

**FRIENDS OF ARM LOXAHATCHEE NWR
BOARD MEETING MINUTES MAY 11, 2010**

Meeting was called to order at 2:10 PM.

Members present:

Steve Horowitz
John Marshall
Tom Poulson
Mitch Rosenheim
Joan Davis
Cynthia Plockelman
Kay Larche
Marta Isaacson
Jeff Kramer
Elinor Williams
Judy Colvard (took minutes)

Members Absent

Lance Warley
George Berman
Dave Lurie
Pauline Stacey

Staff Present: Rolf Olson

The Board members discussed the following:

1. Next board meeting is June 26 at 9 AM.
2. Steve, Nancy Marshall and Josette Kaufman met prior to our meeting to brainstorm ideas for ways the Marshall Foundation and the Friends could work together for the benefit of each organization.
3. Gator Tales will go out to membership in June.
4. Gift shop sales report was distributed showing income in different categories from Oct. thru April. Roughly \$35,000 was from shop sales. Our fiscal year runs from Oct 1 to Sept. 30.
5. A pie graph showing major areas of income & expenditures will be prepared and added to Gator Tales and our web site for our membership to review.
6. Friends get approximately \$1,000 from Local Independent Charities through payroll check-offs.
7. Art contest application is posted on our web site and other locations. There is no entrance fee for participants under 18.
8. June 12 is Fishing Day for kids, Serena is in charge, assisted by a local fishing club.
9. The Board thanked Mitch for his idea to invite other Friends groups to contribute to our Newsletter. First will be Ding Darling.
10. Harvey Eisen received good reviews from his presentation on how to run a gift shop at the recent Regional Friends meeting at Crystal River.
11. The Everglades Day committee recently met and suggested that the Strazzula Marsh tours be eliminated because of bus costs, turnaround problems, prescribed burn location flexibility, abuse toward volunteers, and lack of staff

assistance. Rolf suggested these problems could be overcome and the Strazzula tours should be continued because of its popularity.

12. Sponsors are needed to help finance Everglades Day. Cultural Counsel grant is again in jeopardy.
13. Jeff requests more training for canoe volunteers prior to Everglades Day.
14. Steve will be out of town May 16 to June 1.

Comments by Rolf:

1. Seven staff members will rotate throughout the summer to assist in the oil spill areas. This leaves the Refuge short staffed for the summer months. Keith Boliek returns on May 24. Five staff positions are open but Rolf hopes they will be filled by the end of the year.

2. The request for a replacement light bulb in the gift shop will be done. Request was made 4 months ago.
3. The boardwalk reconstruction will begin soon and wire mesh will be used on the sides.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:40 PM