



FEDERATION
OF
MANATEE COUNTY
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS, INC.

OCTOBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

Next Meeting – October 16, 2018 at 6:45 PM

LOCATION – FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF BRADENTON

1306 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida

(Corner of 13th Street & Manatee Avenue)

Meeting Room – Church Offices Building, enter using west back door

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

AGENDA

- GUEST SPEAKERS – County Commission Candidates for District 4, Misty Servia and Melton Little; and for District 6 (At-Large), Carol Whitmore and Candace Luther
- Reports and requests for assistance by homeowners and items of interest
- Reading of Minutes and Treasurer's Report
- Vote on Proposed Change to FMCCA Bylaws
- Update on Health Care Advisory Board – Sandy Marshall
- Update on RAM – Glen Gibellina
- Update on Bicycle Trails – Ed Goff

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ARE YOU READY TO VOTE? The mid-term local and Florida State election is scheduled for November 6, 2018. If you haven't registered to vote, you need to do so immediately. Contact our local Supervisor of Elections on how and where to register.

This November election is of major importance to current local, state and federal elected office holders and those being replaced under term limits. On the state level, we will be replacing our Governor, Attorney General, local State Representative, two County Commissioners, and two School Board members, plus voting on many Constitutional Amendments. The size of the slate of candidates and constitutional amendments is almost overwhelming.

Voting is both a privilege and responsibility which has been suggested in past issues of our newsletter. This particular election will involve serious quality of life issues for all of us and our families that will affect us for years to come. We urge you to participate in getting the facts to support your voting decisions.

Jim Kaiser
President

Ernest "Sandy" Marshall
1st Vice President/
Ex-Officio President

Glen Gibellina
2nd Vice President

Victor Coveduck
Treasurer

Kay Lynn Duncan
Secretary

Carole Atkins
Newsletter Editor/
Website Coordinator

Ed Goff
Director/
Website Coordinator

Dr. Richard Conard
Director

Diana Adams
Director

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941-792-5039

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www.thefmcca.com

***"Eternal Vigilance
is the price
of Liberty."***

CANDIDATES NIGHT

The candidates for Manatee County Commission vying for Commission seats in the mid-term election in November have been invited to attend and speak at our October 16, 2018 Federation meeting, to tell us why we should vote for them.

Invited are Misty Servia and Melton Little, both County Commission candidates for District 4, and Carol Whitmore (incumbent) and Candace Luther (opponent) for District 6 (At-Large) Commission seat. A brief question and answer session will follow each speaker. (ESM)

REMOTE AREA MEDICAL – RAM IS COMING TO OUR AREA

WHEN: October 13, 2018 – October 14, 2018 all-day
WHERE: Manatee Technical Institute (MTI)
6305 State Road 70, Bradenton, FL 34203
COST: This event is FREE and open to the public.

Typically, Remote Area Medical opens the clinic parking lot no later than 12 a.m. midnight on the first night of the event. Ticket distribution usually begins at 3 a.m., and patients are then served in numerical order according to their ticket number when clinic doors open, which typically occurs at 6 a.m. This process will repeat throughout the clinic days. In some situations, such as inclement weather, volunteer cancellations, or other circumstances outside of RAM's control, ticketing may occur earlier than 3 am. RAM encourages everyone who would like services, especially dental services, to arrive as early as possible.

Dental, vision and medical services are provided on a first-come, first-serve basis. Due to time constraints, be prepared to choose between DENTAL and VISION services. Medical services are offered to every patient attending the clinic. If you would like to help, contact Glen Gibellina for additional information.

SUN TRAIL UPDATE

Both Palmetto and Anna Maria Island are very involved in planning and constructing a trail network in their communities which they expect will become part of the Florida SUN Trail system.

The Manatee County Parks and Natural Resources Department is planning three segments of the SUN Trail as follows: 1) A section west of Interstate 75 that will eventually connect to Palmetto, 2) A 10,000 ft. section that will run along the FPL railroad right-of-way and Erie Road from Parish to 113th Avenue E.

Parks and Natural Resources has requested that FDOT delay for 1-year, the awarding of a \$511,000 grant, that was announced in 2016, because of complications in planning the section between the Interstate and Palmetto.

Parks and Natural Resources is working with SMR on the eastern section of the SUN Trail loop that will

run through eastern Manatee and Sarasota Counties crossing several major roads including SR62, RT675, SR64, SR70, and University Pkwy.

Manatee County and Palmetto are working on a BUILD Grant application that will provide 80% of the funding for numerous projects including multi-use trails.

The west pedestrian walkway on the Green Bridge over the Manatee River is being widened to make it compliant with SUN Trail specifications. At this time there is no definite route planned for the SUN Trail from the bridge through the City of Bradenton and points west.

A “Freedom of Information” request has been made to Manatee County for more information about SUN Trail plans, funding, and the construction schedules. We hope to have more detailed information in the near future. (EG)

ENLARGEMENT OF CELL PHONE TOWER AT KINNAN PARK
APPEARS TO BE A MISTAKE

On September 25, it appears the Manatee County Commission (BOCC) erroneously approved the expansion of a small cell tower located on the same lot where Kinnan Elementary School is presently located.

The BOCC ignored testimony of concerned residents and members of the Manatee County School Board and expert testimony on behalf of the residents who pointed out the County Land Development Code (LDC) does not permit cell phone towers on land zoned as a park. Also, scientific evidence was presented that dangerous cell waves are emitted that would cause physical harm to the young children attending this school and that this close adjacent property of nearby residents would cause a devaluation of their property.

Notably, the BOCC was made aware there were three different options to where this cell tower could be relocated to:

- (1) the extension of the Sarasota Airport flight central tower;
- (2) the water tower of Sarasota County near University Parkway; and
- (3) the lot at the corner of Tallevast Road and Prospect Road.

The Federation pointed out to the BOCC that it should protect the “public welfare” of these residents and their children, defined as a society’s well-being in matters of health, safety, order, economics, to no avail, except for two commissioners. Ironically, the BOCC recently confirmed that its decision involving land use in Manatee County must consider the health, welfare, and safety of our residents, which was not complied with in this instance.

Equally disturbing is the fact that staff dropped the ball and failed to timely notify the residents. Also, they overlooked the fact that the additional costs to put the tower in the right place could be amortized over time from funds generated from use of this tower over time. (ESM)

VOTE ON PROPOSED CHANGE TO FMCCA BYLAWS

(Vote to take place at October 16, 2018 Meeting)

At the May 1, 2018, board meeting a motion was made and passed to change the voting procedure for FMCCA. The change will allow independent members a single (1) vote and the delegate for an Affiliate Association (home or condo owners’ representatives) will have two (2) votes. The current bylaws do not allow independent members a binding vote, only an advisory non-binding vote. Remember to come to the meeting and make your vote count.

“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

2018 MEETING DATES AND SPEAKERS

You do not need to be a member to attend our meetings. All home and condo owners are welcome guests. To be a part of the solution, not the problem, you can join the FMCCA. The meetings are free. We have over 50 years of community service. Bring your ideas and questions to our next meeting. We look forward to your participation.

January 16 – Rick Wells, Sheriff of Manatee County
February 20 – David Miner, School Board Member
March 20 – Cancelled due to weather
April 17 – Corinne Tucker, PIC, MPO
May 15 – Daytime Tour of Manatee Technical College

September 18 – School Board Candidates
October 16 – County Commission Candidates
November meeting moved to 12/04/18

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

Date: _____ Type of Application: (Check One) Individual Homeowners Association Neighborhood Organization
Name of Association or Organization: _____ Number of Households _____
Name of Contact Person(s): _____ Phone: _____
Mailing Address: _____
E-mail Address: _____ Name of Alternate Contact: _____ Phone: _____

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.