

Minutes Friends of the ARM Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge – Saturday, January 26, 2013

Present: Judy Colvard , Joan Davis, David L. Lurie, John Marshall, Cynthia Plockelman, Tom Poulson, Rolf Olson, Max Wald, Elinor Williams, Mike Winokur

Absent: Harvey Eisen, Steve Horowitz, Jeff Kramer, Kay Larche, Jay Paredes, Pauline Stacey

John Marshall, 2012 Vice-President, in the absence of President Steve Horowitz, called the Meeting to order at 9:02AM.

A quorum was present.

John Marshall expressed appreciation for all that Friends had done in 2012.

Joan Davis, Chair of Nominating Committee which included BOD member Judy Colvard and off-BOD Bill Ross, announced a new slate of officers: President – Elinor Williams; Vice-President—Judy Colvard; Secretary—Joan Davis; Treasurer—David L. Lurie. Cynthia Plockelman moved acceptance of the slate. The officers were elected by acclamation.

Tom Poulson moved that Minutes of the December, 2012, BOD Meeting be accepted. The motion was seconded by David L. Lurie and approved by the BOD.

Newly elected President Elinor Williams then chaired the meeting. She announced all future meetings would be recorded for accuracy. She will prepare a list of meetings and function attended by Steve Horowitz. Steve will continue attending some. Those no longer covered will require volunteer coverage.

John Marshall suggested Committees meet prior to BOD Meetings. Elinor then listed current standing committees.

Vice-President Judy Colvard will serve when needed in the absence of President Williams. Judy will be more involved with the Store. After mention of the cash register, David Lurie interjected that problems have mostly been resolved. The possibility of a new register is under consideration.

Max Wald reported calls from schools seeking speakers. Classes come to the Refuge, but busing is costly for schools.

Secretary Joan Davis reported that in future BOD Meetings signed motions must be submitted in writing.

David L. Lurie distributed the Treasurer's report for the period ending December 31, 2012. In the absence of Harvey Eisen, David reported that all has been ordered and the store is prepared and stocked for Everglades Day.

Rolf Olson reported for the Refuge: the new custodian begins 1/28/13; the retiring exotic biologist leaves a vacancy; Staff work load has increased; Water Plant now working; Montana FWS staff member on site for two week Airboat operation training; alligator hunt on hold awaiting Washington approval and subsequent State approval. Delayed approvals could postpone hunt to 2014.

Elinor reported Friends Membership is 295. There are 30 Lifetime members.

Cynthia Plockelman reported ongoing Everglades Day preparations. Volunteers must attend training.

Max Wald announced articles for the next Gator Tales are being solicited. GT goes to the printer mid-May with June distribution. Staff articles are requested. Elinor prefers a new banner with each publication of GT. All photographs require credits. Michael Dropkin, accomplished in layout, could be helpful with GT.

2013 Refuge calendars will be distributed at Everglades Day. After the Photo Contest Elinor begins work on the 2014 Calendar. Recommended: BOD member purchase and distribute calendars in meetings each attends.

Chuck Ryan is the new Volunteer-Coordinator. Mike Winokur reported fewer snowbird volunteers this season. Judy Colvard prefers fulltime resident volunteers.

John Marshall spoke of the January EvCo conference. Joan suggested Elinor contact Pauline Stacey, FLR representative to EvCo, for her reports. Reports should go online to the BOD and be included with Minutes.

The "Bird Count" is President's Day weekend. Cynthia hopes for participation.

The need for an Auditorium sound system was discussed. Mike Winokur checking for sound system and podium light.

President Williams emphasized the importance of fund raising for current and future projects.

2013 FLR Bod meeting dates: 2/23, 3/23, 4/27, 6/22, 7/27, 9/28, 10/26, 11/23

In planning is a luncheon to honor Steve Horowitz for his service.

The Meeting was adjourned at 11:05AM

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Davis, Secretary