

THE HAPPY WANDERERS WALKING CLUB, INC.
Business Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 6, 2017 @ 6:30 PM

President John McClellan welcomed everybody and then called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. 26 in attendance, 17 club members, constituting a Quorum.

Meeting Agendas and minutes are on the Tables.

The Happy Wanderers Planning Meeting will be Aug 5th, 2017, Port Orange Presbyterian Church 4662 South Clyde Morris Blvd Port Orange. We will not meet in the church but in the small building to the left (where we met for this meeting.) We will make a plan for next year; we encourage everyone who has a suggested for the good of the club, to attend. Simple refreshments will be served – coffee, muffins and donuts. We encourage new ideas and suggestions.

Secretary: President John McClellan reported the Secretary position is vacant. Minutes from May meeting are on the tables and on the web site. Angela Clavelo made a motion to accept the minutes, Barbara Anderson Port Orange seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: President John McClellan: Welcome to our new treasurer, Angela Clavelo. Angela reported the fiscal year ended June 30. Balance: \$3,751.

Vice-President's Report: (Dan Spink) No report.

Member at Large Report: YRE renewals have started ~ 13 Walks, 2 Bike events, 1 Swim. When the FVA closed we picked up the State Park Walks – Hontoon Island, Blue Spring. Discussion.

Extended distances, we currently have two distances available on our YRE's 5KM and 10KM. Currently only one 20KM walk is available in Florida. Discussion. Tabled. Further discussion will take place during the Planning Meeting on Aug 5th, please plan to attend.

Gloria spoke with the Shrine Gift Shop in St. Augustine. After the announcement for our June 11th Group Walk appeared in the local paper, the shrine express concern about our members parking in their parking lot. Gloria explained to the Shrine that we have insurance which covers our walkers as they enjoy the Shrine Garden. Discussion.

Robert Priest was not present, he sent John his report. Robert contacted our T-shirt vendor regarding ordering Tank tops. The vendor offered Tank Tops only in white. Robert sent Maureen the name of a local store. Maureen visited the store and was provided a design work up with prices; Maureen and Robert are discussing options. Discussion.

Club Volunteer(s) Reports:

Membership — Karen Duhlstine reported our membership is at 110.

Newsletter — Sheila McClellan: Deadline for Articles is July 11th.

Publicity – Our St. Augustine YRE Group Walks will now appear in the St. Augustine Record. At our June 11th YRE, 4 walkers joined us who had seen the ad. Future Sanford YRE Group Walks will now appear in the Sanford Herald. Several different Observer editions. John has talked to St. John County about their Fall/Winter Event brochure, John will write a press release.

Web site — President John McClellan reported our web site won 3rd place at the AVA Convention. : If you have any pictures of a HW walk please submit them to David and he will post them to the web site. His email address is: hopemcc@cfl.rr.com.

President's Report:

SERD Southeast Regional Director, John McClellan, presented Certificates of Commendation Awards to 2015-2017 officers: Vice-President Dan Spink, Treasurer Barbara Anderson; Member-at-Large Gloria Platt.

Vice-President Dan Spink recognized President John McClellan and thanks him for his hard work. The members gave John a round of applause.

WAF27 Flyers are available – see John.

We are on track with the planning of this event ~ 45 rooms have been reserved ~ please make reservations soon, the UF vs GA college football game is playing in Jacksonville, FL on Oct. 28th – some fans will stay in St. Augustine. You must call the hotel; you cannot get the WAF rate online. No charge for parking. Breakfast included. 1st walk Friday afternoon, 2nd, 3rd Walk Saturday, 4th Walk Sunday at World Golf Village, lunch. Sat night dinner location is 5 miles from the hotel, one vegetarian meal available Eggplant Parmesan.

We will have a Volunteer sign at the September Meeting for checkpoints, greeting, registration etc..

Please fill out the WAF27 flyers, make out a check and submit to the Mid-Florida Milers – address on the flyer.

There is only one A award, a small apothecary bottle – please check the box once, not for each walk.

WAF Contest ~ Volunteer hours will count toward the contest.

Christmas Party: Emilie Higgins and Mitzi Mucciarone have volunteered to be our Chairpersons. Discussion.

Sheila McClellan made the motion for the Christmas Party to be held on Dec 8th at the Port Orange VFW.

Barbara Anderson seconded. Discussion. Can members bring guest – yes. Motion passed. September meeting will have more information.

Hontoon Island State Park The Happy Wanderers and The Mid Florida Milers will host a Group Walk and Picnic on Saturday Oct 7th. Time TBD. Food Volunteers will be needed.

Our last bike event was held at Lake Mary, the Bike stamp is still valid – John is considering adding a Bike Event to the fall schedule – Lake Beresford Park to Blue Springs State Park Bicycle Trail

or Lake Monroe Park to Green Springs Park 25 km (15 miles) Discussion. The Bike ride will stop midway, small snack and turn around. or perhaps a meal at the Osteen Diner.

Veterans Day Night Walk Sat. November 11th Torch Walk around the Port Orange City Center lake. We need a volunteer to help organize.

New Year's Eve John asked the club members if they were interested in having a New Year's Eve walk at 2PM If it's a Traditional Event then sanctioned is due soon. Discussion. No resolution.

REI Opt Outside 2 years ago the outdoor sport store, REI, started a movement to encourage people to not shop on Black Friday but, instead, to Opt outside. The Mid-Florida Milers want to walk MT Dora on November 25th. The Happy Wanderers are scheduled to walk MT. Dora on Dec. 10th to view the Christmas lights. Gloria stated the Mount Dora Christmas lights will be on display into January. HW Executive Council will take up this issue at their August meeting.

AVA Convention ~ The Happy Wanderers won 3rd place for our Web site. 3rd place for Event Brochure for our Palatka Azalea Festival Traditional Event. Our representatives, Alan and Martha Stollberg, have the awards, we'll distribute to David McCarthy and John McClellan at the Christmas Party. Please check the AVA web site for more information on the votes. One vote concerned the National Mascot submissions – no mascot was selected.

We look forward to the AVA Convention June 2019 in Albany, New York.

Any New Business from the floor? None.

We asked the new attendees to introduce themselves. Bill Thomas, Julie Emerson, Barbara Meeks, Syd Sundby, Roger Schmetzer.

Next meeting: Thursday, September 7th 6:30 PM

Dinner tonight afterwards at the Tomoka Brewing Co. just across Clyde Morris from here.

Meeting Adjourned. 7:30 p.m.

THE HAPPY WANDERERS WALKING CLUB, INC.
Business Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 2, 2017 @ 6:30 PM

President John McClellan welcomed everybody and then called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. 15 club members were present, constituting a Quorum.

Meeting Agendas and minutes are on the Tables.

AVA Big Give Annual Fundraising, please consider going home and give. Log onto the AVA web site click donate. Before the meeting started, they had \$35,000 toward their \$60,000 goal. You may mail a check into: AVA 1001 Pat Booker Rd, Suite 101, Universal City, and TX 78148-4147. Some groups and AVA members have offered matching funds for certain donations.

The FVA Election Meeting was held April 29, 2017 in Jacksonville, FL. No one ran for any of the positions – particularly President; so, the FVA will cease operations 1 July 2017. What this means for us – the HW have been keeping the walk boxes current for Hontoon Island State Park and Blue Spring State Park here in our area. The \$3 walk fees will now come to the Happy Wanderers. The Blue Spring walk is not a popular walk when the Manatees are not there – HW might consider making it a seasonal walk rather than a YRE. For now, it will stay YRE until the FVA disbands in July. There is money in the FVA accounts, and the disposition of these funds is under consideration now.

Secretary's Report: Sheila McClellan is filling in, please consider volunteering for Secretary. A motion to approve minutes from the March meeting was made by Russ Anderson & seconded by Marianne Gray. Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report: (Barbara Anderson) Not present, called in report, current balance \$4,014.18.

Vice-President's Report: (Dan Spink) Blue Dots are for sale (non-member cost \$30 for 10 (cash or check accepted.) HW members, \$25 for 10) by the VP at walks and the general membership meeting. Currently the VP is unable to attend the walks; Bob Allen and Gloria Pratt have volunteered to sell the Blue Dots. The third Wednesday of the month is Bring a Friend to a walk. To promote bringing a friend – we will start giving a member one blue dot if they bring a friend to any Wednesday walk.

Member at Large Report: Gloria Pratt wants members to know if you have any questions or suggestions – let an officer know or a Member at Large. Good, Bad or other. The Members at Large are your voice on the board. YRE – the June, July walk schedule are on the web site. Wednesday night walks will start at 7PM, gather 6:30PM, for the summer. Our Ice Cream Walks, we stop by an ice cream shop at the end of walk.

YRE Coordinator Report: (Gloria Pratt) Dan Spink has been filling in as our Mount Dora Point of Contact. Jan Van Vlack, a Mid-Florida Miler member, who lives 25 miles from Mount Dora (Port Orange is 57 miles) has volunteered to be the Point of Contact for our walk. The HW board unanimously voted to award honorary membership to Jan with our thanks.

3rd Quarter Walk Schedule July, Aug, Sept is complete and will be on the web site shortly. Robert Priest (absent) – Maureen Higgins, our Specialties Boutique coordinator, took an inventory; the numbers have been passed along to President and Robert. John passed on that an order is going to be made for more of the club's dry fit T-shirts, in the sizes we are out of. We expect to have them in June. We are also planning an order of unisex tank tops and researching a price. One member requested the tank tops in a darker shade of blue and there was general agreement from the floor.

Club Volunteer(s) Reports:

Membership — Karen Dulhstine (not present,) from her written report, our membership is at 107.

Newsletter — Sheila McClellan: Deadline for Articles is May 10th.

Website — (David McCarthy) Submitted report: If you have any pictures of a HW walk please submit them to David and he will post them to the web site. His email address is: hopencc@cfl.rr.com.

Baseball Night: (Marianne Gray) May 18th, 2017 5:30pm Price for Game and Meal – \$18.

President's Report:

(1) Elections. David Golden, Election Committee Chair, not present. Election of Officers – President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, 2 Member at Large positions. John McClellan is running for President, Dan Spink for Vice-President – are there any other nominations for either position – No. Barbara Anderson is not running for another term as Treasurer. Angela Clavelo has agreed to run, and provided a short bio of her qualifications for the members. Are there any other nominations – No.? We're very happy Angie has volunteered, the Treasurer submits paperwork to the IRS, the State of Florida and the AVA. Nominations for the position of Secretary – none. The position involves taking minutes at General Membership meetings, attending executive meetings, correspondence. As there were no takers, the election of a Secretary was tabled. Members at Large – Gloria Pratt and Robert Priest have agreed to continue in their positions. Any other nominations? No. Elections concluded.

Our slate for 2017-2019: John, President; Dan VP; Angela, Treasurer; Secretary, Vacant; Gloria and Robert, Member at Large. All those in favor – the ayes have it. Slate has passed. Thank you to all our officers!

(2) AVA Regional Director of the Southeast Region position is coming open. John McClellan is running unopposed for the position. There is precedence, the current SERD is both the President of his local club and SERD. Deborah made the motion to submit John's name for SERD. Patricia seconded. No nays. Motion Passed. SERD is a 2 year term.

We'll take a 10 minute break – please look at the proposed submissions for an AVA Mascot, and write your name on your selection.

(3) AVA Elections will take place this June during the convention. Club members Alan & Martha Stollberg are our delegates, we need to give them guidance for the vote. VP and Secretary are running unopposed. President, 2 nominations – J. David Bonewitz and Bob Wright. Discussion ensued with overviews of their bios (handed out.) Treasurer Bob Morrison and Candy Purcell discussion ensued with their bios. AVA By-Law Changes — 4 recommendations to vote on. HW votes to provide the club position on each question to the Stollbergs, but that they retain discretion to use their judgement after listening to any debate or additional information on the floor at the Convention itself.

HW Positions: David for President, Bob for Treasurer, Yes to #1, No to #2,3,4.

(4) General Announcements –

(a) Bike Event May 13th, maps are completed.

(b) Sign up for ball game is closed. 26 have signed up – all paid. Pick-up your ticket at the gate-all gates have the HW roster. Meal 5:30pm

(c) WAF27 – Flyers are on the table. Hotel reservations are open, you must call, you cannot get the WAF rate online. No charge for parking. Breakfast included. 1st walk Friday afternoon, 2nd, 3rd Walk Saturday, 4th Walk Sunday at World Golf Village with lunch. Walk registration will be online by the end of June/early July. Dinner location is 5 miles from the hotel, one vegetarian meal available Eggplant Parmesan. Volunteers will be needed for checkpoints, greeting, registration – sign up will be available online this summer.

(5) Club History Report – A brief overview of the Happy Wanderers 2016 calendar year has been prepared by the President and will be available online soon.

Any New Business from the floor? None.

Next meeting: Thursday, July 6th 6:30 PM

Dinner tonight afterwards at the Tomoka Brewing Co. just across Clyde Morris from here.

Meeting Adjourned. 7:35 p.m.

THE HAPPY WANDERERS WALKING CLUB, INC.
Business Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 2, 2017 @ 6:30 PM

President John McClellan welcomed everybody and then called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. 21 club members were present, constituting a Quorum.

Meeting Agendas and minutes are on the Tables. Flyers are on the back table. We have two new members who just joined tonight at the Orientation session: Maria and Marie. (Both introduced themselves later in the meeting.)

Secretary's Report: Sheila McClellan is filling in, please consider volunteering for Secretary. David Golden made a Motion to approve minutes from the January meeting, seconded by Karen Duhstine. No discussion or changes. All in favor. Minutes approved

Treasurer's Report: (Barbara Anderson) The 3rd Quarter closing balance was \$4,108.29. We are doing well. No questions from the members. David Golden asked if we should vote to accept the Treasurer Report. President John McClellan answered that we provide the Treasurer Report for informational purposes only, so there is no need to approve.

Vice-President's Report: (Dan Spink) So far this year, we are averaging more than 31 walkers per event on our Wednesday Fun Walks.

Blue Dots are very convenient way to pay for your Sunday walks – no need for walkers to carry cash, POC's do not have to collect and turn in \$\$\$. Blue Dots are available to purchase from Dan Spink at all walks and meetings. For non-members, the cost is \$30 for 10 (cash or check accepted.) HW members, \$25 for 10.

Club Elections are in May. We still need a Secretary and Treasurer. Please consider volunteering your time. Nominating committee- help executive committee find volunteers for open positions. David Golden volunteered, we need two more individuals to make up the committee. Please consider helping David.

YRE Coordinator Report: (Gloria Pratt) There is a Bike Event March 12th in Port Orange along with the walk that day. The first Bike Event of the year was held in January, but we had only 2 participants due to the cold weather. First Coast Trail Forgers, Jacksonville Volksmarching club, are sponsors a walk at the Washington Oak State Park, March 25th. Sign in between 9AM – 10AM Group Walk starts promptly at 9:30AM. I have included the brochure here for your information:

http://firstcoasttrailforgerswalkingclub.org/Washington%20Oaks%20Flier%203_25_2017.pdf

Our Sunday Walk start time will switch to mornings, starting on March 26th. 9 AM for Cocoa Beach, Mount Dora, and St. Augustine walks. All others start at 8 AM. See calendar for specific events. Earth Day is April 22. The Mid-Florida Milers are walking the FVA YRE at Wekiwa Springs State Park and we are invited to join them, so we have put the event on our calendar as well. (The information is not on their web site yet – please check their web site in April for more information.)

National Bike Month is May. The Happy Wanderers will hold a 26 KM (16 mile) event in Lake Mary, FL. The main feature of this trail is the murals. Check the HW website and FB page for more information. Flyers for this event are now available.

St. Augustine YRE is this Sunday. We are not sure if the area around the Shrine has been repaired. This weekend is Lion Seafood Festival, to avoid the festival suggest everyone take Route 1, Right on Sebastian, Right on A1A, Left on Ocean. Park in Shrine Parking Lot. John suggested taking I-95 to Route 16, (Take note – WAF27 hotel Southern Oaks Inn is on RT 16) Right on San Marco to the Shrine Parking Lot. Any questions – no questions.

Member-at-Large: Robert Priest – Sent his report to President. Robert is working on buying table drops, pop-up (waterproof) tents, chairs, tables – watching the sales for the best price. One of our yellow Walk Start signs was stolen during the Martin Luther King Event. John is working on replacing the signs.
Club Volunteer(s) Reports:

Membership – Karen Dulhstine Our membership stands at 102, not including the 2 membership forms turned in tonight. After finishing renewals, we are slightly ahead of last year.

Newsletter – Sheila McClellan: deadline for Articles is March 6th. If you want to email me, or another volunteer, go to the web site, contact us for our email addresses:

<https://www.happywanderersfl.org/contact-us-page/>

President's Report:

Nominating Committee – Chairman David Golden We have one vacancy on the board with no one running – Secretary. Returning John McClellan, President; Dan Spink, Vice-President; Gloria Pratt Member at Large and YRE Coordinator; Robert Priest Member at Large. Angela Clavelo has agreed to run for Treasurer. Groups like this are great but they don't run themselves. If everyone helps a little bit, it keeps the load reasonable. Board Members meet every other month (months we do not have a General Membership Meeting.)

Baseball Night – Maryann Grey presented the club with several dates available for our annual Happy Wanderers night at the Daytona Tortugas baseball night. Discussed ensued. Tuesday nights was ruled out due to the Silver Slugger cheaper prices for seniors, our HW wouldn't be able to charge the price we've negotiated for game and meal. Wednesday nights was ruled out as HW like to walk. Thursday, May 18th, 2017 5:30pm was approved. Price for Game and Meal – \$18. RSVP on the <https://www.happywanderersfl.org/> click Calendar. Click sign up. Maryann Grey will be collecting the money. FYI – Parking is \$2.

President John McClellan thanked Maryann for organizing our HW Baseball Night. The Bike Event at Lake Mary – Flyers are available on the back table. John will have flyers available at walks. Bring your own – Bikes, Water, Helmets. If you need to rent a Bike, John has suggestions, just ask during a walk.
Walk Around Florida (WAF27) is October 27. 28. 29 St. Augustine, FL. Within the next month, the 1st planning meeting with all three clubs will take place. The hotel has been chosen – Southern Oaks Inn, located 1 mile north of the Shrine. Price \$119 a night +taxes. Friday afternoon and Friday Mixer check in will be in the Breakfast Room. The World Golf Village, home of the Golf Hall of Fame, will waive their event \$500 fee for us to have an event starting there. The tentative plan for WAF27 walks – Friday YRE, Saturday 2 Routes, 1st Bridge of Lions to the Lighthouse, 2nd Pier Walk – we have maps and directions for both walks. Saturday night Diner, 100 attended last year. Sunday 1 Walk World Golf Village, Lunch will be offered. Venue is located near I-95. Gloria Pratt and John investigated pools for a possible Swim Event. Also, considering a bike event. Discussion ensued. Save the Date Flyer on the back table & the web site. President and VP will meet to discuss volunteer positions necessary for the running of WAF27. If the membership has any suggestions / ideas / thoughts: Overall Event Theme and Event Awards. The idea of "Conquer the Castillo" has been proposed as a challenge for walkers to participate in all the Events, separate award. We will need Registration, Name Badges (with Event Theme design), MFM will be Treasurer for the Event and collect \$\$\$. Barbara Anderson reported on some research she has been doing for Dinner venues – most were 65 to 75 seating limit. Discussion ensued.

Online Start box Walks in Florida – The Mid-Florida Milers have put their (formerly) "remote" registration walks in south Florida on the Online Start box at www.cva4u.org: (West Palm Beach Walk, Palm Beach Walk, Boca Raton Walk, Delray Beach Walk, Ft. Lauderdale Walk, Miami South Beach Walk, Key West Walk.)

http://midfloridamilers.org/southeast_florida_walks.html

Registration is required and it is accomplished online. To receive walk directions, maps, and driving directions to these walks start points, follow these instructions:

- Go to Online Registration Sign Up. Select Account to establish one or login if you have an account.
- Select a SE Florida walk from available online events.
- Pay \$3 for AVA credit or if no AVA credit, the fee is \$2, both via Credit Card. You will be electronically signing the normal AAU waiver.

- Download the instructions and walk.
 - Once the walk is completed, return to the web site to print insert cards.
- If you do not walk, for whatever reason, no refund will be given.

The International Federation of Popular Sports (IVV) has announced two new National Federations: Australia and Romania.

The AVA 20th AVA Biennial Convention June 7th 8th 9th Billings, Montana. For more information:

<http://2017avaconvention.org/events.html>

During the Convention, the AVA recognizes clubs in several categories of "Publicity Contests." Happy Wanderers have submitted for Best Website, Best Newsletter and Best Event Brochure. The final award is "Photography" and the categories are: People, Places or Things. If you have a photograph of a HW event that you would like to submit, please see the web site for Rules and Entry Form. **Deadline April 14th.**

Florida Volkssport Association (FVA) awarded the Happy Wanderers a Certificate of Appreciation for our efforts running the Martin Luther King Weekend. President John McClellan was presented the award during the President's Day Weekend Event in Panama City.

Happy Wanderers 25th Anniversary Visors were given to the AVA Executive Director, AVA President and the SERD (Southeast regional director) and his wife, for their support of the club.

New AVA Bumper Stickers have been designed ~ we have an example on the back table. The price TBD.

As there was no other New Business from the floor, a Motion to Adjourn was approved and the meeting ended at 7:33 PM. Dinner tonight after the meeting will be at Hooligans, on Dunlawton Ave.

Next meeting May 4th 6:30 PM General Membership. New member orientation 6:00 PM.

THE HAPPY WANDERERS WALKING CLUB, INC.
Business Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 5, 2017 @ 6:30 PM

President John McClellan welcomed everybody and then called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. 32 club members were present, constituting a Quorum.

Meeting Agendas and the Minutes of the Nov '16 meeting are on the tables. YRE Coordinator Gloria Pratt is handing out new green Happy Wanderer brochures and trifolds for 2017.

Larry Middleton, past Happy Wanderer President and Trail Master – author of many of our walks – passed away on December 18th of stomach cancer, while in Hospice care. No funeral is planned. As Larry was a Veteran, a military interment will take place at the National Cemetery in Mims, date to be determined.

Jim Lawrence, husband of Alice Lawrence – President of the Suncoast Sandpipers, died December 26th, after a long battle with cancer. As the spouse of a club President, Jim has been a long-time volunteer for the Sandpipers, and you may have seen him at Walk Around Florida over the years. Memorial Services are planned for Monday, January 9th in Tampa. John will attend and represent the club and the AVA. If you knew Jim, please sign the condolence card at the break.

Secretary's Report: Sheila McClellan is filling in, please consider volunteering for Secretary. Motion to approve minutes from the November meeting by Karen Duhlstine, seconded by Dave Golden. All in favor. Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report: (Barbara Anderson) The 3rd Quarter opening balance was \$4,008.97. Memberships are rolling in. We are doing well with most of our big expenses paid. No questions.

Vice-President's Report: (Dan Spink) Everyone stand, put your hands over your head in a circle, image your circle is Blue. "Blue Dots" are very convenient way to pay for your Sunday walks – no need for walkers to carry cash, POC's do not have to collect and turn in \$\$\$. Blue Dots are available to purchase from Dan Spink at all walks and meetings. Discussion ensued on setting the cost in 2017 at \$2.50 – a \$.50 cent per walk discount for Club Members only. Treasurer, Barbara Anderson made a motion. Barbara Anderson seconded. For non-members, the cost is 10 for \$30 (cash or check acceptable.) For HW members, 10 for \$25. All in favor. Motion passed. Please note you cannot use Blue Dots at a walk sponsored by another Club i.e. Mid-Florida Milers, Suncoast Sandpipers, Walk Around Florida, etc. Our Annual Food Drive was a success. We collected 4 tubs of food, together with \$239.50 in cash and gift cards. Great job Happy Wanderers!

Club Elections are in May We need a Secretary and Treasurer. Please consider volunteering your time. It is time to form a Nominating Committee, to help executive committee find volunteers for open positions. David Golden volunteered to Chair this year. We need two-three more individuals to make up the committee. Please consider helping David and contact him directly.

YRE Coordinator Report: (Gloria Pratt) New Trifolds and YRE Brochures are on the tables. They have been updated ~ POC (Point of Contact) changes, Walk & Bike Event in Palm Coast, Bike Event in Port Orange. The Walk, Bike and Swim Event out of the Port Orange YMCA offers the opportunity for a Volksmarcher to complete a Triathlon.

What are Special Programs – Buy a book for a Special Program, then look at a Walk Map, at the top it will list all the Special Programs the walk qualifies for. For instance, Boardwalks. The Happy Wanderers have 7 walks (half the required amount) that qualify. Overall, our walks cover 29 of the Special Programs.

Our Past President, Larry Middleton, was a long-time POC of the New Smyrna Beach walk. We thank Joanne Wright for Volunteering to take over as POC. Robert St. Hilaire is now our Palm Coast Walk and Bike POC. Isabella Marshall has stepped away from POC of the Mt. Dora Walk. We thank Dan Spink for taking over the Mt. Dora POC position. We are looking for a Mt. Dora POC – maintaining the box requires a few hours every quarter. The Happy Wanderers maintain 13 locations and 16 events.

President John McClellan thanked Gloria, as YRE coordinator and all our POC's – our Walk Boxes are well appointed, and our reputation Nationally is very good. Thanks for your hard work!

Scheduling- No YRE (Group Walk) MLK Weekend. Look at the Web site for the MLK Weekend Brochure. First Joint Walk/Bike Event will take place January 29th. Registration Begins: 12:30 PM

Walk & Bike Starts: 1:00 PM. The Port Orange Walk/Bike/Swim YRE – Sunday March 12th Registration Begins: 12:30 PM Walk, Bike & Swim Starts: 1:00 PM. Start times on Sunday will change to mornings – March 26th Mt. Dora 9:00AM.

First Coast Trail Forgers – Washington Oak State Park Sat. March 25th sign-in between 9AM and 10AM. The Group Walk begins at 9:30AM. Check the brochure for more information:

http://firstcoasttrailforgerswalkingclub.org/Washington%20Oaks%20Flier%203_25_2017.pdf

Office Depot – do you have unused reward points? Please donate your rewards to HW. To do this, just give them John Mc phone number 781-686-0660 or Gloria Pratt's. Or if you don't have a Rewards account but are making a purchase – when they ask if you have an account – say yes and give John's number. Many club members do this, recently Gloria could purchase two new walk boxes with points. Any questions – no questions.

Member at Large – Robert Priest – HW Winter Long Sleeve T-shirts and Sweatshirts have been ordered – quantities are limited. Flyers, to reserve your size, are being handed out – please fill out and turn into Robert. The long sleeve T-shirts are \$18, the sweatshirts are \$20.

Specialities Coordinator – Maureen reported clothing items are available from her at all walks she attends. The complete Boutique is available the 1st Wednesday of the month walk.

President John McClellan thanked Robert Priest for his great work at getting our clothing items at a great price! Questions? No questions.

Break for Cookies and MLK Weekend Volunteer Sign-Up and signing condolences card.

Club Volunteer(s) Reports:

Membership – It is renewal season – please renew your membership. The current paid membership count stands at 62. Total number of members at the end of 2016 was 140. Six individuals paid for membership in the last quarter of 2016 and were rolled over to 2017, 8 members are Honorary Members and 10 individuals have stated that they are not renewing.

Newsletter – Sheila McClellan: deadline for articles for the next edition is January 8th.

Web Site – Our web host for the past 2 years, Host Gator, had our web site on a temporary URL and without notice converted the URL to a permanent one, causing the site to crash. Our Webmaster, David McCarthy worked 2 days to get our site back up and running. Hats off to David!

Publicity – Mary Ann Westbrook: Publicity for our Walks, through next month, have been submitted to the local papers. Mary Ann is in the process of contacting the local St. Augustine paper, to be able submit our St. Augustine walk information. The President noted he had seen our information in the local Halifax Magazine under the Health events calendar, he thanked Mary Ann for her efforts increasing our exposure. Mary Ann thanked John but pointed our Karen Duhlstine, as Publicity, first started submitting to Halifax Magazine. Thank you, Karen.

President's Report – John McClellan is preparing a Happy Wanderers History Report Year for 2016. Membership was up by the end of 2016. Our HW MeetUp site now has 498 members. (Editor's Note: everyone who joins the HW Meet-Up site receives a welcome note from John.) Despite membership being up, our total paid walkers for the year is down from 2015. However, out of the 220+ clubs in USA, we rank in the top 10 for activity.

Flyers advertising the HW Club are available, please take a flyer and put it up at your office break room, coffee shop community bulletin board, HOA clubhouse community bulletin board – anywhere you can. A question was asked about the YMCA, John reported they do not have a community board. Pick up a few business cards from Dan Spink to put on tables if no board is available.

Walk Around Florida 2017 (WAF27) – The Happy Wanderers are the Lead Club!! This is going to be an exciting event. The buzz from other clubs is incredibly positive, people are looking forward to walking in St. Augustine – 4 walk weekend – this Event will take months to plan. John McClellan is volunteering to be the Chairperson, but he will need a lot of help. Please talk to John about helping – many hands make light work. This summer the Volunteer sign-up will be on the web site, many Volunteer positions to be filled. We will have help from our sister clubs – Mid-Florida Milers and Suncoast Sandpipers, but we will be the lead club. Gloria and John have researched hotels and have prepared a short list. The exact dates of WAF have yet to be determined. The deadline for the AVA Newspaper, the TAW, for its Apr/May issue is Feb. 25th – a decision will be made by then –considering last weekend of October, first weekend of November 2017. The Suncoast Sandpipers suggested late November to be able to see the Holiday lights. Karen Duhstine has provided the HW 2011 St. Augustine Flyers to John. Besides walks, we will host a dinner. Another club will provide finance support. It has been suggested a walk be at the World Golf Village – members of the First Coast Trail Forgers have volunteered to help John research. After all this talk of work, Dan Spink reported WAF is a lot of fun! The people, the walks – a great time is always had by all.

MLK WEEKEND – January 14,15,16. Volunteer sign-up Sheet is on the table. Start time for Blue Spring State Park is between 8AM and 11AM. Please arrive between 8AM and 8:30AM, due to heavy traffic expected. If arriving after 10AM, the car backup on the incoming road has been 20 cars deep in the past. DeLeon State Park is known for the Pancake Restaurant – make reservations before you start walking. Monday's walk in Deland is a relatively new route – with just some overlap of the current YRE – like the murals.

President's Day Weekend (Note: the HW Walk is Sunday Feb. 19 Ponce Inlet at 1PM) If you are looking for a weekend get-away – the Emerald Coast Volkssport Club and Pensacola Volkssport Club are hosting a 6-Walk Weekend – February 17-20. Check out the flyer for more information:

<https://docs.google.com/viewerng/viewer?url=https://www.happywanderersfl.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Presidents-Day16.pdf&hl=en>

Any suggestions for a Traditional Event between February and November? No suggestions heard.

Bike Event – Greg Peal, new member Titusville, FL, and John checked out the Beresford State Park for a future event – TBD. <http://www.volusia.org/services/community-services/parks-recreation-and-culture/parks-and-trails/park-facilities-and-locations/ecological-nature-parks/lake-beresford-park.shtml> Any interest in a Bike event? – resounding YES from the members. Volusia County is working on the Rail Trail, eventually connecting DeLeon State Park to Titusville, FL.

Possible future Walk Doris Leeper <http://www.volusia.org/services/growth-and-resource-management/environmental-management/conservation-lands/conservation-lands-map/doris-leeper-spruce-creek-preserve.shtml> Discussion. Buggy in the summer.

Remote Walks – AVA (American Volkssporting Associated) has been piloting online Start Boxes for 2 years in California (phase 1). Register for walk, pay online (through PayPal – you do not need to have an account to enter your credit card), download map, print electronic insert cards for your books. Phase 2 is now being launched in locations across the Country, including Florida. The Mid-Florida Milers have put their Southeast Florida Atlantic Coast walks online, these include: West Palm Beach Walk, Palm Beach Walk, Boca Raton Walk, Delray Beach Walk, Ft. Lauderdale Walk, Miami South Beach Walk, Key West Walk. The AVA Online Start Box is found at: www.cva4u.org

New Business – The President opened the floor to the members.

Dick Wright mentioned an upcoming change in prices for Seniors for Annual Passes to our National Parks – from \$10 to \$80, starting next year! We will check this and report back on exact change and timing.

John mentioned that you can also buy annual passes to the Florida State Parks.

Dinner afterwards tonight will be at Chili's, on Dunlawton Ave. near Countryside.

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 2nd, 2017 @ 6:30pm.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:40 PM.