

Friends of the Lower Suwannee and Cedar Keys NWR  
January 15, 2020 Monthly Board Meeting Minutes  
Prepared by: Debbie Meeks

Present: John McPherson, Libby Cagle, Ed DeHaan, Bill Dummitt, Dan Kline, Debbie Meeks

By phone: no-one

Guests: Andrew Gude, Peg Hall, Russ Hall, Ginessa Mahar, Sterling Valentine

10am- call to order

- 1- Andrew Gude introduced Sterling Valentine, Refuge law enforcement officer. She did not stay for the remainder of the meeting.
- 2- The agenda was adopted by consensus.
- 3- A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the December minutes.
- 4- Treasurer report- no report was submitted. The draft budget was reviewed, discussed and approved.
- 5- Refuge report- Andrew Gude
  - a. Vic is retiring next December and will likely come back as a contractor.
  - b. Operation Outdoor Hunt is taking place on the Dixie side
  - c. Amber Lee is leaving for a job at Mote Aquarium.
- 6- Annual Meeting- the To Do list was reviewed, tasks are progressing according to schedule.
- 7- Nominating Committee
  - a. Matt Chatowsky, Denise Feiber, Barbara Woodmansee, Ginessa Mahar and Travis Thomas are coming onto the board.
- 8- Committee Reports
  - a. Visitor Contact- Bill Dummitt reported that about half the shifts are covered. He got a good response from the general membership but so far no one new has covered any shifts.
  - b. Interpretive media- Debbie Meeks reported there are no projects.  
Membership is flat or declining, need to attract new members. Some suggestions from the board are: targeting hunters with a web page, t-shirts, informational signs, adding Friends information to the hunt brochure, and making the annual hunt meeting into a luncheon and having a Friends presentation.
  - c. Online Communications- Peg Hall presented her report. The details are in her email to the board.
  - d. Inventory and Sales- Bill Dummitt reported that t-shirts supplies are somewhat depleted, he is ready to order a new batch for the annual meeting. Debbie Jordan's email about swallow-tailed kite designs was discussed. Debbie Meeks will work with Debbie Jordan on the design. Peg Hall will review the earring options and make recommendations.
  - e. Kite Project- Debbie Jordan's fundraising t-shirt was discussed- see above.
  - f. Pepper Busting- Ed Dehaan agreed to take over scheduling and volunteer recruitment from Roger McDaniels in March.
  - g. Trails- Libby reported seeing a trail at St. Marks that appears to be like geocaching but instead of a cache, the hiker finds a stamp to imprint a book of some kind. This could be implemented on the Refuge since geocaching is not allowed.
  - h. Advocacy- nothing
  - i. Vista- John McPherson reported that Belinda Nettles plans to submit deliverables to John from Bender & Associates on the 17<sup>th</sup> and will complete the quarterly report for the state by the end of the month.
- 9- Open Discussion- nothing

Adjourned at noon.