

**East Pasco Resident Owned Communities, Inc. [EPROC]
October 19, 2012
Minutes**

Host Park: Spanish Trails West; Member Communities represented: Betmar, Country Air Estates, Country Aire Manor, Emerald Pointe, Gem Estates, Grand Horizons, Sleepy Hollow, Spanish Trails West, Tippecanoe Village and Valleydale. Associate Members represented were Lee Reed Insurance, Lifestyle Choice Realty and San Antonio Citizens Federal Credit Union. We were happy to welcome representatives of Oaks Royal and Bayonet Point Village.

President Rich Rendall called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Linda LaFayette did the invocation and led the pledge, then did the roll call and read the minutes of our April meeting. There being no omissions or corrections, the minutes were accepted as read. Jimmie Stokes presented the Treasurer's Report, indicating a balance of \$2,219.02 which was accepted as presented.

Chairman Rebecca Gaddis circulated to allow all attendees to introduce themselves. Our Community Spotlight this month on our host park, Spanish Trails West, was presented by Tom Johnston.

Our first guest speaker was Mike Wells, Pasco County Property Appraiser. Mr. Wells discussed homestead exemptions: you may apply for a homestead exemption provided you have no tax exemption on any other property you may own regardless of where it is located. He briefly reviewed the review and enforcement procedures followed by the County. You must have title to your property by December 31st and the last date to file your application is March 1st of the year for which you request an exemption. Disabled service veterans may apply for an additional \$5,000 exemption and the spouse of this disabled vet continues to be eligible for the exemption until he or she remarries. Mr. Wells then gave a brief summary of each of the proposed constitutional amendments that will be on the ballot in November. Detailed information is available at Pascovotes.com.

Zephyrhills Councilman Lance Smith then spoke regarding the current plans to annex specific areas surrounding the City. If accomplished, this will make clear the boundaries between City and Pasco County service areas. Advantages of annexation are: easier permitting procedures; faster response times by City police and fire/rescue agencies due to proximity; SWFWMD and fire tax would be removed from your tax bill; Mr. Smith stated there is no question your tax bill would rise with the additional City tax, but services would improve. He also encouraged a positive vote on the "Penny for Pasco." This is not a new tax, but a 10-year extension of an existing sales tax which benefits schools, businesses and municipalities. A brief question and answer period followed Mr. Smith's remarks.

We then discussed some possible topics for future meetings [SWFWMD; budgeting and possible outside meetings by type of community (718, 719, 720)] Our next meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. Friday, November 9, 2012 at Betmar clubhouse #2 (37137 Lakewood Drive) This will be our Annual Meeting and election of Board of Directors, followed by a round table discussion. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda J. LaFayette
Secretary