



Leesburg Heritage Society, Inc.

111 South 6th St., Leesburg, FL 34748

352-315-1800

25 October 2022

Hi all,

We meet again on Tuesday, November 1st, at the new facility at Rogers Park on 9th Street. If you haven't been there yet, it's perfect for our meetings with plenty of close parking. To avoid the steep hill at the 9th St parking lot, you can use the new parking lot off of Dixie that is shared with the playground. Beyers Funeral Homes will provide refreshments at 3:30, and the meeting will begin promptly at 4:00.

Sanna has lined up Ken Bragg to tell the amazing story of Lake Tech (previously VoTech). He made a similar presentation at a Leesburg Area Chamber of Commerce breakfast meeting and it was excellent.

Be sure to read Sue's minutes. As always, she gives a great recap of our meeting which featured our City Manager, Al Minner's state of the city talk.

Also in this newsletter, Glorianne will report on the museum, which has been open for quite a while, and the Mote Morris House, which also has re-opened. And, Frances has produced the treasurer's report.

Again, we haven't asked for dues since CoVid, so it's time to pony up \$20/person, \$30/couple, for the year or \$200 for a lifetime membership.

It will be great to see everyone again.

Jim Miller

Jim

President

Leesburg Heritage Society
Minutes - Regular Meeting - October 4, 2022

President Jim Miller called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM in the meeting room at Rogers Park. The staff from Beyers Funeral Home, led by Patrick Fulton, provided and helped serve a generous table of refreshments. Our continued thanks! There were 19 members and guests present, including a new member, Brenda Byers. Welcome, Brenda!

Jim led the Pledge of Allegiance as we faced the ballpark flag, followed by an invocation by Sanna Henderson. Vi Pfahler entertained with a joke about a shortage of life vests.

Jim told us the railing on the west side and the video screen will be in place by next month's meeting.

Frances Russek will be available again next month to collect dues from those who are needing to renew (\$20 annual) if you are not a lifetime member.

Sanna introduced our speaker, Leesburg City Manager Al Minner, who came to tell us about recent happenings of interest. He has been with Leesburg 9 years now, with over 25 years in city management in the state. He first discussed the recent rise in electric rates and the reasons behind the rise. He talked about natural gas prices, Russia's policies, closing pipelines, cutting down on fracking, and inconsistent administration policies over the last 30 years. The increases will be with us for some time to come. He also pointed out some good things, like the new aquatic facility, teen center, and beautification. Al also answered several questions about various projects around town. We thank him for taking time to meet with us.

Next month our speaker will be Ken Bragg to discuss the history of Vo-Tech

. Jim advised us that Skellie Morris has been unable to serve as Vice President due to his health, so he nominated Frank Stivender to serve as V.P. The motion was seconded and passed.

Bev Ohnstad told about grant money which is now available, and pointed out ways it might be used to improve the museum. Jim will take Bev, Frank, and Glorianne to meet with Al about this grant money.

Our next meeting will be November 1st.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Turner, Secretary

**Leesburg Heritage Society
Treasurer's Report
October 25, 2022**

***Memorial Fund - 2,375.00

Respectfully submitted,
Frances Russek, Treasurer

Membership dues are: Individual - \$20.00 per year
 Couples - \$30.00 per year
 Student - \$5.00 per year
 Professional, Business, Organization - \$100.00 per year
 Life Membership - \$200.00

Our year is October thru May, with meetings the first Tuesday of the month.

From Glorianne's Desk

The Woman's Club Building will be celebrating its Centennial in December. One of the later buildings erected downtown, it has been very used over the years by good causes. The program in December will feature its 100 years. Later in December will want to plan a birthday party for the building. Will YOU volunteer to help plan the party? Or help decorating or snacks?

Frank Stivender is now First Vice President of Leesburg Heritage Society. He comes into the Museum on Fridays with Vi and me to learn how we operate. Currently we have two excellent Federal employees, one excellent volunteer, and soon to have a Beacon intern.

Mote-Morris House. Since the fire in 2018 and completing the rebuilding last year, we have been open almost every second and fourth Saturday with help from Mary Ellen Robertson Chapter, DAR. She was the wife of John Marmaduke Robertson, our second pioneer in this area. As you know, his father Thomas Robertson was our FIRST pioneer, receiving land next to Lake Griffin in 1842, part of which is now called Bourlay Park. If anyone would like to volunteer with us, please let me know. Also, we need members to come visit with us.

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Leesburg Heritage Society email - leesburgheritagesociety22@outlook.com.
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