 15th CCDS is hosting a drive through meal from 6-7PM. Volunteers can help at 4:00 PM. Details can be found on our Facebook page.

7. Amy reminded everyone that annual dues are due and to please pay those as soon as possible, since we currently have a budget shortage and dues are critical to continuing to fund our serve to this community.

8. Adjournment. Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 9th, 6:00 p.m., The Christian Church at DeLeon Springs, 4481 Mills Rd.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen Kurczi, Secretary