



Space Coast Regional Chapter of the Florida Master Naturalist Program

Officers Meeting

February 7, 2019

6:00 p.m.

Pub Americana, Cocoa

Officers Present:

Peter Connolly - President

Kerri Lubeski - Present Elect

Mark Prynosi - Past President

Deb Heystek - Secretary

Tara Miller - Financial

Holly Abeels - Facilitator

6:00 p.m. Call to Order- Peter

**Minutes of Last Meeting:**

- January meeting minutes approved with a note: Holly Abeels was not present at the January meeting.

**Old Business**

- Membership details: The Space Coast Chapter now has 67 members. This includes 1 new member, and 5 renewals.
- Treasury report:
  - Tara wrote checks for the following:
    - \$61.25 – Dept of State. Our renewal
    - Filed IRS 990 (non-profit)
    - \$50 – for annual quickbooks renewal.
  - Our current account balance is \$1728.13.
  - Scholarships:

- We awarded (2) 2019 scholarships: Angie (has not picked a class yet), Megan (paid for).
  - Speakers:
    - Speaker stipend for membership meeting February 14th - we will make a donation to Fish and Wildlife. (\$50)
- Board membership has been updated with IRS and the State of Florida.
- Activities since last meeting:
  - Triple N Ranch hike- 12 people participated.

## **New Business**

- Activities
  - Sampson Island – Sunday, February 24th. Tara will lead this kayak, hike, and picnic. Tara to provide map/directions, and possibly kayak rental information.
  - Next/Future Hike: Various locations proposed including Salt Lake, Kissimmee Prairie, Fox Lake. Board decided that we will float these ideas at the next Membership Meeting to gauge interest.
  - UF Bat Houses and the Devil's Millhopper. Possibly in the March/April timeframe. Holly to try to get a speaker for this. A summer activity.
  - Wildflower symposium April 12-13
  - Deb called the Park Service at Big Cypress National Preserve and spoke to Lisa Andrews about a ranger led hike through the swamp in Fall. Lisa suggested a November date: November 9th, 2019 for this hike. The plan would be to drive down on Friday, November 8th, spend the night in an Everglades City hotel, and spend Saturday at Big Cypress, Corkscrew Sanctuary, and possible Faxahatchee Strand State Preserve. We would spend Saturday night there too - allowing us to possibly do a short activity on Sunday. There is no charge for the guided swamp walk at Big Cypress. Deb suggests a Park Service donation (for their education programs) from each person participating.
- Membership Meeting February 14th:
  - Guest speaker and a canine demonstration.
  - Mark – to show video of Talk Nature to Me, and gauge interest in participating in this.

- Outreach Events:
  - Sam's House Pioneer Day – Saturday, February 9th. Peter, Kim, Mark, Josephine, Lisa, David, Rick Folett to staff our table.
  - Pelican Island - March 8<sup>th</sup>. The Board elects not to do this event.
  - Tracey – Turkey Creek Day March 30<sup>th</sup>
  - Earth Day at Enchanted Forest/Fall Festival.
  - Earth Day at NASA – due to the Government shutdown, this event will only be held at the KSC Visitor Center this year. – so we will not be supporting that.
  - Scrub Jay Fest – Titusville, February 23rd – we will not be supporting it this year but will go to check it out for next year.
  
- FMNP Classes
  - Freshwater systems ending this weekend
  - Coastal Systems is scheduled for March. Cheryl + Holly (+ Mark for Field Trip co-leader)
  - Conservation Science is scheduled for May (one slot left)
  
- Looking Forward
  - Tara – asks Holly if it would be possible to get someone to talk about the PAFB shore restoration at a membership meeting?
  - Deb - to contact FIT to see if a grad student can come talk about their research at a future membership meeting. Muck aeration
  - Holly - Next Membership Meeting will be in May. Holly to find a venue
  - Next BOD meeting: March 7<sup>th</sup>. Venue TBD.

Meeting adjourned 7:30 p.m.