

## **Friends Board Meeting Minutes, 11/16/2021**

Members present: Peg Hall, Debbie Meeks, Barbara Woodmansee, Jay Bushnell, John McPherson, Boyd Kimball, Linda Kimball, Debbie Jordan, William Dummitt, Paul Ramey, Travis Thomas, Dan Kline, Denise Feiber, Ed DeHaan

Representing the refuge: Andrew Gude

The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted, with a couple of changes stipulated. The agenda was approved by voice vote.

Linda Kimball gave a treasurer's report showing assets of \$25,646. Thanks to Paul Ramey for a deposit from Thrivent.

### **Refuge Report-Andrew Gude**

Fishbone creek project proceeding, including ADA-accessible dock, improve road, stabilize bank- cost \$235k vs. perhaps \$45k if a private contractor could have done the work.

Vista turnover is proceeding. John is preparing documents to allow the property to be relinquished. There will be lots of items to dispose of, the accumulated junk of many years, including a bass boat.

Recognition event/Retirement part for Vic and Ron will be Jan 21 at CK community center, BYOB.

Camper volunteers will all be on the refuge by next week.

The possibility of deer with Covid was briefly discussed.

The Alligator Snapping Turtle has been proposed for listing as threatened.

John Stark from St. Vincent will fill the position vacated by Larry Woodward.

Andrew was asked if the refuge is still part of the same complex- he says yes although that is not clear from looking at the website.

Jay asked if poaching was a problem this year- Andrew says yes but no more than usual. FWC has a robotic deer to help catch poachers in the act.

### **January Recognition Event-**

After Andrew's refuge report, there was a discussion of the January recognition event. To an extent it will replace-at least in the budget- the collaborator luncheon normally co-sponsored by Friends. A caterer will be supplemented by side dishes brought by attendees. A suggestion was made to purchase a keg of Reign- a beer who sales help fund milkweed habitat. Cost of this event will be in next year's budget. We currently have \$1000 in this year's budget. Date will be Jan 21. Caterer may be Island Room or 83 West.

### **Budget-**

Linda led a discussion of the budget and how line items have changed.

### **Annual meeting discussion-**

Kenny will cater a barbeque lunch as usual. Friends will take possession of a large accumulation of items from Vista. The possibility of a members-only sale of Vista stuff was discussed. Everyone agreed that inviting the general public to such a sale coupled with the annual meeting was unwise. Perhaps a members-only sale at the annual meeting followed by a public sale at a later date is the best way to proceed. There was a discussion of how to handle sales on refuge property from a reporting and accounting standpoint.

Should there be a handover ceremony? The family usually prefers a low profile.

Bender and Marc Minno (butterfly expert) were discussed as possible speakers.

### **Membership-**

There was a spirited discussion of how to handle membership in the future. Should we not have members at all and use the mailing list as our membership? What happens to life members if that is our path forward?

### **Merchandising-**

The Seafood festival brought in \$457, \$332 cash and the rest by Square. There were \$25 in donations. Debbie Jordan suggested carrying only one t shirt at a time, with a new one each year.

### **Advocacy-Jay-**

The toll road is back in play again, apparently because funding may have been included in the infrastructure bill. A bipartisan coalition to oppose it is reforming. Friends will be part of this coalition.

### **Other:**

A signup procedure for visitor contact at the CK COC is needed.

The 3 memory books are here- probably will mail Larry's since he is not likely to make it to Jan event.

The meeting was adjourned before 12pm.