

Minutes Friends of Loxahatchee BOD Meeting, September 17, 2011, 8:30 AM, Conference Room

Present: Joan Davis, Harvey Eisen, Becky Garcia, Steve Horowitz, Jeff Kramer, Kay Larche, John Marshall, Tom Poulson, William Ross, Elinor Williams (Brian Hopper, Guest)

Absent: Judy Colvard, David Lurie, Cynthia Plockelman, Pauline Stacey

President Stephen Horowitz called the meeting to order at 8:38 AM. New BOD member Becky Garcia was welcomed and introduced. Brian Hopper was welcomed to the Meeting.

Joan Davis was unanimously elected to position of Recoding Secretary after brief nomination, seconding, and no discussion.

BOD Minutes of June 21, 2011, and July 30, 2011, as previously circulated via Email, required no corrections. Jeff Kramer moved to accept Minutes of June and July; Elinor Williams seconded the motion. No discussion. Unanimous acceptance.

Brian Hopper was introduced to the BOD and welcomed as a candidate for BOD membership. An election will shortly occur via Email. Mr. Hopper's biography had been previously circulated to the BOD via Email. His experience as a grant writer, as well as his other life experiences, were given positive accolades by those in attendance.

Presidential announcements included:

- 1)Tuesday, September 20, 2011, Meredith Wilson will present a program re: sea turtles in VC auditorium.
- 2)The current issue of Friends Forward may be located on line at U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Friends Forward or through National Wildlife System.
- 3)Treasurer David Lurie has deposited a \$1000.00 check donated by the Louis and Lena Minkoff Foundation, a family foundation. This was given by Ms. Jane Hodes and possibly may become an annual donation.
- 4)Aero-photography of the Refuge will again occur with Bill Tyson skillfully piloting his plane, Jay Paredes as photographer, and Elinor, John or Tom shall use the "window manager" skills.
- 5)Two meetings re: Everglades Headwaters National Wildlife Refuge and Conservation Area will take place in Avon Park on September 24, 2011, and October 1, 2011. Public input possible.
- 6)The Hal Wiedemann Library dedication date TBA. Hal had bequested his library to the Refuge.
- 7)App. 20,000 acres on Refuge involved in prescribed burn on September 12, 2011, were reported in the media, both correctly and incorrectly. A wind shift to the East sent smoke to Boca Raton. Nothing was out of control. Wind direction simply changes unpredictably.
- 8)Steve, Sylvia, and Rolf are involved in discussion with an anonymous donor. This could be important.

New business primarily involved discussion and suggestions re: the new VISITORS GUIDE which is in preparation by Tom Poulson. At this time, there is no publishing deadline. Printing will require

two weeks. All agreed it must be available for Everglades Day. Harvey Eisen stressed that the Visitors Guide sells well to snowbirds and it would be well to have it in the bookstore early for their arrival. Tom described his plan for full color, glossy, and with 2 heavy covers. Elinor, Becky, and Brian presented ideas re: content. There was much general discussion concerning the Refuge map and its location within the Guide. Steve and Sylvia require new photographs. It is also hoped Sylvia will amp up her written contribution. JAM also addressed this. Pauline had converted the Visitors Guide to a PDF file just prior to the meeting. Everyone now has opportunity and time to view it. All suggestions will be forwarded to Tom via Email.

JAM informed that Carlton Ward will lead a canoe trip with which ARMF canoe trip will coincide.

Mention was made and it was emphasized that Friends does not make contributions or donations to other organizations. This occurred since the Girl Scouts had made a request.

Steve left meeting for the planned Cleanup with Americorps Volunteers and 3 teams of SHS students. Barry Mintzer led the south Lee Road cleanup while Jeff Kramer led the north Lee Road cleanup. Another team cleaned the waterfront and levee areas. Kay Larche clicked and clicked and clicked our hardworking volunteers.

JAM as Veep continued the meeting. BOD members related their bios and varied activities. Suggestions arose as to future Gator Tales content et al. It was agreed that prior to printing, authors be allowed to update their pieces. Harvey Eisen explained and stressed the need for a new software system to replace the current system in the store. Many necessary record functions are not possible with the present system. All present supported Harvey.

Elinor reminded all of the changed meeting dates. Now scheduled are October 18 at 2:00PM, November 19 at 9:00AM, December 17 at 9:00AM.

JAM mentioned "The Fragmented Forest" by Larry Harris as the inspiration for the ARMF tree planting programs. With that, the meeting was adjourned.