

# Friends of ARM Loxahatchee NWR

## Board Meeting Minutes September 11, 2010

Pre-meeting 9am:

Lance Warley presented a short slideshow of a recent flight over the new Site ONE Impoundment (just north of Lox Road). Bill Tison, a local pilot, generously flew Steve and Lance over the proposed SFWMD land so that it could be filmed as a baseline before it is excavated, surrounded by a 12 foot dyke, and flooded. Thanks to these aerial photos, the BOD and Refuge staff have a more complete vision of the vast area of this new project. The BOD members expressed their personal thanks to Mr. Tison and to Lance for the photographs. This CD has been downloaded to Refuge computer for all staff to view.

The Meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM by President Steve Horowitz.

Members present:

Steve Horowitz  
John Marshall  
Tom Poulson  
Mitch Rosenheim  
Joan Davis  
Cynthia Plockelman  
Kay Larche  
Elinor Williams  
Jeff Kramer  
Lance Warley  
David Lurie

Staff Present: Rolf Olson, Deputy Director

Steve opened the meeting with a remembrance of September 11, 2001.

Minutes were presented from the July Meeting. Corrections to be sent to Pauline.

The Board Members discussed the following:

1. Next board meeting is Saturday, October 26 at 2pm.
2. Lance announced that the December issue of 'Gator Tales' deadline is October 15th. A cover article on the 2011 Everglades Day was suggested. Steve asked that Kay would write this, with input from Marta and Serena. Lance also suggested a separate short interview with Jon Wallace, FWS Prescribed Fire Specialist. There will be a center spread of Loxahatchee Visions Art Contest if enough entries are received. Tom will review the new Harvey Oyer books on Charlie Pierce and the Everglades. Elinor will have the updated membership

form to include. Steve will have his President's column. Myron Weinberg perhaps an article on carbon sequestration the Everglades.

3. Elinor reported that the 2011 Calendar is ready and at the printers. The 5,000 calendars cost \$4,731 to print, which is aprox. \$.95/calendar. With \$2,200 in ads, the final cost will be \$2,531, which is aprox. \$.51/calendar.
4. Cynthia discussed the PBC Cultural Arts Council funding cuts that will affect Everglades Day. She urged BOD members to contact their County Commissioners regarding the funding for Everglades Day.
5. Rolf made Refuge announcements:
  - Construction on Cypress Boardwalk on schedule. Completion around October.
  - Excellent work and good feedback on new railings, etc.
  - A new S.T.E.P. student arrived. Moises Chavez.
  - Christine Trammell has applied as new Biologist
  - 2 new Bio-Techs
  - The Refuge is third in the Nation in prescribed- burn acreage. This is under leadership of Jon Wallace and Grant Gifford and Rolf Olson.
  - Sept.18 is Fall Migration Bird Count, Marcie Kapsch is Team Leader.
  - Volunteers needed.
  - Sep. 25 will be "Public Lands Day" at the refuge. This is another free entrance Day. Community volunteers, students, and Friends volunteers will do refuge work projects. David Underwood is Team Leader.
  - October 10 is "The Big Sit"
6. David Lurie gave Treasurer's report. There is a balance of \$41,000. The store now has 500{0} items for sale and the inventory will be Sept.20, at 9am with Harvey Eisen leadership.
7. There was a general discussion re: proposed Ag-Oil Jatropha Bio-Fuels Conversion Plant facility to be built at corner of Hwy 441 / SR 7 and Atlantic Ave, which is west of Delray Beach. This is just east of the Refuge. Many housing developments and area environmentalists oppose this facility. There will be a PBC Commission hearing Sept. 30. Rolf stated that the Refuge staff is "currently studying possible impacts to the refuge and do not have an official stand at this time."
8. Tom Poulson presented the new Powerpoint at the September staff meeting, which will serve as Loxahatchee's educational tool for the Speakers' Bureau. The presentation was very well received, and Sylvia wants input.

9. Steve made motion to continue listing LOX in the PBC commercial tourist map and to order new Friends of Loxahatchee "Right Cards" with new photo and a few corrections. Carried unanimously.
10. There will be a new Education Office in EPT building which will house library and files INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS. Steve thanked Rolf for facilitating.
  - Also the Friends have purchased a new locked metal cabinet for Friend's storage (located on second floor landing).
11. Steve made motion to purchase a large, glass-front wall cabinet to hang above the water fountain. It will display educational themes and events with books & materials from the bookstore. Carried unanimously.
12. Kay presented information on PBC "Adopt a Road" program and suggested that the "Friends of ARM Loxahatchee Wildlife Refuge" apply to "adopt" Lee Road. The only requirements are cleaning 4x/per year and a safety class for the leader. Kay volunteered to be "leader" and take the course. If accepted, the county will provide a large road sign with our name.
13. There is now a new Heart Defibrillator in V. C. Steve is looking into fees for training for the V.C. volunteers.
14. Many thanks to John Marshall for placing approximately 12 new memorial bricks in hot/humid pathways this morning.

Meeting was adjourned at 11am.

Submitted by Kay Larche, 9/28/10