

Minutes Friends of Loxahatchee BOD Mtg., March 17, 2012, 9:00AM Conference Room VC

Present: Joan Davis, Harvey Eisen, Stephen Horowitz, Jeff Kramer, Kay Larch, John Marshall, Jay Paredes, Pauline Stacey, Max Wald, Elinor Williams, Mike Winokur

Absent: Judy Colvard, David L. Lurie, Cynthia Plockelman, Tom Poulson

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 AM. A quorum was present. Stephen welcomed Mike Winokur, a new member, to the BOD. Steve mentioned that he, Elinor, and Max have yet to meet to discuss By-Law revisions. He also brought to the Board's attention that there are now four Volunteers serving on the BOD.

Harvey Eisen moved to accept the February Minutes as sent out. Pauline Stacey seconded the motion. Acceptance was unanimous.

Harvey Eisen reported Sales in the Store were good in February. Sales are ahead of what they were from October to February in 2011. Harvey submitted his report.

In the absence of Treasurer David L. Lurie, President Stephen Horowitz reported that there will be \$1600.00 in cash prizes at the March 18, 2012, 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Photography Contest. Steve stated that he had requested David to merge the Jay Brenner account into the Friends general account. Including interest, the Brenner account contained \$3435.00. He further stated that Rolf Olson made a request that Friends pay Southern Custom Exhibits of Alabama \$3500.00.

Steve noted that occasionally checks intended for Friends are made out to the Refuge.

He reported to the Board that the Refuge requested \$6000.00 for signage. This request from the Refuge was reflected in the budget discussed by the BOD and approved at the beginning of the fiscal year. This is a \$2000.00 Friends shortfall. Jeff Kramer moved to authorize the \$6000.00 payment to the Refuge. It was seconded by Elinor Williams and approved by a unanimous vote of the Board.

Jay Paredes reported that there were 46 entrants in the 2012 Photography Contest. Fewer than 2011 due to the drought. 210 images were selected in 6 categories for the contest. Michael Cohen did the prints and framing. Jay reported that Ruth Pannunzio, a loyal visitor to the Refuge, is the 2012 Grand Prize Winner.

Steve requested BOD cleanup help following the Sunday reception in the Pavillion.

The PBC Commissioner's Meeting is March 22<sup>nd</sup> when the Wind Capital Group will make its next proposed Sugarland Windfarm proposal. Steve reminded all who will attend to have both two minute and three minute statements prepared with copies to present to the Commissioners. The official Refuge position is that the site not be developed until the FWS is satisfied with the migratory bird data. There are approximately 40 farmers on board with Wind Capital Group.

JAM noted that the radar being mentioned does not sense individual birds. He also said State and ACE have yet to speak on this subject.

Steve spoke of Detect, Inc. of Panama City which manufactures a radar system called Merlin that could save birds. Wind Capital Group will only "rent" the radar system for one month because they consider it too costly to install on the 140+ 70 Story high turbines. Jam reminded that it was 1000 Friends of Florida who had the lead on this.

Kay Larche reported that Chuck Ryan is arranging a luncheon in the Pavillion at 11:30AM on Thursday, March 29, 2012. The Refuge annually gives this luncheon in appreciation of the loyalty of Friends Volunteers.

Jeff Kramer with Kay Larche assisting presented to the BOD a detailed plan of Preliminary Ideas for Friends 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. Jeff's multiple ideas stimulated extensive discussion. Elinor stated that many things at the Refuge require funding therefore fundraising is a necessity. She is requesting specific ideas not merely generalizations.

Mike Winokur moved that an Ad Hoc Committee should be formed consisting of Jeff Kramer, Kay Larche, and himself. Pauline Stacey seconded the motion. It passed by a 7 to 4 vote of the BOD.

Engraved brick pavers were again a topic. Steve described his efforts to locate an engraver for this fundraising enterprise. David L. Lurie located Polar Engraving in Naples who work on a 5 brick minimum. They provide the bricks and ship them. There is a one week turnaround time. A lifetime guarantee against chipping or cracking is issued. The price will remain \$100.00, but for \$125.00 Polar will also provide a small souvenir brick .

JAM moved to give the option for the brick alone at \$100.00 or \$125.00 for the paver brick and souvenir small brick. Pauline and Harvey simultaneously seconded the motion which passed the BOD unanimously.

Pauline Stacey reported that the EvCo annual meeting will be held April 13, 2012, in Clewiston. JAM says EvCo president doing a good job with greatly improved meetings. He also stated that one reason things don't move along is that attorneys are risk adverse.

The Meeting adjourned at 10:55AM.

Submitted by

Joan E. Davis, Secretary