

**DeLeon Springs Community Association, Inc.**  
**Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, March 12, 2019**

1. Amy Munizzi, President called the meeting to order, led the Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance, welcomed everyone and asked guests to introduce themselves. At Large Volusia County Councilman Ben Johnson and VCSO Captain Paul Adkins spoke briefly and Amy thanked them for attending.

2. Review of February 12<sup>th</sup> DSCA, Inc. meeting minutes: Laurie Haas, Secretary shared that the minutes were emailed out and are on the website. She asked for any questions or correction, and hearing none, Tammy Schuler moved and Jim Simmons seconded approval of the minutes; motion passed.

3. Review of Treasurer's Report: Tammy Schuler, Treasurer reported that we had expenses of \$1,043.57 which included Festival t-shirts and artist award/student ribbons, with income of \$2,200.00, which leaves an available spending balance of \$3,285.04. Tammy asked for questions or correction. Hearing none Jennie Mero moved approval, subject to audit. Jason Sampsell seconded and the motion passed.

4. Reports:

A. Vice President's Report, Membership Update: Jason Sampsell welcomed new Community Members Allan Hooper, Janice Russak, Fred and Suze Peace, Paul and Deb Mears and Rose Anne Sampsell. New Business Members are AdventHealth DeLand (Previously Florida Hospital DeLand), Colleen Kurczi/Askew Real Estate, Equivale and YMCA Camp Winona. They are all listed in the Spring DeLeon Dispatch. He thanked all the faithful members that have renewed their membership and reminded everyone that every dollar that comes in, goes right back to benefit this community.

B. Dessert With A Deputy Review: Jason Sampsell reported that Dessert With A Deputy was a success, and we received good press coverage of the event. Complaints regarding noise, animal control issues, etc. were discussed; how to have the COPs patrol while away, and how to form a Neighborhood Watch was discussed. Amy thanked VCSO Capt. Adkins for his follow up e-mail that answered those questions and directed people to ordinances, etc. that covered the issues. Capt. Adkins shared that the VCSO recently made arrests on individuals who had been stealing power equipment and other thefts in DeLeon Springs. He said that if we see something in progress, call 911 and do our part to help the VCSO protect us.

C. McInnis Elementary School SAC: Laurie Haas, Colleen Kurczi both reported the next SAC meeting is Thursday March 14<sup>th</sup> at 7am. Volusia County Schools is conducting a "new start time" survey that is now available on line, all were encouraged to take the survey, available until March 25<sup>th</sup>. Colleen stated she would forward the link to Amy to send out to everyone if they want to take the survey.

D. DSCA, Inc. Merit Scholarship: Tammy Schuler reported that we have not received any applications but reminded all that we usually receive several very qualified applicants that make this a difficult decision. One scholarship is available for \$600.00 but last year we had two outstanding student applicants so, with donations, we were able to give a \$1,000 and \$800 Scholarship instead of one at \$600.

E. River of Lakes Heritage Corridor Board: Janice Russak and Amy Munizzi attended the meeting. Deborah Shelley of the Wekiva/Middle St. John's Aquatic Preserve Program spoke about their educational, acquisition, and preservation initiatives and their resource management activities with algae and invasive aquatic plant treatment, etc. The meeting was held at the Enterprise Heritage Center and Museum, which has been restored and completed. Amy stated that the ROLHCB promotes DeLeon Springs in many ways. They have expenses that promote the corridor, which runs through our 'downtown', such as the banner we have, printing the brochures we use, and \$385 a year for Visit Florida to place those brochures along I-10, I-75 and I-95. That marketing brings tourist dollars and economic benefits to our community. In 2017 Ron and Dianne Hermanski urged us to sponsor the ROLHC and we voted to give \$100, then learned the sponsorship minimum was \$250 so we did not contribute to ROLHC. Amy moved that since we recently received an anonymous gift of \$2,000, we dedicate \$250 of it to "Gator" Sponsorship of the ROLHC. Jennie Mero seconded the motion. Without any further questions or discussion the vote passed unanimously.

Janice reported that she attended the FWC Invasive Aquatic Plant Meeting held in Astor and they stated that water bodies clean themselves through the ups and downs of dry and wet spells. Sea walls and barriers prevent that natural cleansing. FWC is working to eradicate invasive aquatic plants but private citizens or companies are out on boats spraying too many chemicals in the river.

#### F. Benevolence:

**Troop-ons® Coupons for Soldiers:** Amy reported for Andrea Smiley (who was excused due to another commitment) that so far in 2019 she has shipped 2 lbs. 10.12 oz. of clipped coupons donated by our members. She appreciates that everyone is clipping and contributing them.

**Cell Phones for Soldiers:** Amy reported for Andrea that the DeLand Knights of Columbus donated three boxes of phones in February, which turned out to be 214 phones and additional accessories! This translated to 45.5 lbs. of phones. The total weight of phones shipped by Andrea for 2019 so far is 59.10 oz., all to benefit our military, by providing them with phone cards to call home. Amy thanked everyone for their support of both of these worthwhile programs, and Andrea for overseeing them.

**Malloy Head Start Food Pantry:** Amy Munizzi reported that she took all of our donations to the Malloy Head Start, along with a large kitchen play set and toys donated by other members, to the MHS last week and they extended their gratitude to all of us for our continued generosity to the families there.

**G. Half Cent Sales Tax Information:** Amy Munizzi stated she attended the Volusia County informational presentation held in Daytona on March 5<sup>th</sup> and brought back the zone maps for projects that could be accomplished with the funds. She put them up for everyone to see. On the list of potential projects is a shoulder addition to CR 3 that would benefit our area, since it will provide a safer area for people to cycle, etc. along CR 3, a very popular scenic road to Barberville. Ben Johnson asked to speak regarding the issue. He stated all of the half-cent sales tax money would stay in Volusia County. Revenue from the Gas Tax has gone down. This half cent tax will equate to approximately 40 million dollars, approximately half of the revenue will go to the cities, half will go to unincorporated areas, and this money can be used for road repair, etc. He stated this is a very important mail-in vote and very much needed in his opinion. Amy stated that none of this has anything to do with the DOT project already in the works for the 4-laning of US Hwy 17 from Baxter to Hwy 40, which will include a roundabout at Spring Garden Ranch Rd. and a SUN (shared use non-motorized) trail on the east side of Hwy 17. Amy had maps, showing the recently reconfigured connector path that will extend from Grand Ave. up Ponce DeLeon Blvd., along a new "Pine St." which is in an upcoming housing development, to Spring Garden Ave. and the Hwy. 17 roundabout. Ben Johnson stated he is in favor of roundabouts as they have been proven to reduce crashes as they cause all to slow down, and the crashes that do occur are lower speed and less deadly. Jason and Capt. Adkins concurred from their law enforcement facts and experience.

**H. Chuck Lennon Park and Mountain Biking Trail:** Jason reported for Kevin Phelps that all trails are open and busy with people using them regularly.

**I. Ride Into Reading Update:** Laurie Haas stated the program is going well; all third graders are participating. She reminded all that our monthly gift card incentives are being given out each of the six months prior to awarding the bikes at the end of year ceremonies, which is keeping the momentum going.

**J. April 13<sup>th</sup> Art Among the Trees Juried Art, Craft and Music Festival:** Amy reported the exhibitors are lining up and include lots of talented artists. Awards are: \$250 Best of Show; \$200 each for First Place Art and Craft; \$100 each for Second Place Art and Craft; \$25 each for Third Place Art and Craft. Environmental and educational nonprofits are included. Three bands are lined up. The Crankin As will be with us and the MES Bobcat and Smoky Bear will make appearances. McInnis Students will display their work and we have ribbons to award all of them. COPs will handle traffic. Chuck Coleman has the Grill Gang ready serving M&E BBQ. Pam Coleman has the McInnis PTA doing the desserts again as a fundraiser. Tammy stated Judges have been lined up. Bob Brooks got the t-shirt logo done and she picked up the t-shirts from Custom Graphic Designs for sale tonight. Laurie Haas reported she has secured 6-10 student volunteers that will be available to assist during the Festival. Andrea Smiley did leave a sign up sheet for people to donate dessert for the festival volunteer luncheon.

Lucy Mancilla reported that they will be hosting the KidZone and plan to have a "make and take" piñata activity for children at the Festival, along with other activities, free to the public.

#### 5. Public Comments:

Jim Simmons reported on behalf of his church, DSUMC, that their Food For the Journey food pantry is once a month, on the third Thursday from 3-5:30pm, In the past 2 month they served 70 families for a total of 250 people. He reminded all of the upcoming concert "Mile High Orchestra" event on 3/15 for a cost of \$10.00. Monies raised will be used for missions and outreach. The next Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser is March 16<sup>th</sup>; adults are \$8.00. DSUMC is hosting a Yard Sale on April 6th. Tables are available to rent. He also stated that the Church parking lot area is being re-landscaped. Juan Mancilla and Cutting Edge will also be assisting in creating a play area, possible "Lending Library", etc.

Jennie Mero reminded everyone to contact COPs for a house watch. Amy reminded everyone she sent out the form for it via e-mail, from Capt. Adkins and we have copies in the Porter House.

Jim Hawkins announced the Christian Church will be hosting a free Egg Hunt on April 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. McClinnis Elementary students and public are invited.

#### 6. Other Business:

Amy handed out the DeLeon Dispatch Spring 2019 Edition and stated it takes a minimum of 20 hours to write, edit and produce this every quarter. She encouraged everyone to take copies to place at local businesses, etc. It's also an e-edition on our website and is an excellent marketing tool for us.

Tammy stated new Festival shirts are on sale: \$15, or \$10 to members who are volunteering at the Festival.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m., the Porter House, 5030 US Hwy. 17 N.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laurie Haas