

**Deleon Springs Merchants Association  
Minutes, January 12, 2010**

Present: Debra Barnard, Ginger Hancock(Health Dept), Don Malmborg, Tammy Schuler, Mary Smithwick, Bob Brooks, Laura Strawn, Sandy Ford, Genna Wangsness, Rose Litwineic, Bob Ford, Lenny Godwin.

Minutes were read and approved as written. Treasurer not present so report deferred until next meeting. All present introduced themselves.

CHRISTMAS-Don reported that the Christmas tree and Santa visit was a group effort and a success. Juan Mancilla from Cutting Edge Lawn Service brought a crew and trailer to help wrangle the tree. Wayne Smith and Bob Ford helped too. It was raining but they managed to get it placed. Carl Lupika played Santa in a new suit acquired from the Jaycees by Jenny Mero, who also assembled 250 candy bags. Micky Hiatt donated the location by his shop, and Bob Ford brought a manger scene for the site. Santa was visited by about 50 people! Leftover candy went Don said they have some ideas of how to improve the event next year. Many thanks to all who helped with this great event!

WEBSITE: NOW! Malcolm called and reported that individual businesses need to contact him with information for their pages on the website. If you do not know what to do, call Malcolm at 804-8404 and he will help you, or email him at [mking@harmonygardens.org](mailto:mking@harmonygardens.org). He has only received information from Hidden Valley so far and he can't contact the webmaster until he has content from the businesses. Remember, we have paid for developing a website and we should have one but Malcolm needs to hear from each of YOU!

LAKE WOODRUFF-Sunday, Jan 24, 1-3 pm.-Annual meeting of the Lake Woodruff NWR Friends group. Potluck but come anyway even if you don't bring a dish. Will be held at the DeLand Women's Club on Michigan Ave one block west of Stetson University. Program will be by Reptile Discovery Center in DeLand which is one of five sites in the US where they milk poisonous snakes for antivenom for use in hospitals. Everyone welcome to meet the friends of the NWF! Call Genna with questions 626-2492.

HEALTH DEPT.-Ginger Hancock from Volusia County Health Dept. is also working with Andy Natal and Jim Mcrae on the PACE project which has been surveying D.S. about public health problems here. They are planning a town meeting in DeLeon Springs soon, the date is to be announced. She would like to come back to our meetings and offers help with web knowledge and networking with other agencies. Her email is [Ginger\\_Hancock@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Ginger_Hancock@doh.state.fl.us) and her phones are office 386-736-5081 and mobile 386-547-6306, her office is in DeLand on Rich next to the county bldg.

WACHOVIA-Debra B. says that Wachovia is transitioning to become Wells Fargo and this should happen in the last half of 2010. This has kept her busy and unable to attend our meetings. She invited everyone to consider using their bank because under the new regime they cannot promote businesses which do not bank with them, and she would like to promote our businesses. Her bank is offering a community day on Friday, January 22, from 3-5 pm. The Citizens on Patrol program is going to be doing free fingerprinting for kids and families can sign up for a free child's savings account with as little as \$5.

RIVER OF LAKES- Community Visioning meeting will be at the DeLeon Springs Lions Club at 4949 Billings Ave (one block west of 17-92) on Monday, January 18 from 6:30-9:00 pm and also Tuesday, January 19 from 4-5:30 pm. Please come and bring your friends and neighbors so we can get some grant money spent in our town for signage and other improvements. Come learn more about your scenic highway. Call Laura 804-8592 or Don 717-5786 for more information. Sandy Ford has some ideas for developing a town square near the bank and perhaps leasing some land from the bank for this. It might include a clock, a waterfall, benches or other amenities, and a permanent tree for Christmas decorations. These will be presented to the design team.

TALK TO EACH OTHER! Laura would like everyone to share their ideas with the whole group or their events they need to publicize. Just hit "Reply All" right next to the "Reply" button at the top of this email and you can contact everyone in our group at once. Change the subject line if you want to and type in your message at the top.

Next meeting, January 26, 2010 at 10 am same location.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura Strawn  
Acting Secretary