

DeLeon Springs Community Association, Inc.
Monthly Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 11, 2017

1. Amy Munizzi, President called the meeting to order, led the prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance, and everyone introduced themselves. Guests were Brian Smith who entered the Festival for the first time and new resident Christine Green and her mother visiting from Arizona.
2. Review of February 14th DSCA, Inc. meeting minutes: Bobbie Witt was out of town. Amy apologized for misstating the amount of coupons that had gone out at the previous meeting and Andrea corrected the amount to be 1 lb.13 oz. With that correction, Laurie Haas moved, Jim Simmons seconded approval of the minutes and the motion passed.
3. Review of Treasurer's Report: Tammy Schuler, Treasurer gave a verbal report of expenses and income, and a final balance of \$19,846.23 with line items deducted from that. Jason Sampsell asked if we had moved our account to Mainstreet bank yet; Tammy stated we were waiting until the Festival was over and it should occur within the next month. Jennie Mero moved for approval of the report, Jason seconded and the motion passed.

Reports:

1. April 8th Art Among the Trees Juried Fine Art, Fine Craft and Music Festival review: Amy thanked the Malmborg family for allowing us the use of the property again. We had a big turnout of exhibitors and three bands who made it a nice event for the festival goers to attend. The COPs did a great job as usual, our volunteers worked hard to set up and clean up, provide the volunteer luncheon while Mr. Subs donated the food for the volunteer luncheon. Volunteers manned the Food Court (and raised \$667 toward the building fund), the DSCA, Inc. booth, facepainting, etc. Laurie said the PTA did well and were thankful for the opportunity to raise funds. We congratulate our Artist and Craftsman award winners. Each of these three received a ribbon and \$300 cash award: Bob Brooks, Best of Show (DeLeon Springs). Michele Pasternak, First Place Fine Art: Pottery (Sorrento). Tom Smith, First Place Fine Craft: Intarsia (DeLeon Springs). Each of these winners received a ribbon: 2nd place Fine Art: Tim Peterson, painting (DeLand), 2nd place Fine Craft: Paul Busch, wood turning (DeLand), 3rd place Fine Art: Carol Mears, painting (DeLeon Springs), 3rd place Fine Craft: Cheryl Cowell, custom wreaths (Astor). Amy sent the information and photos to the Beacon, DNJ and Hometown News, as well as our website. Laurie thanked Amy for spearheading the festival and Andrea seconded it.

2. DSCA, Inc. Merit Scholarship update: the deadline for application was March 30th. We have received applications and the Board will be meeting after Easter to make a selection. Any one that wants to help with that, please contact Amy.

3. Benevolence: Troop-ons© Coupons for Soldiers: Andrea Smiley reported that to date she has shipped 4 lb. 11 oz. of clipped coupons. Cell Phones for Soldiers: Andrea thanked Jason Sampsell, who donated 70 plus phones he collected from friends and members of the Orange City Police Dept. So far this year Andrea has shipped 9 lb. of used phones and this contribution will be a great addition to that effort.

4. Facebook ideas: Jason Sampsell noticed we highlight business members in the DeLeon Dispatch and wondered if we could do the same on the Facebook page. Even if they are not members of the DSCA, Inc., we might visit their business and offer to feature them on Facebook to help promote our community. Discussion ensued and everyone felt it was a good idea. Jason also brought up the lack of Hispanic involvement. Amy said we had tried several times to involve Hispanic business owners who came a time or two, but were told the VCSO presence at our meetings was an issue for some who might be intimidated by law enforcement, or have illegal relatives living with them. Jason will speak with Kevin Phelps who heads up the Facebook page and see what they can do to promote the businesses we have. Amy stated that anything positive we can do to promote DeLeon Springs is a good move, as we are a rare community with a national wildlife refuge, a state park, and a county park with excellent mountain biking trails. Jennie Mero reminded us we also have a nationally known horse training facility.

5. Chuck Lennon Park Mountain Biking Trails: all trails are running well and they've started building the new trails. The first part should be done within a month. The county has not yet set a date to begin the multi-use trail. The tennis courts have been relined so people can play pickle ball on them and they're going to reline the racquetball courts too since they had been lined wrong earlier.

6. Project Speak History update: oral histories collected have exceeded the reach of DeLeon Springs. Dr. Harry Price is producing DVD sets to share with West Volusia Historical Society, the Glenwood historian and the Volusia County historian. Harry gave a brief overview of the work he's done: over the last two years he's done 26 interviews and there are four hours of work on DVDs of which he's made 16 copies. Once again, we express our gratitude to Dr. Harry Price and Diamond Productions, Inc. for the extensive donation of his time and production facilities, and to Ron and Dianne Hermanski for heading up this project.

7. Ride Into Reading update and McInnis Elementary Awards Day: the program ends on April 30th. Even without final tallies, this year's program has already been designated as the most successful to date. There's been lots of competition to earn the two new bikes on display in the school's media center. Winners will be announced, bikes will be awarded and helmets donated by Hidden Valley Park in June.

8. Community Center: VC County Councilman Pat Patterson had Parks and Recreation Director Tim Baylie contact Amy about the possibility of us using the old Malloy Head Start building as a Community Center. The building has had sagging floors and a back handicap ramp that could not be used but both had been repaired prior to the "DeLeon Springs Colored School" historic marker presentation. Amy spoke with Malloy staff and they said they needed the building and can now use it since it's been repaired. Pat Patterson said he is continuing to work on this and would like to see us have a Community Center. Amy said once Don passed on, support for building a center on the Burt's Park location dried up and we don't have anyone who has been willing to come forward and lead an effort. Most people would prefer the center to be on Highway 17, perhaps in the old post office, but it has just been rented. And it would be extremely expensive to put enough parcels together to provide space for an upgraded commercial well, septic system, parking lot, retention pond, underground fire suppression tanks, etc. before building could even begin. Unless we have modern commercial water and wastewater lines to the downtown area this will continue to impede business. McInnis Elementary School is key to this, as their well is problematic and their wastewater treatment system is expensive to maintain. This is on their long term list of projects to be done, so we continue to hope that will occur in the near future for the benefit of the entire community.

9. "Junkyard": Amy was contacted by a couple of citizens regarding the junk cars being put on a lot next to the Spring Waters Inn. She contacted VC County Councilman Pat Patterson who got Code Enforcement involved. Citizen Christine Green spoke to Chris Hutchinson in Code Enforcement who has sent out several violation notices via certified mail to the owner of the property. He also sent an email to VC Environmental Management to alert them of the situation as one of the concerns is that these "junk cars" are not far from water wells. Action is being taken, violation notices are posted, however the owner of the property is entitled to due process and this could take a while. Pat Patterson stated the County cannot remove the vehicles if the owner decides not to comply. After that it goes before the Code Enforcement Board and then fines can be imposed, etc. Pat stated that it's become a problem all over, as these junkyards are cropping up, Code Enforcement gets involved and it becomes a drawn out battle, and eye sore for the community.

Public Comments: more discussion ensued about the Community Center and the 'junkyard' and Pat Patterson said he would continue to stay on top of both issues.

Meeting was adjourned. Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 9th, 6:00 p.m., Historic Porter House, 5030 US Hwy. 17 N.

Respectfully Submitted,
Andrea Smiley
For Bobbie Witt