

DeLeon Springs Merchants Association Minutes, August 10, 2010

Present: Bob Brooks, Don Malmberg, Laura Strawn, Jim McRae, Andy Natal, Carl Lupika, Sylvia Crump, Sharon Tinaya, Lee & Amy Munizzi, Tammy Schuler, Brian Polk, Bob Ford.

Meeting was called to order at 10 am by Don Malmberg since the Litwineics could not attend. Introductions all around. Minutes from the 06/08/10 meeting were reviewed, Sharon moved and Brian seconded that they be approved as written. Treasurer's report was given by Tammy S., Sharon moved and Sylvia seconded that it be approved as well.

Health Dept: Andy and Jim reported that they had a very successful PACE meeting at DS Methodist Church at which they had 20 attendees. The next community cleanup is scheduled for October 23, 2010. This Saturday morning cleanup is being coordinated by Volusia County. The group will meet at DeLeon Springs State Park, and there will be free admission to the park after the cleanup for all the workers. Jim has also been talking with Jim Ayles, the Utility Director of the City of DeLand. Mr. Ayles can come meet with our group next month to discuss how DS might get central water and/or sewer systems along Hwy 17. This topic generated much discussion as to pros and cons of central systems, utility bills, redevelopment potential of property, funding sources, and so on. Some of the points made were as follows: in order for properties along Hwy 17 to be able to be developed according to current codes when they change hands, many do not have enough property to locate a well and a septic without being too close together. This means that the properties are either not developable and will fall into disrepair or have to be granted a variance. Some felt that obtaining a variance is becoming increasingly difficult. In terms of building infrastructure, a water system is cheaper/easier to build, but a sewer system is more important to allow for redevelopment and avoid runoff into the springs basin. New laws and regulations will increasingly limit septic systems near springs. Individual wells are less problematic than individual septic tanks for this reason. The group does not have a consensus of what they want at this time beyond an agreement to gain more information beginning with the next meeting.

River of Lakes: Laura presented a bicycle map which was developed by Volusia County MPO(transportation planning) which includes several bicycle routes right through DeLeon Springs including one down Reynolds Rd. The county and the trails groups are promoting bicycle tourism. There is a need for bicycle repair stops in almost every area of West Volusia except downtown DeLand. The maps are available at our meeting space and more copies can be obtained from Volusia County MPO which is in Daytona Beach.

Business Survey: Tammy led the group through a business needs/interest survey modeled on the one used by DeLand Chamber of Commerce. The group liked the idea of meeting in each business so that we can learn more about what each of us has to offer. Sylvia Crump invited the group to come to VoLaSalle Farms on Farm City Day which is the Friday before Thanksgiving, November 19, 2010. She said they would have an open house and tours that day. Other businesses may want to host the group during

the day or after hours as they prefer. Everyone is encouraged to invite the group to their business when they have time.

Membership Drive: Sharon wants to spearhead a membership drive, and Rose L. has indicated she wants to help with that too. Laura will work up a form that they can take around to prospective members.

Fundraising: The big idea for fundraising seems to be a flea market/yard sale on an ongoing or regular basis. Locations were discussed and the scope which would be attempted. Don and Bob Ford are going to look into the feasibility of the location near the Porter House for a permanent location.

Packing House: Don said there is a last effort to save the packing house, there will be a meeting at our space on Thursday at 1:30 with a potential buyer.

T-shirt reminder: Bob Brooks still has shirts for sale for \$18.

Meeting was adjourned at 11 am. Next meeting September 14, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Strawn
Secretary