



Space Coast Regional Chapter of the Florida Master Naturalist Program

Officers Meeting

July 11, 2019

6:00 p.m.

Thai Thai Village, Cocoa Village

Officers Present:

Peter Connolly - President

Kerri Lubeski- President-elect

Tara Miller - Treasurer

Deb Heystek – Secretary

Mark Prynosi - Past President

Holly Abeels – UF IFAS Facilitator

6:14 p.m. Call to Order- Peter

Minutes of Last Meeting

- June meeting minutes approved.

Old Business

- Activities
 - Keep Brevard Beautiful (KBB) offered a series of opportunities for volunteering. The Space Coast Chapter volunteered for the event on June 15th, 8am-11:30am, at Kiwanis Island Park on Merritt Island. This was a coastal cleanup event using kayaks. Chapter members participated.
- Outreach Events
 - Talk Nature to Me: June 8th at Hell 'N Blazes, Satellite beach library, and Sun Shoppe Café. Mark Prynosi led a team of volunteers at these venues to test the waters for a new outreach program. Despite the signage and interesting props,

minimal conversations resulted. We believe this is because the venues are frequented by “regulars” who simply didn’t know what to make of the new people and the concept of “conversations about nature.” We believe that regular and repeated appearances would result in greater interest.

New Business

- Financials:
 - 9 renewals, 2 new, 1 inactive.
 - We have \$2048.95 in checking
 - We have \$110.33 in savings
 - Expense: IRS costs, scholarships
 - We have 77 members

 - The Space Coast Regional Chapter is now called a “Friends Group.” Holly has changed the website to reflect this. Tara asks if we need to change banking or other documentation as well.

- Quarterly Meetings/Speakers:
 - Next membership meeting is August 8th. FIT doctoral student, Ms. Ann Wassick, will present her research. Her title is “Biofouling communities in Florida and how they can be used to guide management practices.” This membership meeting will be at Great Outdoors RV Resort, 125 Plantation Drive, Titusville at 6:30 pm.
 - Deb to contact Ann and offer transport, ask about her charity of choice, etc.

- Upcoming Courses:
 - Wildlife Monitoring: September 6-14th. Three spots left.
 - Wild About Nature:

- Activities:
 - Everglades Trip: (Big Cypress and Fakahatchee Strand) is scheduled for November 9-10th. We have confirmed 19 attendees (with slots for 30). We may need to “load balance” the participants between Group A and B.
 - November Board meeting is scheduled to occur while we are in the Everglades. We may just meet while we’re there.
 - August Activities:

- We discussed possible trips to springs (as relief from the Florida summer heat!) Blue Springs, Itchatukee. Silver Springs. But in the end did not resolve to plan a trip.
 - FL Museum of Natural History, Cocoa. Thur-Sat 10-5. \$9. Tours available. Possible date August 17th. (Kerri to look into)
 - FL Museum of Natural History in Gainesville – herpetologist there gives wonderful tours. (Mark to look into) There is also a shark expert who might give tours.
 - McKee Botanical Garden in Vero, FL. Open Tues-Sat 10-5pm. Sunday noon-5pm. Admission \$10. After October \$11. 80 acre tropical hammock. Sealantro Garden Café looks like a great spot for lunch during our visit there. The Gardens are approx. 37 miles south of Melbourne (about an hours drive).
- Enchanted Forest hike led by Mark on August 21st at 9:15am. Following the hike we will retire to the Brix Project for Brunch.
- Outreach:
 - Enchanted Forest Fall Fest – date TBD. Mark to check on.
 - Ocean, Reef, and Beach Fest. Pelican Beach Park, Satellite Beach on December 1st. In planning/pending stage for us. Holly to check on.
 - The Scholarship is open for applications: Tony Flohre, Ellen (friend of Kerri). This scholarship will be awarded for use in 2020.

New officers for the upcoming year: (Mark is the nomination committee)

New Secretary: Tara Miller

Treasurer: Kim Connolly

President-Elect: Deb Heystek

Next BOD meeting: August 1 at 6:00pm at Ryan's in Cocoa Village.

Meeting adjourned 7:25 p.m.