

DeLeon Springs Community Association, Inc.
Monthly Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, May 12, 2020
The Christian Church At DeLeon Springs, 4481 Mills Rd.
And via Zoom

1. Call to Order, Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance: Amy Munizzi, President, requested that everyone introduce themselves, including our virtual participants, and we especially welcomed long time, faithful member Harold Davis, joining us via Zoom from Oregon.

2. Acceptance of April 14th Virtual Meeting Minutes: Colleen Kurczi stated these were created by Amy based on member reports made via e-mail, after the agenda had been mailed out for comments. Colleen made a motion to accept the minutes, Jim Simmons seconded the motion; all were in favor.

3. Review and Acceptance of Treasurer's Report: Tammy Schuler, Treasurer reported the total expenses are \$956.68, income is \$1,135.00 and our available spending balance is currently -\$84.36 after deduction of agreed-upon line items. Colleen made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report; Kevin Phelps seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

4. Reports:

A. McInnis Elementary School SAC and PTA: Colleen Kurczi reported that the last SAC Meeting held was in March due to the pandemic crisis. It was discussed that 10 district-owned portables will replace the leased portables on the property and be put into place over the summer. Colleen followed up with both the SAC and PTA regarding sightline issues on US Highway 17 from the coontie ferns. The consensus was to request the coontie ferns be removed prior to the next school year. Colleen also joined the PTA in order to further both hers and the DSCA, Inc.'s relationship with McInnis Elementary School. Both SAC and PTA April meetings were cancelled. Colleen attended the May PTA Meeting via Zoom and a quorum allowed for approval of a motion to provide \$20 Amazon gift cards for each of the 41 teachers at McInnis to express appreciation during the annual Teacher Appreciation Week because the last fundraiser before the schools closed – the McInnis Walkathon - was a huge success and the students raised \$1,495.00.

B. River of Lakes Heritage Corridor Board Meeting Via Microsoft Teams: Amy attended the May 4th meeting. U of F was commissioned to do an Economic Impact Study of the River of Lakes Heritage Corridor and they reviewed a power point presentation with Michael J. Scicchitano, Director of the Florida Survey Research Center on what would happen during the Economic Impact Study on May 6, to prepare for that meeting. The free GeoTourist app was discussed and downloaded by members, which shows a great geographical trail to follow to enjoy West Volusia and the ROLHC. DSCA, Inc. wrote a letter of support for the ROLHC to obtain National status. ROLHC U of F Economic Impact Study was May 6. The meeting was conducted via Zoom and went on for 2.5 hours. It included representatives of entities along the ROLHC and included a Q and A time to discuss the heritage of the river, communities along it, and the impact of the ROLHC to those communities. Amy stated in the meeting that perhaps a city like DeLand doesn't benefit from it as much, but DeLeon Springs does, and she suggested "GeoTourist" badges be added to the ROLHC road signs to get more people interested, off the major highways and onto these byways.

C. Chuck Lennon Park and CLP Mountain Biking Trails: Kevin Phelps reported that the trails and park have been extremely busy with use from folks all over the state due to pandemic closures of other parks. The bike trail's social media presence exploded due to being one of few open trails in the state and the trail is in good shape and users are happy. Volunteers are working to make sure riders stay farther apart and state guidelines are followed.

D. Chuck Lennon Park Hiking Trail, and DSCA, Inc. trail adoption: Kevin Phelps reported that the trail's construction is temporarily halted due to an environmental specialist raising concerns over its proximity to an eagle's nest. Parks and Rec. Director Tim Baylie is working with FWC to hopefully resolve the dispute and open the trail to the public. Amy reported that she sent a Letter of Support from the DSCA, Inc. addressed to Director of Land Management Clay Irvin, Director of Environmental Management Ginger Adair, and County

Manager George Recktenwald to further encourage the completion of the trail. Kevin also reported that for those members who are interested in cleaning up the bear-related trash at the beginning of the trail, it is located at the back of the park, to the right, and is marked with florescent orange ribbons. Trash bags are there too.

E. Benevolence:

Troop-Ons® Coupons for Soldiers: Andrea Smiley is not collecting this month. Cell Phones for Soldiers: Andrea Smiley is not collecting this month. McInnis Elementary School "CCDS and DSCA, Inc. Adopt-a-Family" food drive: Amy Munizzi reported that the DSCA, Inc. is coordinating with the Christian Church at DeLeon Springs and MES teachers to support their efforts to collect and deliver groceries to local families in need. Colleen Kurczi reported that the community response has been phenomenal, and we have received hundreds of dollars of support from members and community members who heard what was happening. Colleen and Amy have been shopping for needed foods, and Colleen is also coordinating efforts for the drive with the Moms Club of DeLand. She has a videoconference scheduled Wednesday, May 13th with Sonia Larrabee and Sara Montalvo (McInnis Guidance Counselor) to discuss efforts moving forward. Amy stated that we have not been able to keep regular communication with Malloy Head Start due to their continual staff changes, therefore the Board would like to shift our monthly general-meeting food collections to this project. Amy asked if anyone objected to this and no one did. Members agreed to continue the Annual MHS Thanksgiving Basket Drive.

F. Ride Into Reading update: Amy Munizzi reported that the Board held a meeting and voted that three bicycles would be awarded because the top two girls had both accumulated over 600 reading points each, therefore we want to recognize both of them in addition to the top scoring boy. The funds for the third bicycle can be allocated instead of purchasing gift cards for runners up like we did in previous years. Amy will coordinate with Ms. Lisa Bertolami to present the bicycles to the students at their homes later this month or at the beginning of June.

G. 2020 DSCA, Inc. Merit Scholarship Award recipient update: Tammy Schuler reported that the winner of the scholarship was Jenny Rodriguez. Although she was our only applicant, she was more than qualified due to her exceptional GPA and application. Jenny was accepted to four universities and has decided to attend UNF and major in nursing. The Beacon covered the story and included an article in their latest paper.

H. DeLeon Springs Trail and Spring to Spring Trail update: Amy Munizzi provided documents showing both projects have been approved by the County Council and funded; construction is to begin and be done by December. This provides for a concrete trail connector from where the River2Sea Loop section ends at Grand Ave. along Ponce DeLeon Blvd., and a paved trail through the woods of the newly proposed "Oaks of DeLeon Springs" subdivision, to come out on Spring Garden Ave. This will eventually connect to the Shared Use Non-motorized (SUN) trail along US Highway 17.

I. Possible kayak launcher at DSSP: Melissa Borghorst was not in attendance, however she reported via e-mail that this was on hold due to the park's closure. She will resume her efforts and report back soon.

J. FDEP BMAP and possible Water and Wastewater improvements update: Amy Munizzi reported that the FDEP has allocated a \$2.5 million grant to allow for construction of water and wastewater lines along US Highway 17 for the business corridor and connection to McInnis Elementary. This grant will come before the County Council on May 19th for approval, and the VCSB has approved connection to MES, with funding to be worked out. This is exciting news as the DSCA, Inc. has been working towards this for over ten years. Discussion also ensued regarding the 74 +/- acre development, "Oaks of DeLeon Springs" a proposed residential subdivision at the corner of US Highway 17, Ponce DeLeon Blvd., and Spring Garden Ave., and the potential for it to construct its own infrastructure to connect to the water and wastewater lines, or be forced to provide their own septage package plant instead of individual nitrogen-reducing septic systems, which would be a tremendous cost passed on to each house price. The Board had agreed for Amy to send a letter to Volusia County staff voicing our support for revitalization, but our concerns about this project's negative impact on the Spring, both from septic systems and well pumping.

K. October 17th Autumn in the Oaks Art, Music and Crafts Festival location, update: Amy reported that a generous community member has offered their land located at Spring Garden Ranch Road and US

Highway 17. The land has been cleared, fenced, and the property owner has connected electric, put in a well, and is making efforts to build a stage to be utilized for the Festival. The property owner has decided to name this location "Spring Garden Park". The DSCA, Inc. Board has discussed some new updates to the Festival for 2020, such as having food trucks instead of volunteer cooks so that we can expand the food offerings, and possibly have the Forestry Department host their open house the same day. Amy requested that anyone who would like to participate on the Festival Board please contact her as the planning meetings will begin in July.

5. Other business, reminders, announcements:

A. Early Learning Coalition Duck Race originally scheduled for April 25th has been rescheduled for September 12th: Pat Patterson still has tickets available for sale.

B. Dessert with a Deputy initially scheduled for Monday, March 30th 6:00 p.m. will be rescheduled when we are able to do so.

6. Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 9, 6:00 p.m., The Christian Church At DeLeon Springs, 4481 Mills Rd.

Respectfully Submitted,
Colleen Kurczi
Secretary