

Friends of the Lower Suwannee and Cedar Keys National Wildlife Refuges January 17, 2018

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

In Attendance

Board Members: Russ Hall, John McPherson, Jim Hoy, Roger McDaniels, Libby Cable, JohnThalacker, Kit Lane, Bill Dummitt, Debbie Meeks, Doug Maple, Margy, VanLandingham, Ed DeHaan, Peg Hall (by phone)

Refuge Staff: Larry Woodward, Dan Frisk

Friends Members: Bob Lewis, Miriam Wiley, Brad Wiley; Jay Bushnell

Consultant: Belinda Nettles

President Russ called meeting to order at 10 am. The agenda and minutes were presented and approved.

Treasurer Report:

Presented—Vista planning funds not utilized in 2017 are budgeted for 2018.

Motion to approve by John Thalacker and seconded by Doug Maple. Unanimous approval.

John McPherson proposed that we switch to Quick Books for our reports and utilize Faye Sanders, CPA for some reports especially tax reports. Doug moved and Roger seconded the above proposal. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

1. Nominating committee—the slate was presented. Bob Lewis and Miriam Wiley are new candidates for the board. Maria Sgambati and Peg Hall will be leaving the board.
2. Priorities committee—these were discussed based on a handout that was presented. John M. moved that the report be approved. Bill Dummit seconded. Report was approved.
3. Vista Planning—The planned charrette was discussed as planned for February 23. Board members who are going to attend should rsvp to Belinda Nettle's email. John M gave a brief report on the nature of Vista.
4. Volunteer Visitor Contact Program—Bill reported that the program is going well with 21 volunteers. There is a chat room available for volunteers to report their impressions. We will need a new coordinator by fall.
5. Communications/Membership Committee—A rack will be constructed which will hold brochures provided by the Friends near the south entrance of the loop road. The committee is formulating a new Shell Mounds brochure.
6. Exotic Plant Eradication—Roger reported that volunteer workers (most of them too old) were active last fall and have resumed this January.
7. Financial Review—A meeting of the Financial Review Committee with the assistance of Mac Cox will be conducted soon..
8. Refuge Report—given by Larry Woodward. Refuge staff is excited about the increased archaeological activity around Shell Mound. Staff is working on road shoulders and cleaning ditches which will enhance sunlight for flowers and pollinators. Water flow is being improved along the Dixie

Mainline. Staff is moving ahead with Snake Key closure plans. In Dixie County a wounded warrior hunt is planned for January 29.

Annual Meeting—March 10, 2018

Ken Sassaman will be speaking. There will be the grand opening of the new Shell Mound trail.

New Business

1. An Earth Day event is planned for April 22. Bob Lewis presented.
2. A Shell Mound event is planned for September 22 at which time the Friends and refuge staff will present a program.
3. The Friends have been asked to do trash pick up on 347.

Adjournment—The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 am.

Ed DeHaan, secretary