

Audubon of Southwest Florida, Inc.

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting May 21, 2009 - 6 PM Eco Living Center, Ft. Myers

Chair: Gerri Reaves

Members present: Gene Csonka, Kelly Williamson, Conny Spurfeld, Toby Clark

Call to order: 6:14 PM

Minutes: Approved April minutes as posted to web.

Membership:

Backup harddrive purchased (as approved in April) and data saved.

Pete Quasius has submitted 2009 budget proposal for membership (also for secretary and website)

National paid memberships as of 5.7/09: 1342; 128 expired 4/30/09 – appeal letters to join chapter sent; Chapter-only members: 18 - welcome letters sent

New membership chair needed

Treasury: Treasurer's "review" and report

Tabled discussion of sponsorship of signage for Great Birding Trail, NTE \$250

Gerri summarized highlights of Rebecca's report

Discussed options for one or more fundraisers and need for long-range financial planning

New insurance with RV Nuccio vs. Alliant has been purchased at significant savings

Committee chairs urged to send budgets to Rebecca, if not already submitted

Gerri will scan and email the board a brochure about conservation fund.

Education programs:

Gene shared information about current scholarship applications and proposed a timeline for candidate presentation to board and committee decisions.

Rebecca will be a speaker in the new Eco-tourism series at Rutenberg's Eco Living Center.

Conservation: acknowledged following activity since last meeting--

Supported WMD purchase of US Sugar lands for Caloosahatchee and Everglades restoration.

Signed-on to letter protesting Mirasol development process.

Joined opposition to Edison Farms for Red Sox stadium.

Following lead of Phil Buchanan on Cape Coral Spreader lawsuit

Supported Bike/Walk Lee campaign.

RCC chair, and H/G President, Steve Buczynski moving to NC. Margaret England new president of H/G. Butch Wilson VP.

Board members urged to attend Audubon Assembly, Oct. 23-24, in St. Petersburg and ECWCD Harns Marsh Phase 1 Groundbreaking Ceremony, June 10

Upcoming Field trips: July 31—Urban Birding in downtown Fort Myers w/Roger Clark; Oct. 18—

Hawk Watch at the Sanibel Lighthouse w/Vince McGrath

Gerri welcomes more suggestions.

Field trip chair needed.

Upcoming Programs: Sept.—Brenda Thomas—CREW's habitat, flora, and fauna; Oct.—John Canter--Whooping Cranes; Nov.—Conny Spurfeld—Nile Monitor Lizard—its native and invaded habitat (CC)

Gerri welcomes more suggestions.

Program chair needed.

Fairs, Festivals, and Events:

October Eco-B'fast update from Gerri

Confirmed email vote approving funds for festival canopy, which Conny has purchased.

Approved purchase of 24 laminated bird ID guides from Big O festival (@\$4.50 - retail \$8) for \$108. Same as those donated to Health Park.

Conny showed logo'd t-shirt samples; board decided on two styles; Conny will get a bid.

Conny will obtain "osprey" posters from CHNEP for distribution.

Board urged to send Conny ideas for festivals ASWF might attend and to assist at events.

Web report:

Pete's report: Magazine links updated; link for buying ASWF logo'd shirts up on O'Keefe website.

PR chair volunteer needed.

Birdathon:

Toby and board discussed possible date and plans.

Toby will appoint a Birdathon committee.

Public Relations/outreach:

Gerri/Carol/PQ/MQ attended Babcock solar array announcement. PQ/MQ also attended

Riverwatch and H/G Audubon annual meetings & Calusa Nature Center fundraising dinner

Gerri sent a thank-you letter sent to Carter-Prichett re: ASWF billboard

Flyways:

Summer edition forthcoming; general consensus to return to hardcopy newsletter

Send items and activities to Kelly

New Business: Gerri will be appointing a temporary Finance Committee for long-range planning; interested board members contact her; Toby Clark volunteered.

Old business: Joyce King elected to NAS board interim position until January 2010.

Adjourned at 7:31 p.m. with thanks to Conny for delicious refreshments.