

THE HAPPY WANDERERS WALKING CLUB, INC.
Business Meeting Minutes
Thursday November 5th, 2015 @ 6:30 PM

President John McClellan welcomed everybody and then called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m. 28 club members were present, constituting a Quorum. A roll call by Marie Priest/Secretary verified that all officers were present.

Secretary's Report: (Marie Priest) John (President) made a motion to accept the minutes of the last September's meeting. It was then 2nd.....All in Favor, the Motion Passed.

Treasurer's Report: (Barbara Anderson) The 2nd Quarter's opening balance was \$3,658.16. Ending balance on 10/31/15, was \$1,867.38. Walk participation was still low at the end of the first quarter (Sep 30th) with a total of 152 participants and continued to be low during October keeping the club's income level down. We should be seeing a bump as cooler weather sets in. Expenditures were up during October based on advances made for upcoming events, joining the Port Orange Chamber of Commerce and the online Meet-Up group along with an up-tick in printing costs for flyers for our various upcoming events through March of next year.

Money expended in advance in OCT for special events as payments/deposits are:

- Xmas Party VFW hall rental – \$205.00
- March 2016 Savannah Trip Bus deposit – \$1,725.00

These funds will be replenished back into our account as members sign up for activities.

Vice-President's Report: (Dan Spink) announced that the holiday foods drive would start collections this Sunday at the Ponce Inlet walk. Karen Duhstine (Membership Chair) will be sending out a flyer electronically to all members. Dan stated that cash donations were fine, and that anyone who wanted to donate by check would need to make it out to the Port Orange Presbyterian Church. Barbara (Treasurer) said that she would call the church to verify. Gloria (YRE Coordinator) added that Bob Allen would also be available to collect donations.

YRE Coordinator Report: (Gloria Pratt) As specific walk reminders: On November 14th, the walk is on a Saturday not the usual Sunday. The 12:30pm start is due to the scheduled tour of the Chocolate Factory and since it is a long walk, it will be done in reverse to assist those that might be carrying sweet purchases 😊 On December 6th, the Mt. Dora walk will be scheduled for 2pm and not the usual 1pm, to allow time to view the holiday light displays. As for the 2016 walk events, they are presently being updated.

Christmas Party – Joanne (Party Co-Chair) announced the party would be Friday December 18th from 7-10 p.m. at the Port Orange VFW. Last year it was such a successful event that the time was extended to 11pm, so we would consider doing the same this year, as we have 4 hours reserved. Gloria mentioned that the music may not be able to continue if the party continues to 11 p.m. John (President) stated that the bar would remain open. Checks can be mailed to the club's PO Box or handed off to Barbara (Treasurer.) The cost will likely be \$30.00 per member but has not been finalized yet. As an aid to getting the word out, Karen would be sending out the club's invitation via e-mail, or by regular mail for those members with no electronic availability.

Member-at-Large Report: (Robert Priest) We have 20 T-shirt orders to date. As a club, to get the reduced rate we would need to get at least 10 additional orders, and then we'll buy-in at 36 shirts and have a few on-hand for the Boutique as well. The shirts will be the club's prior blue with white logo color combination. For those members who are new, this shirt's look resembles the same club shirt from years ago. The price for members, are \$15 each or 2 for \$28. The men's shirts will come with a crew neck and the ladies with a V-neck style. To date, we are 60% there in meeting the minimum needed to be able to negotiate a reduced price. Once the first order is placed, we will then become established and be able to look at other items.

Club Volunteer(s) Reports:

Membership – The current membership count stands at 102, as verified by Karen Duhlstine (Membership Chair.) John felt that we were back to about where we were last year. A renewal notice will be sent out after Thanksgiving. Annual dues will remain at \$20 for a family, and \$15 for an individual. Checks can be mailed or handed to Barbara (Treasurer.)

Newsletter – Sheila McClellan announced that the deadline will be this weekend and in one week's time she will have it posted to the website. Robert (Member-at-Large) announced that he had two people/businesses that are interested in doing an advertisement/coupon in our newsletter. The concept would be a coupon representing their business whereby customers would be able to cut out and use for a discount.

Publicity – Mary-Ann Westbrook wanted all to know that our name was out there. Hometown News always tries its best to fit us in with news updates. The latest submission about the Surgeon General's view on walking to date had not been posted.

Property Managers – Russ and Barbara Anderson had still a few things to pick up for the upcoming Christmas party.

President's Report:

WAF 25: Great time was had by all! Saturday's two walks both broke 100 walkers which represented 25% more than last year's event. Other walks totaled 80+ which were in John's eyes still great numbers. Overall, the club ended up making about \$50. Next year's event will be the first weekend in November. It will be the 4th-6th over in Tampa and will be hosted by the Suncoast Sandpipers. The hotel contract has already been signed.

Veteran's Day "Torch" Walk: Next Wednesday night will be the club's traditional Veteran's Day walk in Port Orange at 6 p.m. at the Lakeside Center. One major difference from last year was the inclusion of the torches for the start of the walk. For those interested the VFW will be holding their normal ceremony at 10 a.m. John had flyers present for those who might be interested. As for our club's walk, John stated that we still needed leaders for each of the 5 and 10km walks. Russ (Property Manager) encouraged members to carry flashlights and or wear reflective clothing. Gloria (YRE Coordinator) also asked that members bring such to the club's Wednesday evening walks in the winter months.

Meetup.com and Facebook: John wanted all to know that the new social media site is continually active for various clubs. Our club has gained 15-18 new walkers from which all have come from the recent connection. Presently we are paying \$10 monthly for the first 50 people and to date, we are already over 50 people. As for Facebook, we have 2 different pages. A public organization group and a discussion group. The latter will be officially be taken down this weekend. A decision has been made that the club's official website and meetup.com will be the two that will remain as it takes a lot of time to keep them up to date on a constant basis.

2016 HW 25th Anniversary Year / 25th Anniversary Luncheon: Former Co-Presidents Alan & Elaine Brayton are heading the committee for a luncheon next year to be held on Feb 28th at 1 p.m. Club members are being asked to bring all photo albums and memorabilia. More on this at the next meeting in January.

Special HW Program Book Orders & Stamp: The book price will be \$6 and be sold starting next year thru 6/30/16 to just our club members. For each member to complete 25 walks during the anniversary year, a

special stamp for those walks has been designed and purchased. The club member's prize for completing the book of 25 walks will be a visor that matches our new club T-shirts.

Bus Trip to Savannah-March 11th-13th: "Since the club has not done one in a while and Sheila and I have run bus trips before as "Trip Captains", the weekend should be a fun one." The deposit for the trip is \$50 per person or \$100 couple. We need at least 40 participants to make the trip a "Go." The fee will be totally refundable up until 3 days prior of departure. There will be a total of 3 walks. The bus will pick up in Orlando and for our club, here locally. We have invited other clubs. The club will spend 2 nights in Savannah, Georgia. The hotel which has a shuttle which travels to and from the hotel to downtown 4-5 times nightly is just a few miles from the visitor's center. It will provide breakfast and wi-fi. We have set aside 24 rooms at \$125 nightly (plus taxes), which is also refundable. The group dinner is being worked on presently. We would go up Friday, Saturday afternoon we would be in Beauford, SC and Sunday on our way home we would stop at St. Mary's. There is a lot to see on this trip. Some walkers might decide to avoid the 2nd walk altogether and spend the day in Savannah. It is our walk, and it's been a long time since our club has been back visiting.

Next Year Walks: Our New Year's Eve walk will be at 2:00 p.m. at the Adult Center on Rte 1 / Ridgewood Ave, along the Halifax downtown area in Port Orange. The Mid Florida Milers will be having their walk on New Year's Day at the same location in Orlando, the Ale House in Downtown Disney.

MLK Weekend-Jan 15th-18th: First Coast Trail Forgers will be at Ferdinando Beach.

President's Weekend-Feb 12th-15th: The host club in Panama City will have this walk.

Palatka's (Hanging Gardens) Walk-Sunday, 6th of March: Will be the week before our Savannah trip.

Daytona ½ Marathon (21km): They will also have a 5k walk on the same track. Club is thinking about sanctioning it. John (President) asked if there was any interest in doing so – there was not much interest from the members assembled.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The club wanted to take the time to welcome any new members.

Dinner after the present meeting, all were invited to gather at the Tomoka Brewing Company.

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 7th, 2016 @ 6:30pm

Motion to Adjourn: All in favor. Motion Passed. Meeting Adjourned at 7:20 PM.

THE HAPPY WANDERERS WALKING CLUB, INC.
Business Meeting Minutes
Thursday September 3rd, 2015 @ 6:30 PM

A big welcome was given club President John McClellan. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. There were 18 members present, so a Quorum was established. (Minimum currently is 10 members.) A roll call by Marie Priest, Secretary verified that all officers were present.

Secretary's Report: John made a motion to accept the minutes of the 2 July meeting, 2d by Bill Ellis. All in Favor, the Motion Passed.

Treasurer's Report: (Barbara Anderson) The 1st Quarter 2015/2016 fiscal year's opening balance was \$4,605. July's Income of \$148 consisted of YRE's, Specialties, Walk Books and New Members. July's Expenses of \$215 consisted of Storage Rental, Printing/Postage and AVA fees for June's Enterprise walk. Overall Net Loss was \$67. August's Income was \$360, which consisted of YRE's, Specialties, Walk Books, and New Members. August's Expenses totaled \$1,174, of which represented Storage Rental, Printing/Postage, AVA Charter Dues (an annual fee for the 12 walks we have), AVA YRE Sanction fee, Annual donation to Presbyterian Church and Liability Insurance. August Net Loss totaled \$814. The Overall Ending Balance for the first 2 months of the club's fiscal year totaled \$3,723. Overall, Barbara felt that the decrease in revenue from walks was largely due to the heat limiting the number of walkers as is usually the case this time of year.

Vice-President's Report: Dan Spink brought up the annual food donation event our club supports during the fall, and that the club has been involved in this for the past 6-7 years. Barbara and Russ Anderson who are parishioners of the Presbyterian Church assist in getting all collections to the right key contacts. Both food and monetary donations are accepted. The church carefully gets the names of key families from the local Silver Sands Middle School who are felt to benefit most from key assistance. Dan then asked the present membership if they felt the club should do anything additional. Marianne Gray commented that based on what we have been able to accomplish, she felt that the club was doing enough and at the same time also supporting the church. This she felt was a gesture of heartfelt thanks for allowing the club to continue to use their premises for the club's membership meeting gatherings. Bill Ellis then spoke up and stated that he felt that it was a good solid program. Member Jim Leitch also felt that those families at the Silver Sands Middle School were families in need. Gloria Pratt felt that the sooner the club started this agenda, the better the overall results would be. President John McClellan stated that Russ Anderson was in the church this evening and that he would try to catch him before he left the building. Dan as an end to the discussion spoke up about starting the process now to be able to make the Thanksgiving agenda. He motioned as such, and 2nd by Jim Leitch. All in favor. Motion Passed.

YRE Coordinator Report: Gloria Pratt stated that all the club's 12 walks had been sanctioned, and that she is working on "special programs" for those walks. So far 10 of our walks presently qualify for one program or another. In addition, she wanted all to know that new ones can be created. For example, if we have a walk in a city park, that will qualify as one. John explained how the AVA is presently working to curtail the number Special Programs in the future to make this job easier for the clubs. (There is agreement across the country that the AVA now have too many.) As for the YRE walks for Christmas, Dec. 6th in Mt. Dora and 20th in St. Augustine have been scheduled. Gloria asked for approval on the proposed last quarter walks. John said, "Yes" and went on to state that the Oct., Nov., and Dec. schedule could also be released on the website. John asked about the need for a POC for the club's Mt. Dora walk. The walk box is located at the Lakeside Inn. Gloria reviewed the basic duties – quarterly, the POC (Point of Contact) must send in the log sheets and turn in the money. The POC should also always be at that location during each scheduled walk there.

Gloria again as a reminder stated that the club gathers reward points at Office Depot/Office Max. Any purchases club members make, can be used as points for the club to use as credits towards for example,

printing needs. A member can give the sales associate Gloria's or Bill's phone number, or Gloria can upload the receipt if provided to her.

Member-at-Large Report: Regarding the club's shirts, Robert Priest announced that there were order sheets on each table. Facts were (1) that the shirt consisted of a wicking material, (2) the light blue color was the closest the company had to the turquoise color some of the club's members requested, and (3) going with a white logo would save money. He then passed around one that represented a mock-up of what it would look like. If interested, all a member has to do would be to attach funds (cash or check) to the form and give it to the club's Treasurer Barbara Anderson. The price is \$15 for one or \$28 for two. The club would need to order at least 24 shirts to secure that price. The price can go up or down and they (the company) could also change manufacturers without notice. Either way Robert stated, "The present price gives the club a margin." In his view, he felt the price was very reasonable. John said that as soon as the minimum number was reached, the order would go in. Both crew and V-neck styles were available, but 24 of each type would need to be ordered. The plan is to try to have our 1st order back by Thanksgiving. T-shirts will be brought to the walks and as a second attempt, calls could be made. Vice President Dan Spink thought maybe we could put the order form on the club's website. David McCarthy stated that he could do that only if it was sent in a PDF format.

Website Report: David McCarthy wanted all to know that the website is now officially a year old. New to the website last month is a tracking system that will give the club totals on the numbers of hits recorded. The biggest day so far has been 103 hits. Last month's total was 1,255. As a reminder, on Google our club is the first name listed – indicating that our site is heavily used. David wanted the membership to feel free to explore to their heart's content. "You can't break anything," he said. David then continued by giving a Power Point presentation of the website and its main areas of importance. The presentation was well received by all in attendance.

President's Report:

All Aboard Storage Room: John McClellan stated we were moving to 25 less sq. footage (from 100 to 75) and this would save the club \$159 for the next 12 months. The new storage room is also better because the layout includes a full-size garage door that faces the street. He then asked for assistance for this Saturday's move at 9 AM. Gary, Robert, Russ, and Jim volunteered. Barbara, Treasurer said that after all the research she did in when trying to find a better situation for the club's storage need found that All Aboard Storage owned most of the storage facilities in the area.

WAF 25: Regarding volunteers, the WAF Committee is ready for the sign-up to begin. John wanted the membership to remember to look for a slot to sign up to help on our walk which would be the Saturday AM walk. John himself did the trail and our club is responsible for the lunch. The food will be catered but we still need at least 4 people to monitor lunch (self-serving) during the event to ensure we don't run out of food!

VETERAN'S DAY "TORCH" WALK: The club's next traditional walk is the Veteran's Day walk at the Port Orange City Center. We plan to use the outdoor porch of the Lakeside Community Center, around the lake from the Library, next to the amphitheater. John proposed a special exception to the regular \$3.00 fee to allow Veterans to walk for free at this event. A quick count showed that all present members were in favor of the idea. He added by stating that he was already talking to the VFW and Team RWB. John explained that the "Torch" would consist of more like a small candle to carry as each participant walked along the pond to the Memorial area. Ideas on what should take place as a tribute at the Memorial site were discussed; (1) To get a wreath, (2) To ask MaryAnn Westbrook to recite a poem [NOTE: since the meeting, MaryAnn has indicated that she can NOT attend], and to have anyone present step forward with words of remembrance for a family member or person close to them who served. The wreath seemed not to be a popular idea since in the past it did get quite expensive for the club and it seemed to consistently be taken down by the city within a short time afterwards. John said that the flyer for the event would be completed within 2-3 weeks. He also stated that a permit was pending, but that the club would not be charged. John also thought that a small sign-up of 6-8 people would be needed for misc. tasks at Registration, but that no food will be served.

2015 CHRISTMAS PARTY: There were several main things to consider for this year's holiday event: (1) The VFW's banquet room, (2) the food, and (3) the music. If all present had no exceptions to having it again at the VFW, John said that the 19th was still open. A quick count showed that all present members

were in favor of the idea, thus Sheila McClellan gave the motion to save the date, and reserve the VFW hall. Barbara Anderson 2d. All in favor, the motion passed. Next point was that the catered food was great last year but that a committee chairperson was a definite need. With no hesitation, Bill Ellis raised his hand and said yes! Barbara Anderson looking back on her POC experience last year pointed out that (1) gifts were given out, (2) that DJ's book up quickly, and (3) a deposit would be needed for the VFW. As for the ticket price last year it was \$30 John stated, but unfortunately there were members who felt it was too high. When started, the evening was considered a "thank you" for the volunteers. In comparison though John mentioned that this year's AVA "mixer" at the Convention was \$55 and only consisted of hors d'oeuvres. Gloria Pratt questioned the music last year and volunteered to secure the Karaoke couple who did the event the year before last.

2016 HAPPY WANDERERS 25TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR: John proposed several programs in honor of the club's anniversary year and asked about holding an anniversary event. Questions that would need to be answered would be, (1) where to walk, (2) the after party and a possible lunch/dinner, (3) how to go about inviting former/retired members and (4) the need to be able to organize the club's path of past history for a viewing pleasure. There would need to be a committee formed. Gloria Pratt added that the 20th anniversary was held in Pierson in September or October.

Already in the works per John was the following:

...A Special Program Book and Prize (25 Walks = Special stamp)

...Possible Bus Trip to Savannah

...Swim (YRE) and Bike Event

...Joining the Chamber of Commerce

...Joining Meet-up.com

...New Club Apparel

John informed everybody that the Special Anniversary Walk Books could be ordered now for \$6.00 and that order forms were on each of the tables. The books were ready to go as John had the template on his computer. In addition, the prize would be a visor that matches the new T-shirts and only those doing the 25 walks (sanctioned and fun walks) would get one.

As for the trip to Savannah John informed all that he was communication with the First Coast Trail Forgers and a Travel Agency who was working on coming up with various bids. Concept is a 2-night, 3-day excursion. He would like to have 1 walk on Friday, 2 on Saturday with one in the AM, another in the afternoon and have a dinner on the 2nd night. He is planning to secure a Coach Line that would comfortably fit 40 people and pick up in Orlando and pick up Friday AM. As far as taking a bus goes, John said he would be carefully checking out the reviews. The estimated trip costs to date are the following: Single: \$225 – 325 and Couples: \$325 – \$450 Anything else would be at your own expense. We would need 20 people from our club alone and 40 people in total (HW =20, MFM=10 and FCTF=10), otherwise the expense would not make it doable. Member Jim Leitch commented on being able to do 2 walks in Savannah. As a club John mentioned that we would need to come up with the 2nd walk. As for the date, John was looking into March 11th-13th. He also let everybody know that he was working on having a pickup in Daytona. Concerns about the Ocean Center were present. Member Linda Ellis thought Walmart would be fine. Barbara Anderson asked about driving up yourself. John answered by stating that staying as a group is more fun. Jim thought having a pick-up at the VFW might be a good idea since it stayed lighted in the back. Barbara mentioned that Beaufort, SC might be a good Saturday afternoon walk choice. John ended the conversation by letting everyone know he wanted to get the ball rolling.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The club received some good press coverage – The Ormond Beach Observer had the Happy Wanderers in their last issue.

Next Membership Meeting – Thursday November 5th at 6:30 PM

Dinner afterwards at the Tomoka Brewing Company.

Motion to Adjourn – John gave the Motion to Adjourn. It was second by Sheila McClellan. All in favor. Motion Passed. Meeting Adjourned at 8:10 PM.

THE HAPPY WANDERERS WALKING CLUB, INC.
Business Meeting Minutes
Thursday July 2nd, 2015 @ 6:30 PM

A friendly "Welcome" was given as the meeting* was called to Order at 6:30 p.m. by the new club President, John McClellan. There were 15 members present.

(Location of the meeting room was moved to the Fellowship Room, to utilize the computerized screen projection for a power point presentation. This room featured numerous large round tables with copies of the agenda and various other handouts provided on each.)

A quick roll call of the officers was noted by Marie Priest, Secretary. All 6 officers were present.

Bill Ellis, the club's former President, announced the New Slate of Elected Officers for the 2015-2017 Term. They were then officially sworn-in as follows:

President: John McClellan

Vice-President: Daniel Spink

Treasurer: Barbara Anderson

Secretary: Marie Priest

Bill went on to mention how John and his wife Sheila were Life Members of the AVA and that John had to date posted over 650 Events and 8,000 Km since 1999. Officially, it was then that the gavel was passed from one president to another.

John then presented well-deserved special recognition to Bill and Linda Ellis. A big "thank you" was given in recognition of Bill's service for 14 consecutive years as Vice-President and most recently President.

The AVA Meritorious Service Award cited Bill's significant contributions, describing him as a great Ambassador for Volkssporting. The award included an honorary AVA patch and pin. John continued by recognizing Linda (who could not be present) who was always by Bill's side or in the background, supporting the club beyond measure through thick and thin. Flowers were presented to Bill for Linda with the sincerest appreciation and thanks for all her support of the club during this time.

Secretary's Report: A motion to accept the minutes of the May 7th meeting was made by VP Dan Spink and seconded by Sheila McClellan. Motion Passed.

Treasurer's Report: Overall for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 2015 the club did well. It started with \$4,304 on July 1st and ended with \$4,605, a net gain of \$301 dollars. Although the club was impacted by an increase in the rental fees for our storage locker, a liability insurance increase of 50% and a slight drop in membership renewals we still managed to come out ahead due mainly to the increased participation at our walks from both our membership and visitors. Keeping other expenses to a minimum such as printing and misc. office supplies also helped us stay in the black thanks to Gloria's initiative in setting up an account with Office Depot.

Vice-President's Report: Reported was that the Wednesday walks were continuing to have good attendance. They were averaging 20-21 walkers. A nice addition was the fact that new walkers were checking us out.

YRE Coordinator Report: Re-sanctioning of current YRE's before the end of August. There is talk about adding a walk, but it has not been decided yet. Hot walks during summertime have an 8:00 a.m. start time except for Cocoa Beach, Mt. Dora, and St. Augustine, which are at 9 a.m. A new POC will be needed for the Mt. Dora YRE next year. The newsletter will have a posting regarding the position opening. John interjected by mentioning that overall, several POC positions were in transition. Also, the July and August calendars had been posted. As a note to the walk in New Smyrna Beach, parking is now at the south end of Riverside Park. Gloria would be sending David the club's Webmaster that information to post. John then asked Gloria how we as a club get the rewards from Office Depot that are contributed. Gloria responded by stating that we can go on-line to donate those credits from purchases. She wanted all to know that they will not key them in at the register.

Member-at-Large Report (Robert Priest): “Apparel Options”- Robert passed around one club shirt option as he explained the research path that was taken. John mentioned how the recent AVA Conventions also had a “Volunteers” shirt version that were nice quality. The options would be the following: To have 1 or 2 basic club shirts; one of which would be either a basic size measure for Men or Ladies and as a second option, to have a polo shirt. As for the color decisions, Robert stated that we were not ready to discuss those options. Lois Shannon asked if the “Volunteer” shirts would be free or have a price? John replied that volunteers at the Convention got theirs for free, and he would like to go that way if possible. Robert stated that as a volunteer the shirt could be free but that we could also sell that very same shirt to members at a reduced price. As for the ordering process, Robert stated that it would all take place on-line and that members could re-order as many times as they wanted. Lois mentioned that she could see members getting excited about the new shirts. She continued by saying that as the shirts are seen it would cause more people to want them. Members were impressed with the quality of the sample “wicking shirt” that was passed around. As a funny, Robert showed the membership some of the other items available from the same vendor. Members were very amused as he demonstrated a pen that had a pull-out note paper slot. John ended the topic by asking that we allow that same shirt to be brought to various walks to spread the word of what was in the works.

Membership Report: Karen could not be present, so John reported on her behalf. There are currently 90 club members.

Website Report (David McCarthy): WAF flyer is now on the website. Also, the contact form can now be filled out on-line with a copy going automatically to the President and Vice-President. The new Note from the President will now include a thank you to all volunteers and a welcome to new visitors. It will also include tidbits from the membership meetings.

Newsletter Report (Sheila McClellan): Sheila wanted the membership to know that the submissions deadline for the next newsletter will be Monday July 6th.

Publicity Report (Mary-Ann Westbrook): As free advertising, the Pennysaver only publishes for our club when they have the room. Some issues might publish nothing while others might have up to 5 items in it about us. The Hometown News in contrast will publish 2 times a year for us and they usually want 6 months in advance. To avoid any confusion with last minute changes, we only give them 2 months. In addition, they might only post a walk in one town. Other papers will usually do their best to get us in. John wanted the membership to know that Mary-Ann had just received a beautiful glass trophy for being named, Citizen of the Year. The membership acknowledged this accomplishment with a round of applause.

Property Managers Report (Russ and Barbara Anderson): No report.

Trail Master Report: Larry Middleton was not present. John mentioned that presently the immediate task he was working on was the Saturday morning trail for the WAF25. A note was also made on determining the present construction status regarding the YRE in Palm Coast.

President’s Report:

June 6th Walk AAR – The club made a profit, there were 14 volunteers and the sign-up on the website worked great! Overall, he felt there were positives and negatives to learn from and that overall it was a good event. He appreciated all the support. Mary-Ann mentioned on how there was another event going on that same weekend.

Baseball Game (Marianne Gray): Marianne wanted all to know that the event had a great turnout. In conclusion, the feedback proved that everybody had a good time.

AVA Convention Results – John presented a summary of the major outcomes of the Bi-annual National Convention: The President won re-election. The Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary ran unopposed. The next convention will be held in Billings, Montana which defeated Albany, NY's bid in a vote. Several By-law changes were made, and a new position of Deputy Regional Director was approved. John is currently a candidate for this position in the SE Region. A consulting firm was hired to help the AVA and the new Executive Director Henry Rosales formulate a Strategic Plan for the AVA's future.

WAF 25 – The registration flyer is on the website and there were registration forms on the back table. Once filled out and with payment in hand he asked that all those interested in attending, mail, or hand to Treasurer Barbara Anderson. He continued by stating that the event will need approximately 14-15 volunteers per club. There will be online Registration for volunteers available in a few weeks.

Planned Workshop – On August 8th, the Executive Committee will be meeting. It will start in the morning at approximately 9:00 AM. There will be a lot to discuss and members are welcome.

Miscellaneous:

John added by mentioning that in addition at the back table he had placed copies of walk flyers on each table for members to post in their local areas. He felt it would be a good avenue for our club to get the word out and welcome new members. His presentation included "5 Places" to Start: Your HOA, Church, Library, Gym, and any Other Club.

Gloria reminded everyone of the need for a Specialties Coordinator. Marianne Gray stated that she knew someone (Maureen Higgins) that may be interested in doing it in a co-position with her assistance but that presently she is out of town for 2 weeks. They have agreed that upon her return they promised to get together to discuss the details on the joint volunteer venture.

Sheila McClellan motioned to adjourn the meeting. Motion was 2nd by Marianne Gray. Motion passed.

Meeting was then adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

THE HAPPY WANDERERS WALKING CLUB, INC.
Business Meeting Minutes
Thursday May 7th, 2015 @ 6:30 PM

Meeting was called to Order at 6:30 pm...

Roll Call of Officers was taken

New Members Present were Welcomed

Minutes from January 8th membership meeting it was acknowledged were on the website. Per Dan Spink/Vice-President, one correction was needed. Under New Business the date for Hontoon Island needs to be changed to the later decided date of April 11th. The motion to approve was then given by Marianne Gray and second by Sheila McClellan. All was in favor; approval was given.

Vice-President's Report: Dan Spink (Taken from a pre-typed self-report)

FLORIDA VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION UPDATE-DAN SPINK OUR FVA DELEGATE

On April 25th, 2015 Bill Ellis and I arrived at the park in Fernandina Beach north of Jacksonville by 10:40 where a brisk wind was coming off the Atlantic Beach through a well-placed gap in the sand dunes! The tablecloths placed for our upcoming lunch were like horizontal flags waving in the breeze! The corners were held in place by various food containers and the center was raised as the breeze worked its way upward between the widely spaced boards of the tabletop! It was reminiscent of our November meeting as the wind howled! ...Now for some serious facts and small points of humor! All but one of the eight FVA clubs was represented at the meeting. So...that was a good turnout. Maxine, the FVA president opened the meeting with the Treasurers report showing a net increase of about \$500. That was a positive sign. Cooperation between clubs on several walks, ex. Happy Wanderers and Mid-Florida Milers were sited. Another positive sign. A report of the nominations committee was given showing a full slate of officers. Mostly new! The exception being Bev, who would continue as Treasurer and coordinator of the Florida State Park Walks. That given, Maxine moved on to the subject of dissolving the FVA. She reported her concern regarding the dissolving of the FVA by stating many generalities as to the merits of the FVA and its possibilities in the future. She then opened the floor to comments. She noted the Happy Wanderers had a committee to investigate the future of the FVA and looked directly at me! So.....I summarized that the HW had a committee of 4 who met several times for many hours and had put out numerous emails to all the clubs and the FVA leadership with very few responses. We were looking for an indication from the clubs that there was enough interest to have the FVA continue and to gather ideas for implementing those ideas and goals. I indicated there was not enough for the committee to recommend the continuation of the FVA and therefore would vote for dissolving the FVA. I then asked in general to all present, 15 total. Any opinions for or against?" There was a discussion on both sides for and against that went on for about 25 minutes. Most all present agreed it is difficult to get input from e-mails, phone calls etc. Even though some agreed they would like to see the FVA continue, there was a doubtful atmosphere. About that time the wind was picking up, the skies darkening, and a few raindrops landed upon the waving tablecloth! A sign from Mother Nature? Time will tell! As I was about to call the motion, Maxine stated, "I would like to propose the continuation of the FVA for 2 years to give the new officers time to get the FVA going and show what it can do for the clubs....", BTW, there were enough votes to support Bev's motion.....I immediately interjected, "I want to change Maxine's motion by having the new officers at the next FVA meeting, October 24 during Walk Around Florida, be required to present short term goals, a plan to implement them, and what the suggestions will be for the clubs to support the goals and implementation." The motion for dissolving the FVA will again be presented for a vote based upon the report. After a bit of discussion and noting that new officers do not take office until July 1st, it was agreed the newly elected officers will start immediately as a committee to work with the current officers to create the goal etc..... The motion for FVA continuation until Walk Around Florida in October passed. Also, the slate of new officers was elected and hopefully is working on their charge! So, there you have it! I opened my big mouth again to stop a 2-year time span for the FVA, and reduced it to 6 months where it will either fly as the tablecloths or sink as a pebble in the ocean! I voted in favor of the 6-month extension because I

made the alternative motion as a worthy alternative. I felt it was the best compromise. Only Mid-Florida Milers voted against. We will see what happens. The new officers will be contacting, the HW FVA committee and other clubs for ideas. I feel we have plenty of "ideas" in our notes from our HW FVA meetings to supply them with things to think about! The HW FVA committee will continue to provide new ideas and reactions to the input from FVA officers during the months leading up to Walk Around Florida. John McClellan/Trail Master and newly elected HW President noted that the recently elected FVA officers were also all long-time walkers.

Treasurer's Report: Barbara Anderson (Taken from a pre-typed self-report)

As reported at our last meeting on March 5th, our 3rd Quarter ended with a net gain of \$640.99 and for the 4th Quarter the club opened with a balance of \$4,658.62.

April had income of \$449.00 and expenses of \$173.56 for a net gain of \$275.44.

Income consisted of walk fees, new members, and specialties sales.

Expenses consisted of postage, printing costs and AVA walk sanction fees (upcoming Green Cove walk) and fees due AVA for our walk in DeLeon Springs.

Our expense for the club's storage locker saw an increase in the monthly rate by \$9.00 effective April 1st. The club now pays \$92.07 per month for the rental fee. The increase was due to mandatory insurance that is levied on each rented storage unit by our storage provider.

On May 5th we joined with other walking clubs within AVA and contributed \$25.00 to The Big Give.

Note – Great walk participation for our YRE's for the first quarter which ended 3/31/15.

We had a total of 533 walkers. Out of these walkers, 346 walked for credit and 187 for non-credit. Two were new members using their free walker coupons. After paying AVA our walk fees for the 533 walkers, the quarterly fee for our 12 YRE's and four of our POC's waling free on their respective walks, the club had a monetary gain of \$832.75.

St. Augustine led the group with the highest number of walkers – 76.

Savannah came in second with 54, and Deland third with 51.

Barbara ended with the following notes: Specialty sales at the DeLeon Springs walk were good!

There was an increase for insurance purposes at the club's storage location. Overall the 1st quarter was very good.....consisting of good gains on just our walks! A motion was given by John McClellan and then second by Marianne Gray to approve. All was in favor; approval was given.

Bill Ellis/President wanted all to know more about the FVA's Big Give. The goal was to raise \$30,000 of which would end up being matched if met. John McClellan continued by stating that they were \$5,000 short but as of the last update ended up surpassing the set goal. As to what to do with the \$60,000 plus funds, it will be brought up and discussed in detail at the next convention and then voted on.

YRE Walk Coordinator's Report: Gloria Pratt (Taken from a pre-typed self-report)

On March 15th about 21 Happy Wanderers participated in the First Coast Trail Forgers, Washington Oaks State Park event in Palm Coast.

Happy to report last print expenses for the YRE walk boxes totaling \$53.40 were reduced to \$13.96 with use of our HW business account.

I have had contact with the NSB City Manager's office about the proposed parking fees at NSB ocean front parks and any impact on fun walks and other events we may schedule. Larry Middleton attended the April 4th city commission meeting and furnished Bill Ellis and me the following information:

Fees for the four affected parks will be in effect from 9 AM to 5 PM

All Volusia County residents will park free...however

Volusia County residents will be required to apply for a park pass so their cars can be properly identified and not be subject to the \$10 daily fee. The City Manager is responsible for working out the details of the administration of passes for county residents.

The Brannon Center is now nearing actual demolition and the area has been fenced off. Larry Middleton, as NSB YRE POC, will be aware when a revision to the 11k walk directions is required.

On Saturday, August 29th at 6 PM we will once again have a sunset/moonrise walk. The Start Point will be at the 27th Avenue Park in NSB. Larry Middleton is the POC. Sanction application is in process. I am hoping this will be a repeat of that held in June 2010 when the weather was exactly right and made for a very special night.

Mary-Ann Westbrook makes a great effort to get publicity out for our walks, and we thank her for that. Sometimes the papers print incorrect info. If there is any question, check the website. A few of our YREs (specifically, Daytona Beach and Ponce Inlet), when scheduled for a group walk, do not start at the 'official' start point because of parking restrictions. In those cases, the POCs bring the walk box to the alternate start point site. Therefore, the walk direction has to be altered. An alternate 6k for the Ponce Inlet YRE has been written for use when starting from the Winter Haven Park location. That walk held on Sunday, May 3rd, was used to participate in AVAs 2nd annual World Walking Day. A special slug was received and placed on the stamp and certificates were ordered to commemorate the event. There were about 21 participants
John McClellan stated that there was a large group there of which from Ohio alone there were 38 walkers. Per Bill Ellis, World Walking Day Certificates that had been ordered had come in and he asked who present has previously inquired about wanting one of which he then proceeded to hand out. Bill wanted to clarify that the new daily \$10 parking fee in New Smyrna Beach would only affect our Flagler Avenue Park on 27th Avenue and specifically that it would not affect us due to the time slot we usually walk.

Co-Member-at-Large Report: Bob Allen

Bob wanted to thank both Bill and Linda Ellis for taking care of Specialties and commented on the great job!

Bill Ellis mentioned that long-time Member-at-Large was retiring (after 5 long years) from the position and that would be happy to review all the details with regard to promoting the sale of the club's inventory and the purchasing of such. The Name Tags responsibility Bob stated he will continue to do. Bill Ellis wanted anybody interested in taking over to contact him or John McClellan.

Club Newsletter: Sheila McClellan

Sheila wanted to thank Karen Duhlstine for e-mailing a note out to the members about the 1st Official Newsletter. Again, a reminder went out to feel free to contact her for any thoughts and or ideas for submission to: sheila.mcclellan@cfl.rr.com

Trail Master Report: John McClellan

John stated that the next Special Event (a 5 and 10K walk) which was also a National Trails Day Walk was set for Saturday, June 6th from 8-11am at Green Springs Park. He wanted the membership to understand the time spread is so that walkers can arrive at different times and walkers do not need to walk together as a group. In addition to that day, John in honor of the Anniversary of D-Day and as a member of the local VFW will have Red Poppies and a donation on a volunteer basis. On the membership's website under calendar, there is a sign-up for the walk lunch and the count will help in the correct purchase of the sandwiches for the \$5.00 lunch. No decision has been made yet as to Subway or Publix for them. Also, further down will be a volunteer sign-up for salads and desserts. These items will be for our club members only. Most important was the present need for a Food Committee.

President's Report: Bill Ellis

Noted were the following:

There were 3 new members in the past 2 months. The Executive Committee has decided that we will not post all members data in the web.

The October WAF October 23-25 in Gainesville, the Happy Wanderers club has the responsibility of one walk and one Saturday lunch. We are still in need of a food committee to plan that lunch on Saturday the 24th. To date we need to finalize details and the relative cost of \$7.00 per person by June 4th. As for the place, a BBQ place and phone number has become a place of interest.

Bill started by stating that the Hontoon Walk was a great day! Food & All!!!

He again mentioned that tonight's membership had in attendance, 3 of the 5 new members.

As to the member's personal information being on the club's website, the Executive Committee voted not to make it available to all members. He reminded that for members who needed to contact another member, contacting an officer would be the best solution.

The WAF in October is still in need of support. As for the walk itself, John McClellan our Trail Master has completed that. Bill again wanted to remind how particularly important it was that a food committee be

formed to aid in the handling of the steps needed to secure the food responsibility our club has committed to take care of. John McClellan suggested that the local BBQ place be contacted to cater the event. He stated that this and the brochure need to be done by June 4th. Long-time member Violet Smano sadly passed 2 weeks ago and a card of sympathy went out on the club's behalf. Her son lives in New Smyrna Beach.

OTHER ITEMS:

Baseball Game Coordinator: Marianne Gray (Taken from a pre-typed self-report)

Once again, the HAPPY WANDERERS will have a fun night out. After many requests, YES, on Friday June 12th it will be a Picnic and a Ball Game.

The Picnic starts at 5:30 PM and the game starts at 7:05 with the Daytona Tortugas playing the Tampa Yankees at Jackie Robinson Ball Park on City Island in Daytona Beach. The address is 105 E. Orange Ave.

The Picnic will be catered by Dustin's and consists of hot dogs, hamburgers, pulled port, baked beans, potato salad, green salad, and peanuts. Choice of beverages is soda or iced tea.

The price for the Picnic and game is only \$17.00. Checks should be made out to Marianne Gray and sent to 57 Lazy Eight Drive Port Orange, FL 32128. Contact numbers with questions for Marianne is Home: 788-1886 & Cell 299-5322

Deadline for reservations is June 1st. Tickets can be picked up on the day of the game at the "Will Call" table on Orange Ave. or at the East Entrance near the Tennis courts.

Marianne stated that to date 25 members have signed up of which 7 has paid the \$17.00 fee.

The on-line deadline is June 1st. All information is on the website.

Nomination Committee Chairman: Sheila McClellan Sheila positioned herself in front of the membership and proceeded to conduct the election for all officers' positions and 2 Member-at-Large positions. She also wanted to thank both Jim and Mary-Ann for the display.

The OFFICIAL OFFICERS POSITIONS WERE VOTED ON, VERIFIED AND THEN ANNOUNCED AS THE FOLLOWING (Position to become active officially July 1st, 2015):

PRESIDENT – JOHN MCCLELLAN

VICE-PRESIDENT – DAN SPINK

TREASURER – BARBARA ANDERSON

SECRETARY – MARIE PRIEST

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE – ROBERT PRIEST AND GLORIA PRATT

Bill congratulated the new and returning leadership of the Happy Wanderers Walking Club.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dan Spink wanted the membership to know that the name tags had been changed and the changes sent to Karen Duhlstine.

Bill Ellis then motioned to adjourn the meeting. It was 2nd by Barbara Anderson. All was in favor. Meeting was then adjourned... There were 24 members present.

THE HAPPY WANDERERS WALKING CLUB, INC.
Business Meeting Minutes
Thursday March 5th, 2015 @ 6:30 PM

Meeting was called to Order at 6:35 pm...

Roll Call of Officers was taken

Minutes from January 8th membership meeting it was acknowledged were on the website. Per Bill Ellis/President, no corrections were needed. They were then approved.

Vice-President's Report: Dan Spink (Taken from a pre-typed self-report)

The committee composed of members Dave Golden, John McClellan, Robert Priest and myself (Dan Spink) himself met several times in an effort to educate ourselves about the FVA and to gather information about its current status and potential.

Our discoveries were:

1. The FVA is not an active organization regarding its goal of:

*Coordinate the events and activities of member clubs: done online. Four clubs have web sites: Happy Wanderers, First Coast Trail Forgers, Mid-Florida Milers, and the Suncoast Sandpipers. Four clubs have no website: Emerald Coast, Pensacola, Perdido and the Meandering Manatees.

*Manage the "Walk Florida Parks" program: program is in rapid decline from 19 to 5 during the past several years.

*Conduct semiannual meetings: poor attendance by club's representatives.

2. After many attempts at communication with the FVA leadership and each of the other seven clubs in Florida via email, phone calls, and in person discussion, very little information was shared with our committee members.

Examples are:

A. Seeking information on each club's discussion, interest and needs of the FVA: I received a response from DJ Moore of the Emerald Coast Club. Rod Powell of the Perdido key Club indicated some interest but no one from the club will be attending the April FVA meeting. The other 5 clubs gave no response.

B. Seeking information from each club on their current membership numbers: I heard from the Happy Wanderers 79, Suncoast Sandpipers 140, and the First Coast Trail Forgers 50. Again, the other 5 clubs and the FVA had no response.

C. SERD, southeast regional director, response on needs of the FVA:

*minimize scheduling conflicts

*approval of sanctioned requests, then SERD rubber stamps it.

3. Based upon many hours of communication and attempted communications your HW-FVA committee is recommending to you the following two motions:

A. Dissolution of the FVA:

"Direct the Happy Wanderers' delegate, Daniel Spink, at the FVA meeting on April 25th to support the dissolution of the FVA in accordance with the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation."

2nd to the motion was then needed: It was given by Terry Kennedy

Discussion:

Amendments: None

Vote: No Nays-Present membership voted for dissolution

B. FVA Money distribution after final expenses:

Currently there is approximately \$3,500.00 in the FVA account. As stated earlier, a main purpose of the FVA has been to maintain the WFSP, Walk Florida State Parks program. In an effort to be able to continue these walks, your HW-FVA committee is proposing that any money the FVA has after final expenses, be used to promote the continuation of the 5 FVA State Park Walks. This could be done by having local clubs take ownership of the walks and give a one-fifth share of the money for each walk to the ownership club. The Happy Wanderers currently are the POC, point of contact, for two FVA State

Park Walks being Blue Springs and Hontoon. The Mid-Florida Milers has a POC for Wekiva. The two remaining WFSP walks are: Oscar Scherer, and Tallahassee.

Motion: "Direct the Happy Wanderers' delegate, Daniel Spink, at the FVA meeting on April 25th to propose any money left in the FVA account after final expenses be disbursed at the rate of one share out of five per "ownership" of a current FVA sponsored State Park Walk."

2nd to the motion needed: It was given by Dave Golden.

Discussion:

Amendments:

Vote: No Nays-The motion was passed

Treasurer's Report: Barbara Anderson (Taken from a pre-typed self-report)

3rd Quarter Opening Balance – \$4,017.63

Balance as of March 1st – \$4,566.73

2 month net gain of – \$549.10

January Income was \$390.00, Expenses \$85.39 for a gain of \$303.61

February Income was \$1,081.00, Expenses 836.51 for a gain of \$244.49

January and February Expenses consisted of AVA YRE walker fees, sanction fee for De Leon Springs Walk and Park Shelter rental, State of Florida tax, office supplies and postage and monthly storage unit rental fee.

January and February Income consisted of YRE walk fees, membership renewals, new members, and sales of pins, t-shirts, and AVA walk books. We also had some donations left inside our walk boxes.

YRE Walk Coordinator's Report: Gloria Pratt

Annual Brochure is completed-still dealing with new program issues, may reprint.

Office Depot has business accounts. She spoke to manager and gave info on club. As of today,

The club has a business account from which printing could go from 11 cents to 2 cents a copy.

March 15th Washington Oaks Garden State Park Walk whereby we are joining the First Coast Trail Forgers.

March 28th De Leon Springs State Park Walk-Bob Allen stated he will be unable to lead it. Bill Ellis then volunteered to do so. Flyer for the walk is on the website.

For Saturday April 25th Hontoon Island State Park, to date a flyer is not on the website but will be forthcoming. John McClellan volunteered to take the walk. Bill Ellis felt that publicity was needed for members.

Gloria stated that May & June walk schedules were released to David McCarthy/Webmaster. On Saturday March 21st the 4 PM walk in Deland will tie in with a Car Show that day. Sunday walks will change to 8 AM on March 29th with the City Island location. One exception to the change would be the Flagler walk which would remain at a 9 AM start time. In June a Saturday walk was added. It would be on National Trails Day and be at Greens Park. For Wednesday evening walks, they would also change to 7 PM during June, July and August.

Gloria mentioned that John McClellan/Co-Trail Master sent away for the official AVA flyer which will be placed in the walk boxes. In addition, picked up were AVA window decals which would be given to businesses housing the club's POC walk boxes.

Question was asked by Dave Golden, "What determines the time walk's start?" "Does it change due to the climate or does it adjust with the time change?" Answer by Gloria was that it coincides during March and October with clock time changes and the existing outside temperature during walk times.

Co-Member-at-Large Report: Bob Allen

Bob reported on the topic of Specialties and wanted all to know that based on his research, the best he could find for the club and its future ordering of misc. logoed items was a minimum order of 2 dozen items. The price for shirts and hats would be \$8. The shirts he felt were of good quality. There was a small interest from the Wednesday walk night survey to try to find headbands. To date he said he had not secured that need. The logo would be 1 inch in size and a mono color. On shirts it would be an opposite color from the shirt. Most important he wanted all to know is when ordering, all items would need to be pre-paid and in cash. Question by Dave Golden was in reference to the logo and if it would just read Happy Wanderers and not include AVA. Bob answered that he would inquire and get back to the club. In ending Bob stated that he would be start taking orders on Sunday.

Co-Trail Master Report: John McClellan

John stated that The National Trails Day Walk was set for Saturday, June 6th. He wanted the membership to understand that National Events was a way the AVA attempts to raise needed funds. This event focuses on each walker cleaning up while walking. Green Springs Park is 3 months away and is located on the North side of Lake Monroe in Sanford. There will be a 5 & 10K walk. Also, there will be sign-up sheets for helpers out during the upcoming walks and membership meetings.

NEW – Club Newsletter: Sheila McClellan

Sheila announced the undertaking of the club's Newsletter. It will be published every quarter and posted after a membership meeting. For suggestions, she mentioned to e-mail her at sheila.mcclellan@cfl.rr.com. For those members who do not have e-mail access, she stated that she would mail them a copy.

Membership Report: Given by Bill Ellis (Data from Karen Duhlstine-Not Present)

The membership stands at 83 members. A total of 21 memberships were not renewed from last year.

President's Report: Bill Ellis

We need a Coordinator for the De Leon Springs State Park Walk. Bill asked for any volunteers. Bill himself then again stated that he would take care of it.

It has been decided that no traditional events will be scheduled during the hot summer months.

David McCarthy/Webmaster has made some changes/improvements on the Web. It is running great.

NEW BUSINESS:

Gloria (regarding the Hontoon walk on April 25th) inquired whether a checkpoint was needed. A quick tally showed that the majority all agreed that it was not necessary. As for the DeLeon Springs walk on March 28th, the check-in table there will be manned by both Dave Golden and Gary Anderson. Barbara announced that she had not received the AVA stamp yet to date for that walk. Bob Allen did want to mention to the membership present that if it takes place after a rain, that it can get really muddy. Per John McClellan, he wanted all to know that bad weather with sighted lightning can be the only reason to stop a scheduled walk. Angie Clavelo asked if there was a fee to get into the park. Bill Ellis answered by stating that the park charged \$6 per carload and only \$4 if there was only one occupant in the vehicle. The topic discussion ended with a reminder by Bob Allen that he would be selling Specialties at the walk. Bill Ellis then mentioned the upcoming officer's election in May of which terms would officially start July 1st. He reminded everybody that all positions are open. All present candidates except for his of President and Bob Allen of Co-Member-at-Large were willing to run again. He asked for a nominating committee and inquired if there were any volunteers. Sheila McClellan, Marianne Gray and Jim Leitch confirmed to be that committee.

OTHER ITEMS:

Dan Spink asked the membership not to be afraid to click on different areas on the website Dave Golden inquired on how close we were to getting members contact information on the website with the proper password protection. Bill then spoke up and said that until it is set up it will not be available. He then commented that he would make sure to put it on the next Executive Committee's agenda for discussion. Barbara Anderson stated that some members might not want to be published, while others might just want their e-mail only to be listed. John McClellan felt that each member should be asked. Dan felt that we should allow the next Executive Committee meeting iron out how we felt that information should be shared and posted on the website. After he continued, that topic would be brought back up for discussion at the next membership meeting. Before the present topic ended, Jim Leitch asked about having a phonebook printed for members. Gloria Pratt responded by stating that there was one, but that only the officers had copies.

The AVA National Convention June 13-21 will be in Salem, Oregon. John and Sheila McClellan will be going and representing our club and carry our vote. An FYI, the AVA does charge clubs for sending a delegate to vote on their behalf. Barbara wanted the membership to know that the club will pay the AVA delegate charge for John McClellan to represent the Happy Wanderers at the convention. The votes there will determine 1-The National AVA Officers and 2-By law changes. Question asked by Gary Anderson about how members know who will be running for National Officers positions.

Answer was given by John McClellan that their bios are posted on the AVA website and in the Checkpoint Newsletter for those who receive them.

Bill Ellis wanted to welcome John and Sheila McClellan to Bike Week. John mentioned that he and Sheila would be there selling Red Poppies in front of the Boot Hill Saloon on behalf of the VFW.

Sheila McClellan wanted the membership to know that she would be sending the Newsletter to Karen Duhlstine. She would then send it out to the members via e-mail.

Bill Ellis then motioned to adjourn the meeting. It was 2nd by Barbara Anderson. All was in favor. Meeting was then adjourned at 6:50 pm. There were 23 members present.

THE HAPPY WANDERERS WALKING CLUB, INC.
Business Meeting Minutes
Thursday January 8th, 2015 @ 6:30 PM

A roll call of officers was taken by Marie Priest/Secretary. It was noted that Barbara Anderson/Treasurer was not present due to prior scheduled obligations.

Minutes of the last membership meeting on November 7th it was announced were posted on the club's website. Per Bill Ellis/President, two corrections* were needed. After stating such, the minutes were then accepted.

***Business Cards** – It was written that the cards had officer's names on them. Correction was needed to state that officers would need to write their names on the cards, given that they would have a blank space for a name and phone number.

***X-Mas Donations** – It was written that all donations from the club and accepted by the church went to homeless children at Silver Sands School. Correction was needed to state that in addition, part of the club's donations went to needy families known to the church.

A Thank You – Bill read aloud a card that was sent to the Happy Wanderers club from the Port Orange Presbyterian Church. It was a note of thanks for the club's outstanding support of the church's Christmas Mission to feed hungry children.

Vice President's Report:

Dan Spink/Vice President stated that the Blue dots will still be made available as a convenience only. In addition, the old blue dots will be allowed with payment of an extra \$1.00. Angie Clavelo/Member questioned if indeed the change was due to the need of additional funds by the club? Dan affirmed that and added that the club had been affected by the decrease in membership.

Donations – Dan just mentioned that our club donations managed to fill 3 large bins and that he viewed the representation to be a remarkably successful one.

Business Cards – As a reminder to all, the business cards would be available at walks and used as a way of advertising by being placed in approved businesses.

Treasurer's Report:

Due to the treasurer's absence, Bill gave the report. The quarter ended with a total income of \$4,578, expenses of \$3,605 for a net of \$973. The club collected 50 dues renewals. There are presently 8 life members. In addition, there have been 5 new memberships.

YRE Walk Coordinator's Report:

Gloria Pratt/YRE Coordinator spoke about how the trifold for new members was completed and is now in all the walk boxes. She also mentioned that her and Robert Priest/Co-Member-At-Large are still working on the 12 page brochure and how when completed it will then need to be approved by the AVA.

Special Programs – Gloria stated that 4 had been added which would bring the total to 22 and that they would qualify for our Year End Events. In addition, she said members could specifically get a book for stamping.

Misc.-She continued by giving a shout-out of thanks to John McClellan/Trail Master for updating the Port Orange walk, Sandy Krause/Event Coordinator and to our club's POC's. As a closing, she added that the boxes had been picked up from the 4 designated cancelled 2014 walk locations.

Member-At-Large Report: Bob Allen/Co-Member-At-Large wanted all to know that the Wednesday night walk wavier was going well.

Webmaster Report:

Web-David McCarthy/Webmaster reported that the website went live in December 2014 despite a deadline of January 2015. Basically, he said, the old website was converted and then cleaned up. He wanted members to know that there were still corrections to be made and asked that if anybody sees anything that they felt needed to be changed, to please let him know.

Trail Master & Club Facebook Creator:

Due to illness, John McClellan/Trail Master was not present. Bill stated that his slated report would be rescheduled for the next membership meeting on March 8th. As an added note, Dan Spink mentioned to the club that John was accepted by the Executive Committee to officially become the club's 2nd Trail Master.

President's Report:

Bill Ellis/President re-presented to Salley Hobling/Member a 2nd certificate of "Thanks and Appreciation". Unfortunately, the prior certificate had misspelled her name, thus this time to make up for the error the certificate had been beautifully framed. Salley's 8 years as Treasurer for the club gave her that distinct recognition.

Christmas Party-It was held at the VFW post in a separate room. It was a great party with great food. Twenty-nine (29) members attended. Bill commented that he thought it was a nice evening. In addition, gifts which were partly donated were given out via a drawing. Marie Priest/Secretary commented she thought Barbara Anderson/Treasurer did a genuinely nice job.

NEW BUSINESS:

Walk Events-Gloria/YRE Coordinator stated that our club is planning an event in March at DeLeon Springs on Saturday the 28th. Registration and walk time will be from 9-11:00 AM with a finish time at 2:00 PM. Pavilion #4 has been reserved for all to bring their packed lunches. Parking is \$6 per car with up to 8 people per car. Bob Allen/Co-Member-At-Large mentioned that the terrain was a tough one. A flyer is in the works and will be out by early February.

In addition, our club is participating in an AVA sanctioned event in Palm Coast at Washington Oaks along with the Jacksonville First Coast Trail Forgers on Sunday March 15th. Start time will be from 9-10:00 AM. Lunch will be held at Captain's Barbeque. Russ Anderson/Member stated that he believed that weekend celebrates "Earth Day" so there would be in addition to the walk, exhibitors, food, entertainment, and an all-around celebration.

Gloria continued by mentioning a Special Event being considered on Saturday April 25th at Hontoon Island. It would be an AVA walk. It was cancelled last September or October. Facts: Average rainfall in April is 3-4 inches, which happens to be the lowest rainfall month on average there for any given year.

FVA-Dan Spink/Vice President in summary wanted to give an overview on the status of the Florida Volkssport Association. Facts: There are 8 local clubs in Florida. The present home base for the FVA is the existing President's home address. State Park walks are how the FVA makes their money, (i.e. Hontoon Island). Membership Question #1 Answered; The FVA maintains the markers at the state parks. Membership Question #2 Answered; State Park walks are not known unless there is communication. Dan then proposed to form a committee by which our club would partner with Mike Lanpher and other officers from additional clubs in Florida to find out what can be done. Volunteers forming the committee ended up being Dan Spink/Vice Present, Robert Priest/Co-Member-At-Large, David Golden/Member, and John McClellan/Trail Master (not present). Dan stated that in addition he would send an e-mail out to all FVA club presidents to get feedback. David Golden/Member asked if there was a North and South Coordinator and if so, where the line of separation was? Dan vowed to come back in March with answers.

Member ID Card-Bill/President inquired to the membership about the possible redesigning of the member identification card. He felt that presently there were too many variations. Karen Duhlstine/Membership he stated has requested this. Bill felt this job would need to be the responsibility of someone with arts/graphics experience. Janice Golden/Member spoke up and felt that making it too busy in appearance would defeat the purpose. She felt the simpler the better and because of viewing many from other clubs, making the first name much larger she felt would be best.

Carpooling-Bill threw out an idea that he felt needed to be raised. Carpooling is not something we do as a club. Russ Anderson/Member stated that we could mention it on the Wednesday night walks for possible interest. He then questioned whether membership lists existed for members. Bill stated no that only Executive Committee members had them. David Golden/Member felt that it would be especially beneficial for scheduled walks a greater distance away. David McCarthy/Webmaster mentioned that we could put a membership list online and make it password protected.

Publicity-A big thank you went out to Mary-Ann Westbrook/Publicity for the continued handling of the club's advertising.

Website Q & A-David McCarthy/Webmaster wanted all to know that the membership form is on the website. Salley Hobling/Member asked about printing out a calendar. For the time being David stated, members can hit the subscribe button which will give options to use one's personal calendar and able printing. Members then commented that it; #1-works on Outlook only, and 2-does not work on Google. David mentioned how he was still working on that very thing and asked all to please know that as time goes on, things will improve.

ADDED NEW BUSINESS:

Facebook-Bill/President wanted to start conversation about member John McClellan's/Trail master Facebook page and questioned why it was not specifically the Happy Wanderers Club's Facebook page. David/Webmaster added by explaining how it could be easily created. Without hesitation secretary Marie Priest was then instructed by Bill to ask John to create one for the membership. Immediately after, Bill asked for a motion for Marie to do so. He then asked Marie to read aloud her notes regarding the wording of what would be requested by her to ask of John. Quickly a motion was given by Dan Spink/Vice-President and it was then 2nd by Mary-Ann Westbrook/Publicity. All was in favor!

Meeting was then adjourned at 7:50 pm. There were 21 members present.