

Friends of the Lower Suwannee and Cedar Keys NWR  
June 17, 2020 Monthly Board Meeting Minutes  
Prepared by: Debbie Meeks

Present: none

By phone: John McPherson, Matt Chatowsky, Denise Feiber, Peg Hall, Joe Hand, Boyd Kimball, Linda Kimball, Dan Kline, Ginessa Mahar, Debbie Meeks

Guests: none

10am- call to order

- 1- The agenda was adopted by consensus.
- 2- A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the May minutes.
- 3- The treasurer's report was discussed and approved.
- 4- Refuge report- no Refuge staff were able to attend. No update.
- 5- Project Reports and Discussions
  - a. Visitor Contact- No report. The program is still shut down. Peg reported that we had a couple of emailed inquires.
  - b. Interpretive media- Debbie M. described Andrew's idea to display Daniel Barrand's Refuge maps the North and South Nature Drive entrances, the River Trail and locations TBD on the Dixie side. Visitors would be instructed to photograph the map and use it during their visit. The board agreed it is a good idea and a worthy use of Friends money. Membership- Debbie M. reported that Andrew Gude joined at a generous level, otherwise, not much membership activity. Peg noted that the number of life members is almost equal to the number of annual members but we do not ask for further contributions from our life members. More discussion is needed about when and how to ask.
  - c. Online Communications
    - i. Peg reported that the News Brief was not opened as much as last month but still more than an average non-profit, possibly because people are returning to normal life.
    - ii. Meetup is up for a 6 month renewal on August 20. Canceling or continuing with it was briefly discussed but not decided.
  - d. Inventory and Sales- no report
  - e. Kite Project
    - i. Debbie J. applied for a \$1,000 grant.
    - ii. Online sales- Debbie J. found out postage for online t-shirt sales would be a couple of dollars. She is willing to handle the packaging and mailing. Denise suggested that if t-shirts could be printed quickly we could offer them online without having inventory on hand then print them if there is demand.
  - f. Pepper Busting- no report
  - g. Trails-
    - i. The Avenza offline map app was discussed. Debbie M. will email instructions to the board.
    - ii. Barbara's new trail- no report
  - h. Advocacy-
    - i. John M. reviewed the No Roads to Ruin coalition's website, he will ask for more information. All were in favor of joining based on what we know so far.
  - i. Vista-

- i. John M. reported that the special category grant was written and submitted by Belinda Nettles and Bender & Assoc. Grant money was targeted for weatherproofing the houseboat, garage and cookhouse. Discussion followed about whether that is the best use for the funds. John M. will ask Bender to present their report to the board in the fall.
- 6- Open Discussion- There are volunteer opportunities working on living shorelines in Cedar Key and helping Barbara hunt for endangered skipper butterflies. A July meeting is scheduled but it is to be determined if it will be by phone or in person.

Adjourned at 11:05 am.