

Present: John McPherson, Libby Cagle, Bill Dummitt, Roger McDaniels, Joe Hand, Debbie Meeks

By phone: no one

Guests: Jay Bushnell

Friends of the Lower Suwannee and Cedar Keys NWR

October 16, 2019 Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Prepared by: Debbie Meeks

10am- call to order

- 1- Motion to adopt the September minutes by Bill Dummitt, seconded by Joe Hand. Unanimously passed.
- 2- Refuge report by Andrew Gude-
 - a. George Pelt, heavy equipment operator, is working again for our Refuge.
 - b. Andrew will ask Sterling Valentine, law enforcement officer, to come to the November board meeting so we can meet her.
 - c. Seahorse Key open house is this weekend.
 - d. Vole numbers are lower than past counts but they are in the same locations.
 - e. An Atesna Otie cemetery cleanup is planned this winter in conjunction with Ken Sassaman's group who wants to document it.
 - f. Some preliminary talk about renaming the Refuge in honor of George Wilson, Florida environmentalist. The renaming might or might not happen.
- 3- Treasurer report- reviewed and accepted by consensus.
- 4- Bylaws amendments were reviewed and the following changes were decided by consensus.
 - a. A quorum shall consist of 6 board members.
 - b. Article X (Security), section 5 will be rewritten to include all password protected systems, not only email. Also to allow for the possibility that paid non-members could be granted access, not only volunteers.
- 5- Annual Meeting- There were suggestions for speakers and afternoon activities. Some of the members present volunteered for tasks.
- 6- Committee Reports
 - a. Seafood festival- Bill Dummitt needs more help. Seahorse Key Open House- John McPherson and Joe Hand will handle it.
 - b. Visitor Contact- no report but Libby mentioned that the Offerle's are staffing the office on Mondays and are getting some visitors.
 - c. Interpretive media- Debbie Meeks reported that the butterfly brochure is out for proofreading.
 - d. Online Communications- Peg Hall submitted a written report.
 - e. Inventory and Sales- Bill Dummitt reported that we are out of hats.
 - f. Kite Project- Debbie Jordan submitted a written report that our bird has been located in Mato Grosso, Brazil.
 - g. Kayak Initiative- John McPherson reported that the guide he spoke to is not interested in the Refuge. He will talk to the new owners of the two kayak concessions in Cedar Key.
 - h. Door Hanger- Debbie Meeks presented a draft, changes to the FWC hotline section were discussed, and a new version will be presented at the next board meeting.
 - i. Advocacy- Jay Bushnell reported that there is a new Levy County Environmental Initiative looking for volunteers.
 - j. Vista- John McPherson reported that the contract with Bender & Associates Architects has been signed.
- 7- Open Discussion
 - a. Roger McDaniels mentioned the \$5,000 grant received for butterfly gardening
 - b. Roger McDaniels stated that Pepper Busting will start in November and iFAS has a thrip for biological control of Brazilian Peppers.

Adjourned at 11:50am