

Minutes Friends of the ARM Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge – Saturday, February 23, 2013

Present: Judy Colvard, Joan Davis, Harvey Eisen, Stephen Horowitz, Jeff Kramer, Kay Larche, David L. Lurie, John Marshall, Jay Paredes, Cynthia Plockelman, Tom Poulson, Max Wald, Elinor Williams, Mike Winokur

Absent: Pauline Stacey

President Elinor Williams called the Meeting to order at 9:02AM. A quorum was present.

John Marshall moved approval of January 23, 2013, BOD meeting Minutes. Judy Colvard seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Announcements: 1)received \$5000.00 matching grant for listening posts; 2)in P&L grant writer paid \$25.00 per hr.; 3)\$40.00 Walmart gift card received; 4)donation tracking by President Williams who also Emails to newspapers; 5)Facebook improved by Jay Paredes w/daily updates by Kay Larche; 6)volunteer orientation meeting planned; 7)possible posting of refuge events in libraries; 8)Star Party promoted in newspapers; 9)Jay Paredes created "Spider Party" flyer; 10)one new Life Member; 11)letter from Rep. Bill Hager received.

Rolf Olson not present. No Refuge report.

Discussion re: sporadic parking lot security problems. Steve Horowitz reported security cameras expensive and often negative. Cost of power to other areas app. \$65,000.00. A grant is possible. Volunteers do inform visitors to secure visible contents in autos.

Reported: Rolf amenable to impoundment enhancements. Tom Poulson making C6 plan.

March 1 budget cuts could close Refuge. Sylvia reports SE region in good position.

Davis L. Lurie distributed Treasurer's Report. See attached document.

Harvey Eisen gave Gift Shop report. See attached document. Harvey advised BOD that each month of this fiscal year improved over previous year. Everglades Day shirt problem to be addressed to Ev. Day Comm.

President Williams distributed First Quarter Financial Report, P & L, and Balance Sheet. Documents attached. Questions can be addressed by General Ledger.

Everglades Day Wrap-Up: Kay Larche reported 4023 attended with only 3 non-lifethreatening emergencies. Steve Horowitz stated best ever Everglades Day with excellent staff and volunteers. Since only 150 able to canoe, Max Wald refers this to committee for evaluation. President Williams gave kudos to ALL for a successful, upbeat day.

Pauline Stacey absent. EvCo Conference & EvCo reports attached.

Judy Colvard will attend Florida Friends Conference in Titusville on April 13-14.

Max Wald: 1)Gator Tales should include Everglades Day articles; 2)banner suggestion vote at March BOD. President Williams suggested article topics for Gator Tales.

Jay Paredes reported 59 photographs from 11 entrants to Photo Contest. Fees total \$200.00. Awards Day is March 17th in auditorium of VC. Auditorium projector requires focusing.

Mike Winokur reported results of research re: auditorium microphone plus belt type for trail guides. Total costs app. \$400.00. Item and motion tabled.

Jeff Kramer stated canoe requirement of a 2-way radio. Monitoring questioned. Jay Paredes suggested technical details be addressed.

President Elinor Williams will be liaison between Friends and Staff re: listening posts grant et al. Rolf & staff to determine post informational contents. Steve Horowitz recommended Jay Paredes proceed with vendors.

A Weather Station proposal by Bruce Rosenberg is under consideration. Tour of Green Cay Weather Station for interested parties on March 6th. FSW approval required for implementation.

Jeff Kramer will chair Fund Raising Committee.

Rolf Olson will check re: VC auditorium manual light dimmer and dark curtains.

Proposal re: bikes and new canoe rental appropriation by Friends tabled. Joan Davis requested legal liability be thoroughly vetted.

Harvey Eisen moved the meeting be adjourned at 12 Noon. The BOD then proceeded to lunch at Ben's Deli to honor Stephen Horowitz (and Jayme) for four years served as Friends president.

Next BOD: Saturday, March 23, 2013, 9:00AM

Respectfully submitted,

Joan E. Davis, Secretary