

THE HAPPY WANDERERS WALKING CLUB, INC.

Minutes – General Membership Meeting

Thursday, March 4, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

Meeting agendas were available on the tables. Fourteen members were present, constituting a quorum. President John McClellan welcomed everyone and then called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Secretary's Report: (Alice Partlow)

- The January minutes have been posted on the website. Alice also had a copy available for anyone to read. There were no changes made and the minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: (Leslie Stone)

- Leslie provided a report for January & February showing an opening balance of \$4,643.73 and a closing balance of \$5,116.88. Total income was \$1,471.00. Expenses coming up include WAF30 2nd payment to hotel, rental for Coronado center, and some new "Walk Start" and "Caution Walkers" signs.

Guest Speaker

John introduced Dr. Shawn LaCourt from Palmer College of Chiropractic. Dr. LaCourt spoke and then introduced his student intern, Ryan Sod, to present. Ryan shared a PowerPoint presentation on how the chiropractic clinic can provide relief for walking injuries and how they can analyze your walking gait or issues and help you maintain healthy walking routines. They are located on South Clyde Morris Blvd in Port Orange.

Vice-President's Report: (Dan Spink)

Dan reported there were an average of 21 walkers for the Wednesday walks for the last two months.

YRE Coordinator/Member-at-Large: (Gloria Pratt)

- Gloria gave a presentation on the purpose of the walk boxes and how to use them. In short:
 - Walk boxes are for our YREs (walks that are open either seasonal or year-round).
Members and non-members are encouraged to walk these routes not only at our regularly scheduled Sunday events but ALSO on their own or with friends at any time.
 - To walk on your own, go to the start location and politely ask for the walk box. Take the box to a location that is not in anyone's way (inside or out in your car) while you complete the sign-in.
 - Grab the logbook (white 3-ring binder) and read the information on the first two pages if this is something new to you.
 - Sign in on the sign-in sheet for the walk.
 - Grab a map, a start card, and a pre-addressed envelope.
 - If you keep event books, stamp your books for the walk.
 - Return the walk box to the start location and thank them for hosting our walk box.
 - Walk the walk!
 - After walking, send in your \$3 fee and the start card in the pre-addressed envelope. (Members can use a blue dot on the sign-in sheet to pay for the walk and skip this step.)

Member-at-Large: (Sandy McArthur)

- Sandy is doing well bringing a supply of club store items to the walks to sell. She has also spoken with Janet Wagner and there are quite a few pre-orders for the new lightweight wind/rain jacket with the HW logo.

Membership: (Karen Duhlstine)

- Membership currently is 97. Usually this will grow to 100+ throughout the year.

Newsletter: (Sheila McClellan)

- Submit items for newsletter to Sheila by Tuesday, March 9. Newsletter items are welcomed from members. Please help Sheila with content for our newsletters!

Club Store: (Janet Wagner) Items from the club store are available for order. Check out the website to view items. Fill out the order form on our website and Janet will deliver the items at the next walk.

Website: (David McCarthy) Website is up to date.

Publicity: (Mary-Ann Westbrook) Publicity is up to date.

President's Report: (John McClellan)

- John provided a short summary, along with a handout, of AVA bylaw changes that our club needs to vote on. Most changes are minor and deal with administrative changes or wording changes and are due to changes in Texas law. John discussed the changes and Dan Spink made a motion to vote yes to approve. The motion was seconded by Ken Beauregard. The motion was approved.
- John reminded all that club elections will happen at our next meeting in May, so if anyone knows someone who may be interested in a leadership role within our club, please reach out to any of our board members. Dan Spink will not be running for Vice President again (he's given us 7 years), so we know the VP position will need to be filled. Anyone interested in Vice President or any other executive board positions are welcomed and encouraged to apply.
- John discussed a change in our local club by-laws that needed to be updated. That is for our fiscal year to change to a calendar year along with how the AVA has changed. Alice Partlow made a motion to change the club by-laws to indicate calendar year as opposed to fiscal year. Sheila McClellan seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
- WAF-30 is scheduled for 5-7 November 2021. This event was postponed last year due to COVID, we are ahead of schedule with preparations. A Zoom meeting was held this week with all involved in the hosting of this event. The event will include 4 walks and a swim event. There will also be a dinner catered at the hotel (\$35 and is optional). Members are encouraged to make a reservation at The Plaza Hotel at our special group rate and spend the weekend being a part of the group. The updated flyer with hotel information for this event is on our website.
- John reviewed upcoming events including:
 - 7 Mar – Port Orange "Get Fit" kick-off walk, option to walk 1 mile, 5km, or 10 km (no bike ride)
 - 27 Mar – Washington Oaks State Park with First Coast Walking Club. (Note this is a State Park so there is an entrance fee - \$5 per vehicle for up to 8 people; \$4 per vehicle with one occupant; \$2 for pedestrians/bicyclists).

- 1-7 April – National Walking Week –discussion was held as to whether to hold a walk on Easter Sunday. The consensus was most would prefer to hold a Saturday walk instead.
- 26 June – 3 July – National Convention in Madison, Wisconsin
- John discussed May 15 as a possible walk event to support Armed Forces Day. Team Red White & Blue, local Veterans group, will be participating in a “steps” challenge. Maybe we can create a TE to help them with their step challenge (2500, 5000, or 10000 steps) and also to promote our club and hopefully get local veterans interested in our club and its health benefits. Most were in favor so John will check into the possibility of a route.

Meeting Adjourned 8:00

Next Meeting: Thursday, 6 May, 6:30 p.m.

14 Members present: John McClellan, Sheila McClellan, Gloria Pratt, Bob Allen, Alice Partlow, Dan Spink, Leslie Stone, Sandy McArthur, Nancy Raymond, Marilyn Caskey, Teresa Saltzer, Dick Marshall, Joanne Beauregard, Ken Beauregard; and staying from the New Member Orientation was Joann Volpe.

THE HAPPY WANDERERS WALKING CLUB, INC.

Minutes – General Membership Meeting

Thursday, January 7, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

Meeting agendas were available on the tables. Ten members were present, constituting a quorum. President John McClellan welcomed everyone and then called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Secretary's Report: (Alice Partlow)

- The minutes have been posted on the website and were approved.

Treasurer's Report: (Leslie Stone)

- Leslie presented several reports – the 4th quarter bank statement, the 2020 Expense Statement, and the 2020 Year-end Report, along with a copy of the AVA Financial Report.
- The 4th Quarter report showed an opening balance of \$3959.30 and a closing balance of \$4664.73.
- Income was \$684.43.

Vice-President's Report: (Dan Spink)

- Dan reported there were an average of 21 walkers for the Nov./Dec. Wednesday walks.
- Dan also reported that our holiday food drive netted over \$300 in cash and gift cards, along with over 200 food items, to help needy families with children at Silver Sands Middle School.
- Dan read a Thank You card from Lynne, coordinator of the Port Orange Presbyterian Church Food Pantry, sharing how the families that we helped were so thankful.

YRE Coordinator/Member-at-Large: (Gloria Pratt)

- Thanks to our POCs for updating the walk boxes with the 2021 information and supplies.
- Gloria is now working on getting AVA logos for the sides of the boxes and an AVA logo that our businesses hosting the boxes can hopefully display to advertise they are the host of the walk box. We are hoping also that businesses will put an AVA link on their website.

Member-at-Large: (Sandy McArthur)

- Sandy delivered the Sanford walk box to its new location at the Sanford Visitor Center. She introduced herself and explained our walking club to them and invited them to join us when we are there. She said they seemed very receptive and happy to host the box.

Membership: (Karen Duhlstine)

- Out of 129 members, we only have about half who have renewed so far, so our renewals are low at this point – however the renewals do keep coming in.

Newsletter: (Sheila McClellan)

- Submit items for newsletter to Sheila by Tuesday, January 12.
- Sheila also suggested that she could make a QR code for a walk box host to display that, when scanned, will open our website.

Club Store: (Janet Wagner) Items from the club store are available for order. Check out the website to view items. Fill out the order form on our website and Janet will deliver the items at the next walk.

Website: (David McCarthy)

- David provided a presentation on the updated website. He reviewed what is on the web and how to find information you need.

Publicity: (Mary-Ann Westbrook) Publicity is up to date.

President's Report: (John McClellan)

- John discussed the AVA, our national organization, and how much they do with a small staff. He shared some of their accomplishments last year:
 - Processed over 5000 event books.
 - Renewed 3000 members.
 - Opened two new clubs.
 - Got stimulus money to help pay staff in San Antonio, TX
 - Sent out 2700 walk stamps.
 - Raised \$104,00 during The Big Give
 - Developed a new AVA logo.
 - Responded to approximately 25000 calls and emails.
- John announced that club elections will happen soon so if anyone knows someone who may be interested in a leadership role within our club, please reach out to any of our board members. Dan Spink will not be running for Vice President again, so we know that position will need to be filled, but anyone interested in any other positions are welcome and encouraged. The process will begin in March with elections help in May.
- John reviewed upcoming events including:
 - 23 Jan – Blue Springs Seasonal Event (no Manatee Festival this year, but we will still walk)
 - 13 Feb – Bike Ride – Green Springs (ride Enterprise to Osteen and back)
 - 7 Mar – Port Orange “Get Fit” kick-off walk, option to walk 1 mile, 5km, or 10 km (no bike ride)
 - 27 Mar – Washington Oaks with First Coast Trail Forgers
- John mentioned a possibility for a service project at our Hontoon Island walk location. Maybe within the next year, we might can help with boardwalks over some of the “wetter” areas.
- John also reminded members of our surrounding clubs that they are encouraged to walk with if they would like to: First Coast Tail Forgers (Jacksonville area); Mid-Florida Milers (Orlando area); Sun Coast Sandpipers (Tampa area). John also mentioned that a new club may be starting in the Ft. Myers area that would replace the Meandering Manatees club that closed.
- WAF-30 – is scheduled for 5-7 November 2021. This event was postponed last year due to COVID, so we are ahead of schedule with preparations. We will need volunteers to help with this event and we are looking at providing volunteer training at our upcoming membership meeting this year.

Next Meeting: Thursday, 4 MAR, 6:30 p.m.

10 Members present: John McClellan, Sheila McClellan, Gloria Pratt, Alice Partlow, Dan Spink, David McCarthy, Leslie Stone, Sandy McArthur, Russ Anderson, Nancy Raymond; and staying from the New Member Orientation were Kim Smith, Kathy Kelley and Trish Masters.