



Scenic Sumter Heritage Byway
Byway Organization Meeting
Minutes – March 19, 2019 - 11:00 AM
Dade Battlefield Historic State Park
7200 SR 603, Bushnell, FL

- I. **Call to Order and introduction of guests:** Meeting was called to order by Chair, Judie Mueller. Others in attendance include: Mike Palozzi (Atkins); Dawn Cary (Secretary/Treasurer); Dan McCormic (Vice Chair); Martin Steele (Private Citizen); Rick Dunn (Private Citizen); Mary Brasher (Coastal Angler Magazine); and Claudia Calzaretta (FDOT District 5).
- II. **Review of February 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes** – Minutes were discussed and tabled to April Meeting to approve as there were some missing items that Christy sent to Dawn.
- III. **Treasurer’s Report**-Dawn reported the February 2019 Treasurer’s Report. Beginning balance as of 2/1/19 was \$5,996.00 with expenditures of \$748.53 (Clays2Raise expenses) and a deposit of \$550.00 (Clays2Raise Revenue) leaving an ending balance as of 2/28/19 of \$5,799.47. Motion made by Martin Steele to accept February Treasurer report. Dan McCormic 2nd. Approved as is.
- IV. **Guest Presentation**-Mike Palozzi spoke with Congressman Daniel Webster’s Chief of Staff, Jaryn Emhof, in lieu of Pam Jones, that could not attend the meeting as a last minutes engagement came up. Mike asked what some of the committees the Congressman was working on and was told Highway and Transit, Aviation and Water Resources and Environment. He was integral in setting policies in the Highway and Transit committee in particular. Congressman is well aware of our Veteran’s Gateway project on I-75.
- V. **CME Working Committees**–Committee reports are follows:
 - A. **Economic Assessment Review**-last presentation will be made in the open forum of the Sumter County Tourism Development Council on April 4, 2019 in the Wildwood Board of Commissioner’s office.
 - B. **Visit Florida**-Mike reported that he didn’t think Jeff Caster would be buying memberships for the Florida byways this year. It was decided that any future grants available through Visit Florida would be presented to Jeff Caster under the Florida Scenic Highway Program Visit Florida membership. Mike indicated that Visit Florida was having a webinar on Search Engine Optimization that we may want to take advantage of.
 - C. **Lake-Sumter MPO Economic Assessment Review Debriefing**-Seemed to be well received by the MPO. Packets were distributed with the Economic Study Summary as well as the MPO application for the Exit 309 project.

D. Transportation Alternative Program (Exit 309 Project) –Dawn contacted Bradley Arnold about possible funding by the county for the concept study. Bradley indicated no funding was available due to numerous road projects coming up. He referred us to Olga with the Sumter County TDC. Dawn met with Olga and was informed that TDC funds cannot be used for a feasibility study, but would put some thought into other possibilities. Olga introduced Dawn to Kim Rommel with the Veteran’s Affairs office. Dawn to meet with him on April 11. Discussed the bridge project that Marion county was undergoing a study on. Brainstormed on other ways to attain funding and maybe change the name of the project to fall under TDC guidelines to procure a conceptual drawing.

VI. Byway Partners/Business Sponsorship Program

- A. Kiosk Location Update**-Sumterville materials are being collected for the information sign.
- B. Social Media**-Facebook friends up to 699.
- C. Marketing Materials**-Final brochure is being drafted.

VII. Upcoming/Past Events

- A. Clays2Raise Fundraiser**-March 30, 2019-Spreadsheet presented to group with income and expenditures. Anything from here on out is profit. Blackjack Clays indicated that majority of registration happens in the last week prior to event.

VIII. Florida Scenic Highways Program Report-Mike Palozzi and Claudia Calzaretta

- 1. 2019 District V Byway Forum**-March 28, 2019.

IX. Public Comment/Round Table Discussion-

- X. Adjournment-Next Meeting April 16, 2019 at IFAS/UF Extension Office, Sumter County Fairgrounds, Bushnell, FL.**