

Audubon of Southwest Florida, Inc. (ASWF)  
Board of Directors Meeting  
May 2010  
Eco Living Center, Fort Myers, FL

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6pm. Present were Wayne, Rebecca, Mari, Brad, Sarah, Carl, Elsbeth, Toby, past president Roger Clark, and an interested member (need name). A quorum was present. Excused absences were Pete, Maria, and Conny.
  
2. Review of agenda. No changes
  
3. Minutes of April 15th. Motion by Mari, Second by Carl, approved unanimously.
  
4. Treasurers Report and Budget. We are ahead of expenses, and a working budget for FY 2010-2011 was approved, with clear delineation of expenses chargeable to the Trust Fund and expenses dependent upon revenues from normal sources. The income estimate was conservative, leading to a challenge to raise the \$2500 needed to meet expenses chargeable to "normal" sources. Motion by Toby, second by Elsbeth, approved unanimously.
  
5. Membership review. Local section memberships now total 154.
  
6. Conservation/Advocacy Update:
  - a. Cape Spreader Canal. the last meeting of the stakeholder committee was held, and on a non-binding straw vote, ASWF stated that neither the restoring the lift nor the basic Cape Coral position was the preferred option, but with specified enhancements beyond sewerage and siltation management, ASWF would be able to forgo the lift option. The straw vote was impasse, and barring any changes on formal voting, which is yet to be sent out, the Cape will have to apply to reinsert the lift. It is possible that DEP itself would oppose that due to a lack of a plan to manage towards breaches in the west wall, with the property to the west being the state park.
  
  - b. Adaptive protocols for Lake O releases. ASWF continues to support a flowway (however defined) to the south to reduce the frequency and magnitude of pulses coming east and west out of Lake Okeechobee. ASWF does promote the estuary being recognized as a user of water, on equal standing with agricultural users, with equal adversity recognition.
  
  - c. Draft Conservation Policy Statement/RCC meeting. (Nothing)
  
  - d. Oil spill cleanup training. Training is needed for treating wildlife affected by oil spill, and a clear

understanding of the health risks to humans who do this, due to exposure to petroleum.

e. Corkscrew Mine: hearing underway

f. San Souce: Motion by Carl, second by Wayne, to oppose, passed unanimously

g. Veto of specific bad legislation, letter to the Governor, motion by Carl, second by Mari, to request veto, passed unanimously.

7. Outreach and Education update.

a. Earth Day: Mari and Wayne were able to cover four separate earth day events, and distributed much literature.

b. Assist Eco Voce: Motion to assist Eco-Voice until its 501c3 application is approved, motion by Toby, second by Elsbeth, through processing grants, passed unanimously.

8. Field Trips and Alliance Events.

a. Bird Counts at Bob Janes and Telegraph Creek Preserves, Peter needs help over the summer.

b. Hawk watch trip on Sept 16th, with Vince

c. Fall Migratory Bird County, October 18th,

9. Programs Planned: Continued to next meeting, but here are suggestions: Caloosahatchee River Issues; Caloosahatchee Boat Trip with Rae Anne Wessel; Local Government 101; SWFFS; Forrest Michaels, a different Caloosahatchee River restoration plan; National Wildlife Refuges in SW Fla. Also to be discussed is how to frame and advertise the programs

10. Fairs and Festivals:

a. The Eco Breakfast: The date, place, speaker and cosponsors have not been determined. The chair volunteered to examine one or more venues and availability on a thursday in the latter half of October.

b. Purple Martin Festival: July 9th, downtown Fort Myers, **MARK YOUR CALENDARS and GET THE WORD OUT.** Motion by Toby, Second by Rebecca, to reimburse for an urban birding information sign on Purple Martins, downtown County parking lot with the swarming trees, not to exceed \$600, passed unanimously, from CF Education fund.

c. Birdathon: TBC

d. AWRA Annual Meeting: TBC

e. CHNEP National Estuaries Day Sept 25th.

11: Old Business: The Secretary of State renewal was made, and the tax code notification was submitted.

12. New Business:

a. Birding Trail Road Signs for Lee County: TBD

b. Annual Report: Information requested by chair to update the one included in emailing.

c. Resignation of 2nd VP and Treasurer. Rebecca Austin has been serving in both capacities, and has accepted a position in colorado. June will be her last meeting. With her departure, the positions of 1st and 2nd VP, and Treasurer are vacant, and Secretary is being graciously performed by Pete until someone steps up. That being the case, without a treasurer, ASWF cannot fulfill its basic obligations and may have "sunset." To be discussed in June.

13. Calendar of events: As noted.

14. Next meeting, June 17th, 6 pm, same venue.

Agenda: Same format: Critical Issues: Treasurer, and Eco-breakfast.