

HOMETOWN CIVITAN CLUB MEETING MINUTES

September 1, 2026 10:30 a.m. Evans Prairie CC

www.HometownCivitanClub.org

www.HometownCharities.org

WELCOME: President Deb McCoy opened by welcoming everyone, leading the Pledge of Allegiance and Civitan Creed. Before starting the meeting, everyone ordered their lunch which was served just as the presentations ended. Seven guests and 14 members attended.

MOMENT OF INSPIRATION: 'It is one of the most beautiful compensations of this life that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself.' -Ralph Waldo Emerson

PROGRAM: Annual Grants Presentation by Philanthropy Chair Laura McLaughlin.

Celebrate Differences - President Rebecca Christiansen and her son Ryan received a check for \$1,500. Their current fundraiser is a Halloween Spooktacular Golf Tournament for a "Day Program for adults with intellectual disabilities" that should be operational early January 2027.

My Special Place - President Kristy Sullivan and Vice President Debbie Beaucaire accepted a check for \$1,500. Their smaller building for high level care residents will soon be operational. Their larger building for higher level independence residents should be full by April 2027.

Beacon College - Rich Killion-VP for Advancement & Strategy and Keri Jo Land-Executive Director of Development, Office of Institutional Advancement accepted a check for \$2,000, to be used for a scholarship in the Spring semester for a needy transfer student.

CLUB BUILDING: Deb McCoy described our wish to sponsor an IDD Civitan Club for those participants in the Celebrate Differences Day Program, those in the My Special Place facility and Best Buddies. Hometown Civitan would also like to sponsor a Campus Civitan Club at Beacon College and look forward to working together to achieve those goals.

BUSINESS:

1. Deb gave a recap of our annual convention held two weeks ago in Louisville, Kentucky. The new Executive Director Bryan Johnson, PhD was introduced to the membership. USARC presented a program at one of the general sessions. They had asked her some time ago to give them some pictures and information about Sunrise ARC Civitan Club, which they included in the presentation but then asked Deb to come onstage and talk more about the group! Nice surprise.
2. Starting this month, we have a new location for Board of Directors meetings: Deb McCoy's office in Leesburg. Directions will be sent with the meeting notice.

3. Open Officer and Board of Directors positions for next fiscal year - 10/1/2026 through 9/30/2027: President-Elect and 2 two-year-term Directors. Candidates are being interviewed.

CHARITIES & SOCIAL:

1. Celebrate Differences is having a Halloween Spooktacular Golf Tournament fundraiser on October 31 at Harbor Hills CC in Lady Lake. Golfers who would like to participate can get more info at www.celebratedifferences.org
2. Giving Clubs Expo is October 24 at Everglades Rec. Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Hometown will have a table and everyone is encouraged to go and meet people and discover volunteer opportunities from 50 other area charities.
3. Sunrise ARC Civitan Club in Leesburg will soon have some events for us to join with them. Details will be announced.

NEXT HCC BOARD MEETING: Wednesday, September 16 at 9:30 a.m. All members are invited to attend in Deb McCoy's office: McCoy Behavioral, 3261 US Hwy. 27/441, Unit C-2, Fruitland Park (From the east end of 466A, go south on 27/441 and take a left at the traffic light at the corner of Picciola Cutoff)

NEXT CLUB MEETING: October 6, 2026 – INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS. Doors open at 10:30 a.m., meeting is 10:45 at Evans Prairie CC.

ADJOURNMENT: 11:45 a.m.

Judi Higbee, Secretary ~ 9/1/26

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