

**DeLeon Springs Community Association, Inc.**  
**Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, June 11, 2019**

1. Dessert Reception for 2019 Merit Scholarship winners Britney Tagle and Giselle Aguirre. Congratulations cake and refreshments were provided for members and guests to enjoy. Giselle Aguirre was on family vacation. Britney Tagle attended. Amy Munizzi introduced Britney. She thanked the DSCA, Inc. for the college scholarship funds, shared some of her family history in DeLeon Springs, activities in high school and future plans. She will be leaving in August to attend University of Florida, with a desire to pursue health sciences and a goal of becoming an E.R. doctor. Jason Sampsell stated that he was impressed with the Taylor Senior Awards Night and how many awards both Britney and Giselle received as hard working achievers. Members encouraged Britney to pursue her goals and stay in touch with us. Tammy Schuler stated she had sent the scholarship check to U of F.

2. Call to Order, Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance, introductions: Amy Munizzi, President called the meeting to order, led the prayer, Pledge, and each person briefly introduced themselves, including guest speaker Yvette Ferrell of Volusia Flagler United Way.

3. Review of May 14<sup>th</sup> DSCA, Inc. meeting minutes: Laurie Haas, Secretary stated she had copies of the May minutes; they had been e-mailed to members and are available on the website. She asked for any questions or correction, and hearing none, Jason Sampsell moved and Rose Ann Sampsell seconded approval of the minutes; motion passed. Laurie also shared that her work schedule had changed and she is no longer available as Secretary at 6pm, and will need to resign as secretary. The floor was open to anyone that may be interested or recommendations. Hearing none Tammy Schuler and Jason Sampsell agreed to fill in for Laurie and perhaps she will continued to fill the role with their assistance until the role is up for election in November. All agreed.

4. Review of Treasurer's Report: Tammy Schuler, Treasurer reported expenses of \$2,595.82 that include Camp Winona and Merit scholarship expenses, and income of \$839.39 which leaves an available spending balance of \$778.74. Tammy asked for questions or correction. Hearing none Andrea Smiley moved approval; Jim Simmons seconded and the motion passed.

5. Reports:

A. Vice President's Report: Jason Sampsell thanked everyone for the opportunity to present the Merit Scholarships at the Taylor High School Award ceremony; it had a lot of meaning for him as he graduated from the school. Amy offered special thanks to David and Fran Strawn, Janice Russak, Jim and Helen Simmons, Paul and Deb Mears, Harold Davis, and an anonymous donor for contributing the additional funds to raise the amount of the first scholarship, and fund the second scholarship. She also thanked all of our dues paying members who fund the original scholarship amount each year. Jason shared information regarding the "Neighborhood App" from Ring, the company that makes home surveillance equipment, that is free to anyone. This phone app allows neighbors to be aware of any unusual or suspicious activity in their neighborhood as well as assist the VCSO to identify criminals. Jason also shared that the local Tractor Supply was broken into and VCSO cameras were in place. There is no truth to the rumor that VCSO is moving to the current Tractor Supply building.

B. Ride Into Reading awards update: Amy reported that on May 29<sup>th</sup> we awarded two new bicycles and helmets to Kaleb Benson and Sofie Morado who were the top scoring boy and girl in our Annual Ride into Reading Third Grade Challenge at McInnis Elementary School. They earned the bicycles and helmets by scoring highest in the program started by the DSCA, Inc. six years ago. Honorable mention gift cards went to Angel Rodriguez, Justin Lagunas, Madison Michaud, Melanie Santiago and Roger Montero who each reached 150 points or more. 100% of the third grade students participated in the program this year, thanks to the third grade teachers and Media Specialist Lisa Bertolami. Special thanks to Ron and Dianne Hermanski for helping with the program and for presenting the awards.

C. River of Lakes Heritage Corridor Board: Janice Russak reported there was a guest speaker, author of a book titled "Pioneer Families", covering local history that included the Woodruff family and the area around DeLeon Springs State Park. Next meeting will be held at the Stetson Aquatic Center.

D. Benevolence: Troop-ons@ Coupons for Soldiers: Andrea Smiley reported that so far in 2019 she has shipped 3 lbs. 6.92 oz. of clipped coupons donated by our members. She appreciates that everyone is clipping and contributing them. Andrea clarified that she had followed up with the distribution center regarding the exact location that benefited from these coupons and they are distributed to various locations depending on the need at the time. Cell Phones for Soldiers: Andrea reported the total weight of phones shipped for 2019 so far is 59.10 oz., all to benefit our military, by providing them with phone cards to call home. Gene Heintzman of DeLand Knights of Columbus dropped off a bag full of phones at the beginning of the meeting and we thank them for their continued support. Malloy Head Start Food Pantry: Amy Munizzi reminded all that the MHS runs throughout the summer and continues to have needs for the children and families within this program all summer long. She thanked everyone who contributed items, including Jim Simmons with his usual big donation of food and Beddixa Gonzalez for dozens of new clothing items for the children. Amy thanked Janice Russak for delivering the donations to MHS last month.

E. Art Among the Trees Student Awards update: Amy Munizzi reported that we awarded certificates and ribbons to 39 MES students who participated in the April festival, during the grade level ceremonies the last week of school. Amy presented them at the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade ceremonies; art teacher Jessica Osterhout presented them at the others.

F. Chuck Lennon Park and Mountain Biking Trail: Kevin Phelps reported that due to recent heavy rains six of the nine trails are currently closed. The planned work day for May 30<sup>th</sup> was cancelled due to rain and will be rescheduled. Kevin will be meeting with the county again next month to discuss the long proposed hiking trails. Amy asked Kevin to extend our thanks to all the volunteers who make these trails possible and continue the regular maintenance required to keep them in the top three to five state trails.

G. DSCA, Inc. "Send a Kid to Camp" drive update: Amy reported we were able to raise the \$1,100 needed to send two students that were recommended by MES teacher Sonia Larrabee: MES 3<sup>rd</sup> grader Angelina Harris and Taylor 6<sup>th</sup> grade student Jesus Lopez. Special thanks to Janice Russak, David and Fran Strawn, Jennie Mero, Harold Davis and our anonymous donor for their generous donations that made this possible.

H. Final McInnis Elementary School SAC: Laurie Haas reported there was no update since May 11<sup>th</sup>. SAC meetings will begin again in August.

I. Town of Pierson July 4<sup>th</sup> Family Fun Celebration: Tammy Schuler stated she sent the Stripes Level sponsorship check to Town of Pierson for this excellent family friendly event that ends with a fantastic fireworks display. Amy stated she is glad to see Town of Pierson and our community supporting each other, as they sponsored our April festival as well.

## 6. New Business:

A. Possible Taylor FFA Alumni Association community outreach project: Jason Sampsell reported he was contacted by David Clay of the Taylor FFA Alumni, offering to assist DSCA, Inc. with a possible community project. They had suggested replacing the stage deck and Jason suggested cleaning out some of the brush on the Porter House property. Amy mentioned the sign at the south end of town still needs the lattice and plants but she will probably do that, so the members agreed to request they replace stage decking and remove brush. Amy asked Jason to extend our thanks to them for their generous offer.

B. DeLeon Dispatch Summer Edition: Amy stated that most of the things we had on our agenda tonight are covered with pictures and articles in the DeLeon Dispatch. We have done a tremendous job serving this community and encouraged everyone to read the articles, and take one or more to share around the community. Andrea agreed to take some to Mr. Subs, Jim to DSUMC, Amy to Pioneer Arts Settlement, McInnis, Malloy, the post office, etc.

C. July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting? August 13<sup>th</sup> DSCA, Inc. 8<sup>th</sup> Birthday Dinner? Amy stated that we took June off last year and many members are away this time of year. Laurie Haas moved we not meet in July; Andrea Smiley seconded and the motion passed. Amy asked if members wanted to celebrate the DSCA, Inc.'s 8th Birthday at our August 13<sup>th</sup> meeting with a covered dish dinner. Jason heartily seconded and the motion passed.

7. Public Comments: Yvette Ferrell with the Volusia Flagler Unity Way shared the following: She has roots in DeLand and married into the Ferrell family. She is responsible for the Unity Way's community outreach programs and corporate fundraising. She reminded all that money raised stays here in the local community; over 2.4 million has been raised to support local nonprofits. She distributed the 211 Business Card and explained that it offers community answers to anyone and provides resources on a multitude of subjects. Yvette also discussed their Reading Pals and Help Me Grow programs; brochures were provided. They offer free income tax assistance and have free prescription discounts. Amy thanked Yvette for sharing all of this valuable information and thanked Jason for connecting us with her and the United Way organization. Laurie Haas agreed to share this information during the next McInnis SAC meeting. Jim Simmons will share information on DSUMC's food pantry with Yvette so it may be added to the 211 line.

Next Meeting: August 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m. Covered dish 8<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration, the Porter House, 5030 US Hwy. 17 N. NO JULY MEETING.