



FEDERATION  
OF  
MANATEE COUNTY  
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS

***FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER***

Next Meeting – February 17, 2015 at 6:45 P.M.

***LOCATION – SYNOVUS BANK***

2520 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida

Conference/Meeting Room – Enter through side door on 26<sup>th</sup> Street side

Please mark your calendar and attend with a friend to show support for your community and quality of life.

**AGENDA**

- GUEST SPEAKER – Dr. Richard T. Conard – Condition of Health Care in Manatee County
- Reports and requests for assistance by homeowners and items of interest
- Reading of January Minutes and Treasurer’s Report
- Progress Report on Indigent Care – Sandy Marshall
- Update on Smart Meters – Kay Lynn Duncan
- Discussion on lack of notices to public on new builds

**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE – THE BALL IS NOW IN YOUR COURT**

The January president’s letter offered suggestions for residents to utilize for providing an effective way to influence decision-making. This month we are requesting our community leadership to engage in a similar process.

Congratulations, you have been selected to serve! Influencing the decision making process now becomes an opportunity as well as a major portion of your position to offer solutions within the scope of your responsibilities without bias.

Listed below are steps we feel are important to an acceptable solution, unintended consequences must always be a consideration.

**1. Obtain information**

Research information formats, written documents, meeting discussions, conversations with other people, email, internet sources, advisory meetings, public comment should all be considered to guide thinking and decisions. Discussing with staff, other stake holders and key decision makers assures that the appropriate information from all contingencies has been considered.

**2. Develop an action plan**

Organize and document a bi-partisan review. Varied and partial proposals become a part of the mix of action for consideration. Presentations, verbal or written, are necessary to share knowledge and willingness for participant’s commentary. Planning should include ways to

Jim Kaiser  
President

Paul Valenz  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Ernest “Sandy” Marshall  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President/  
Ex-Officio President

Victor Coveduck  
Treasurer

Kay Lynn Duncan  
Secretary

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“Eternal Vigilance  
is the price of  
Liberty.”

participate through thought sharing and open communications within the forum.

### **3. Present your action plan**

Market the capabilities and solutions of the plan through appropriate presentations.

### **4. Monitor and Adjust the plan.**

Prepare follow-up activities that support plan improvement. Participant suggestions must be measured against the plans objective prior to adjustments

## **WHAT'S ON YOUR DOCKET? AND WHAT IS YOUR GAME PLAN?**

### **CATCH BRADENTON BASEBALL FEVER**

Like baseball? There's plenty of baseball action right here in Manatee County. The Pittsburgh Pirates open spring training games on March 2<sup>nd</sup> with the Black and Gold Intra-squad game. The Pirates will play a 16 game home schedule at McKechnie Field. Tickets are available by calling 941-747-3031 or 877-893-2827 or on-line through [www.pirates.com](http://www.pirates.com).

Also, check out the Bradenton Marauders, the Class A-advanced Affiliate of the Pittsburgh Pirates. The Marauders will play a 70 home game schedule in the Florida State League. Marauders home games are also played at McKechnie Field starting on April 11. Tickets can be obtained by 877-893-2827 or on-line at [bradentonmarauders.com](http://bradentonmarauders.com).

Support Manatee professional baseball by getting a group together and going to see a game or two. Remember these are the people and businesses that support our community financially and some even live in our neighborhoods. (PV)

### **ARE ALL YOUR EXEMPTIONS SHOWING UP ON YOUR PROPERTY BILL?**

Did you know that the Manatee County Property Appraiser's office has an online homestead exemption application system? There is a March 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for filing for new owners. Since it takes approximately 60 days after a closing to show your name in the public records, you may have to file in person to establish your ownership with a copy of your recorded deed.

Applications may also be filed online for other personal exemptions such as widows, widowers, blind, disability or service connected disability. If you think you qualify for any of these exemptions, check it out.

If you have any questions, please contact the Property Appraiser's Office at 941-748-8208. Filing for property tax exemptions is easy and may save you some money in the future. (CLA)



IS THERE A COUNTY DEPARTMENT OR AGENCY YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT? DO YOU HAVE A SPECIAL SPEAKER IN MIND? LET US KNOW.

## **COUNTY INDIGENT HEALTH CARE UPDATE – PART 2**

January 15, 2015, arrived and the FMCCA did not receive current information from our County Commission until February 3, 2015.

Karen Windom, from the County Commission offices, called and advised the following:

1. The Federal Government did not fully extend for 3 years Federal funding to Florida. Only until July 2015.
2. There are powerful lobbyists in Tallahassee presently pushing the Florida Legislature to accept Federal funding for Medicaid recipients to solve funding indigent care in Florida. Time is of the essence.
3. A local indigent health care non-governmental citizens committee has been formed and they will be meeting with local health care providers to consider solutions. Dr. Craig Trigueiro, MD, is chairing this committee. The Federation has contacted Dr. Trigueiro to find out why the Federation was not asked to participate. No reply has been received by the Federation.
4. The County Commission is holding BCC Work Session on Health Care on the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor of the County Administration Building on February 12, 2015, from 9 am – 12 noon. The Federation will have a representative present. Any of our members are invited to attend.

The county should press our legislature and hospitals to come up with a funding solution, and then a fail-safe plan for developing a plan to manage these funds. The Federation has previously submitted to the county a proposed outline for such a plan. A funding solution without an efficient management plan will simply repeat the counties mistakes of the past. (ESM)

### **REMINDER**

DON'T FORGET to sign-up for The *Neighborhood Connections Newsletter* which is published monthly, by Manatee County Neighborhood Services Department. It outlines information that is of importance to Manatee County citizens and contains articles on coming events and other subjects.

To be added to this newsletter, have any questions or you would like to add your neighborhood happenings to the newsletter, please email [neighborhoodconnections@mymanatee.org](mailto:neighborhoodconnections@mymanatee.org). Find out what's happening in Manatee County. Neighborhood Connections is connecting neighborhoods one link at a time.

### **LOOKING FOR NEIGHBORHOOD PHOTOGRAPHS**

The FMCCA website would like to post photos of your community which show the beauty and make-up of your surroundings, just buildings and nature, no people. If you have taken a photo that you would like to submit, please email it to [fmccasupport@aol.com](mailto:fmccasupport@aol.com) along with your name and phone number. Three photos will be chosen on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015, and the 1<sup>st</sup> place winner will receive a surprise award and recognition in a monthly publication. (CLA)

*“Never doubt that a small group of committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”*

*Margaret Mead, cultural anthropologist*

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

Mark your calendar now and plan to attend the February General Meeting.

Our speaker will be Dr. Richard T. Conard, an FMCCA member and a well respected physician in our community, having been an active participant in the real estate and health care industries for nearly fifty years. He will be speaking on the condition of our health care system as it stands today.

On March 16<sup>th</sup>, our guest will be one of our new County Commissioners. Stay tune for more information later. Please note that this will be on Monday since Tuesday, March 17, is St. Patrick’s Day and we plan on celebrating the green with everyone else.

Here is the list of our 2015 scheduled meetings. Please mark your calendars accordingly.

February 17	April 21	September 15	November 17
March 16 (Mon.)	May 19	October 20	

**NOTICE** – PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP. We cannot continue doing what we do for you unless we have your financial support. Your dues payment will enable us to continue printing, copying and sending our monthly newsletter. If you have any changes to your address, telephone number or email, please notify a board member. If you wish to be removed from our mailing or email list, please notify Carole Atkins.

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**Federation of Manatee County Community Associations, Inc. – 2015 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**  
(Please Print)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Type of Application: (Check One) [ ] Individual [ ] Homeowners Association [ ] Neighborhood Organization

Name of Association or Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Alternate Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Households in your organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Federation Annual Dues are \$.50 (fifty cents) for each household. (Number of Households X \$.50 = Annual Dues.) Not to exceed \$100.00. Cost for independent or single membership is \$10.00. Please make your check payable to FMCCA and mail with this form to Victor I. Coveduck, Treasurer, 5203 Palmetto Point Drive, Palmetto, FL 34221.