

**Friends of Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**March 14, 2009**

The Board of Directors of the Friends of Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge (“Friends Board”) met on Saturday, March 14, 2009 in the Conference Room at the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge (“Refuge”).

**Attendees:** Steve Horowitz, John Marshall, Jay Brenner, Joan Davis, Cynthia Plockelman, Judy Colvard, Lance Warley, Tom Poulson, Herb Teitler, and Kim Edoff. Absent were Elinor Williams and Mitch Rosenheim. In special attendance was Sheila Calderon, a Friends member and Sierra Club activist. Sheila will attend our meetings when she can.

The meeting opened at 9:00 am. A quorum was established. Steve Horowitz asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 24, 2009 meeting. Tom Poulson moved to approve the minutes. Joan Davis seconded the motion. The minutes as circulated for the January 24, 2009 meeting were unanimously approved.

**President’s announcements:** Jean Poleshuck is attending to her health needs in New York. Jacque Pelt, former Refuge employee, has been asked by the Friends to help train volunteers in the store with the POS system after she has finished with any Refuge work she needs to complete. She will be done with her work here in this area by the end of May.

**Old Business:**

- Jay Brenner reported that he will not lead any tours through the summer.
- Lance Warley reported that the number of entries and photos submitted compared to the previous year’s contest had increased significantly. They will incorporate any lessons learned this year into next year’s contest.
- The Solid Waste decision is March 18th and Cynthia Plockelman will be at the meeting. Cynthia and John Marshall reported on the recent developments around the new landfill proposed sites and the Everglades Coalition resolution we reviewed and discussed last month. The Refuge site has been taken off the table more or less right now. Discussion followed. The Friends Board agreed to continue to support our previous position of the ranking of proposed landfill sites. The Refuge has also taken this position.
- Steve discussed the Friends Unite Conference that Judy Colvard, Sylvia Pelizza and Steve attended in Washington D.C. The conference is held every other year.

**New Business:**

- Herb Teitler gave the Treasurer’s report. Included in the report was the balances in our accounts, CD renewals and new accounts, replacing our bookkeeper by hiring our CPA to now do the bookkeeping, store sales, membership and donations, LICA (Local Independent Charities Application) distribution, future photo contest expenses, Everglades Day expenses, future calendar production costs, and our future exhibit contributions.
- John Marshall discussed LICA. They do free credit card resolution for the Marshall Foundation. Once we started the fund raising for the exhibits, we did it under the Marshall Foundation umbrella so that the Friends wouldn’t meet the financial threshold requiring an annual audit. John sent his application to LICA which allows an organization to designate a charity so that all future fund distributions that come

in from LICA transactions will be distributed to the Friends (the designated charity ). Approximately \$522 will come in to the Friends from LICA, and we expect future distributions but are currently unsure of the frequency or amounts.

- Tom is working with George Berman on the website. Tom also discussed Envirothon which is a science challenge program for high school student teams. Tom reviewed all of the questions and accompanied three teams on the day of the competition. Jay worked on environmental questions. Mitch Rosenheim will represent the Friends at this competition and present a prize for one of the winning teams.
- Lance discussed the photo contest. The Friends agreed that the contest reception will be held on April 19 at 2:00. The auditorium has been booked. We will investigate using the exhibit room this year as it is darker and will be better to show the photo entries in. The winners will be notified by the Everglades Photographic Society and they will print and mat the winning entries. The Friends is responsible for the reception. Joan Davis and her committee will coordinate efforts and provide refreshments.
- Rolf Olson reported on the Refuge. Controlled burns are on-going. From the stimulus package, the Refuge expects to receive an additional \$1.25 million exotics control budget. They will also get funds to hire some college students and high school students for a couple of programs (YCC). Wading birds are nesting – some have chicks already.
- Kim Edoff reported on her meetings with David Underwood and Serena Rinker regarding children and family attendance at the Refuge. David is working on some curriculum programs for grades 4-6 and hopes to test out some programs this summer. He is also starting a “Reading on Loxahatchee is Fun” program in April. Tom indicated that he could be a resource for David and his program development. Lance offered to hold bird photography walks for children before David’s program start time, and Herb suggested David check with Harvey in the store to make sure we had enough supplies of the books that were being read. Serena continues to work on curriculum development and teacher training programs as well as the Connecting People with Nature, targeting underserved populations, recruiting volunteers to help with children/school visits and education, grant execution (should funds become available), and some new health/nature initiatives. Kim will offer to assist her in any way she can with her programs.
- Judy reported on volunteer programs – the coordinator position needs to be defined and Refuge Staff will be working with her on this.
- Cynthia announced the upcoming quarterly Everglades Technical Oversight Committee meeting on March 24. FAU has initiated a program - a free symposium on the impact of climate change on South Florida, April 3 in Fort Lauderdale. See Cynthia for information on attending.
- Joan indicated that the River of Grass meetings are open to the public and are held by the South Florida Water Management District at various locations around the district.
- Steve displayed the new Loxahatchee cards (we purchased 5,000 for \$75) for distribution to the public or any meeting you attend.
- John will be speaking on the Everglades at a future League of Women Voters meeting.
- Lance has an assistant editor (Katie Smith, Friends member) for layout and design for the Gator Tales. All Board members should submit an article to him by the end of April.
- Brick purchase in honor of long-term former Friends Board members was discussed. The Friends Board agreed to review these honorary brick purchases on a case by case basis. Motion: Joan moved that we should purchase a brick for Jean Polshuck and Ruth Levow in honor of their service to the Board. Cynthia seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. Kim to send John Marshall the text for the bricks.
- The Friends Board discussed the 2010 calendar – costs, production levels, image reproduction, gifts or charge for them, etc. Board members were asked to bring in a \$250 advertisement each to help defray

the cost of the calendar. Tom asked if Board members could contribute in different ways. Discussion centered around possibly increasing production quantities for next year so that we could use the calendars for publicity to various groups. Motion: Cynthia moved to produce the calendar for 2010 in a similar format to 2009. Herb Teitler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- Production of a tri-fold color brochure was discussed to be produced in a high quantity such as 5,000. Cost for this would be approximately \$400 and it would be a Friends brochure that we could use for a long period of time. Friends members or staff members could use these brochures to help publicize our group as well as the Refuge. Motion: Tom Poulson moved to authorize Elinor Williams to go forward on the project of creating and designing a new tri-fold brochure. Joan Davis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
- John proposed that the Friends provide support for the summer intern program for the Marshall Foundation. The interns provide a lot of sweat equity at the Refuge and the Marshall Foundation operations fundraising is down due to the fundraising focus being on the display exhibits over the last year. Discussion and proposal to follow at next Board meeting.

Steve moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 10:50am. The next BOD meeting is April 25, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kim Edoff  
March 14, 2009