



Space Coast Regional Chapter of the Florida Master Naturalist Program

Officers Meeting

March 7, 2019

6:00 p.m.

Pub Americana, Cocoa

Officers Present:

Peter Connolly - President

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

- February meeting minutes approved.

Old Business

- Activities
 - Sampson Island – Sunday, February 24th. Tara lead this kayak, hike, and picnic. A good time was had by all!
 - Next/Future Hike: Various locations proposed including Salt Lake, Kissimmee Prairie, Fox Lake. Board floated these ideas at the February 14th Membership Meeting to gauge interest. A lot of interest, with no one favoring one over another.
 - 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 – showed video of Talk Nature to Me. There was a follow-up survey to get membership input and volunteers. Melbourne interest was sufficient to try it. Titusville area failed to meet the needed number of volunteers to try the program there.
- Outreach Events Discussed:
 - Sam's House Pioneer Day – Saturday, February 9th. Peter, Kim, Mark, Josephine, Lisa, David, Rick Folett staffed our table.
 - Pelican Island - March 8th. The Board elected not to do this event.
 - Tracey – Turkey Creek Day March 30th
 - 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 May 28th. Dr. Marty Main will speak at this meeting.

New Business

- Financials:
 - \$25 in scholarship, 4 patches, \$8.82 from Amazon Smile.
 - 73 members at the end of February
 - \$386 in expenses so far this year. \$381 in revenue. (but we have savings)
 - Scholarship review: Megan(last year), Angie (\$275), another one from last year. All expensed already.
 - We can offer the FIT student a “stipend” (\$50) for talking during our Membership meeting – but he/she will have to designate where it is donated.

- Quarterly Meetings/Speakers:
 - City of Orlando speaker – an Orlando Wetlands employee named Mark. Kim will follow up.
 - Holly will follow up trying to find out about a PAFB speaker.
 - Next membership meeting w/ Marty Main in Extension Office auditorium at 7:30 pm. Attendance may be high – may have to prioritize attendees. Board/members will have dinner w/ Marty before his talk. Proposed a 6pm dinner at the Vietnamese restaurant in Cocoa.
 - We need to put a list of potential endowment donors together prior to the Marty Main visit. These potential donors could join Marty for Breakfast following his talk. Names that were floated include: Vince Lamb, Marty Thompson, Jonnie Swann.

- We need to check with Tracey regarding Turkey Creek Day (March 30th). Does she still want us there?
- Activities:
 - Bike ride from Titusville to Chain of Lakes Park on March 23rd to be lead by Kerri – 4 people have signed up so far.
 - Everglades event: Deb will phone Lisa Andrews and ask if we can get 2 rangers. (2 groups)?
 - Mark P to check out Salt Lake tomorrow for a potential trip in April.
 - St. Sebastian State Park/ Marsh Landing – potentially for April 7. Meet at Visitor Ctr at 9am. Lunch to follow.
 - Will support Enchanted Forest Earth Day event – April 20th.
- Events/Outreach:
 - None in May.
 - Talk Nature to Me: 3 responses in Melbourne. (deb needs to re do the survey)
 - Maybe do an event (hike) in the New Smyrna Beach area as we have a number of members who live up there.

Next BOD meeting: April 4th. Venue Murdoch's in Cocoa Village.

Meeting adjourned 7:00 p.m.