

# **Friends of the GTM NERR**

## **Minutes of Board Meeting: Tuesday, April 10, 2007**

### **Members Present:**

Bill Coleman, Carl Hampp, , Peter Difatta, Frank Pixler, Irene Kaufman, Joe Hutnan, Pierre Pierce, and Anita Pierce.

### **Staff Present:**

Teri Webley, Mike Shirley, and Janet Zimmerman.

### **Guests:**

Jim Haine and Jay Hampp

Meeting called to order at 5:05pm by Bill Coleman at the EEC

Bill – As voted on and passed at the March meeting the matured CD was rolled over to another at 5.15%.

Bill announced that Bonnie Goldsmith has resigned her position on the Board and the need for someone with an accounting background and knowledge of Quick Books to replace Bonnie and fill her position.

Carl – Can Janet announce the opening in the News Letter?

Janet – Yes – and send volunteers and friends members news of the opening.

Frank – Will contact Ponte Vedra Chamber.

Peter – What time commitment is involved in the position?

Teri - It was reduced to a couple of hours of a month

March minutes were brought to the floor. Motion to approve by Carl, seconded by Frank and passed by the Board.

Bill – Lighthouse Reception

Board members that attended – Joe Hutnan and Carol Travis.

No membership table available. Maybe donation for event not money spent well. In future research off site events better.

Mike – I did mention the Friends in speech.

Mike and Janet – The Friends are in the symposium book.

Peter – Should the Friends have set up the table?

Bill – I thought Barb was doing that – there was a miscommunication.

March 31 Artist Reception

Bill – 75 attended went well. Both artists did presentations.

Bill – Agnes Danciger will be here for the June Board meeting and the presentation of the board's Thank you to her.

### Executive Committee Report by Bill Coleman

No current business to announce.

### Membership / Brick Update by Frank and Teri

Teri – Letters sent confirming text on bricks, almost all returned. Within a week of brick order.

Frank – Putting budget together and looking for marketing plans.

### NERR Activities by Janet Zimmerman

May 16 at 6pm Management Advisory Group Meeting at EEC.

Will unveil portion of the plan. More to follow.

May 19 Volunteer Appreciation Dinner time not available yet.

Friends Board members are invited to attend. More information to come as Katie passes it along.

Stewardship team with Forrest Penny is working with the Duval 4H on a dune revegetation just to the north. The group will make a donation to the Friends to offset the cost of plants for the project.

Darryl La Bello's Photo Workshop

Passed out flyers to Board. The Friends will receive \$15. from each admission to the workshop.

Staff and Friends Social

Joe has requested such a meeting between NERR staff and Friends to mingle and get to know each other.

### Other Business

Mike – Secretary Mike visited the center today.

He has a background in biology so he is aware of the centers concerns.

Secretary Sole called the reserve a focal point and flagship of the system.

Frank – He was great with the kids. (a school group simultaneously visiting the center.)

Janet – Frank came out to represent the Board and greet Secretary Sole.

Jim Haine and Joy Hampp – Marineland Right Whale Program

Jim – Introduction and description of program.

Successful season – 34 sightings – 5 mother calf pairs – 1 new pair – 10 or 12 juveniles and sub adults.

Jim cont. – Have been using office space at the Marineland NERR facility. This works well for the groups needs.

The group has 175 volunteers – helps NERR reach 3000 people in the community with outreaches. Working with NERR staff members and others to produce TV spots that will further put the NERR before the public.

Jim handed out Marineland Right Whale calendars to board Members.

Joy – described function of 9 teams and number of volunteer hours(over 4500) put in.

Pierre- Described own Right Whale sightings and offered information about location.

Mike- Described Right Whale program at the NERR.

Bill- Asked for plans for next seasons Right Whale Program for budget consideration.

Bill- Challenged entire Board to find ways increase public awareness and get coverage in the St Aug. Record.

Discussion around table about sources for spreading information about the GTM NERR including round table meetings, radio time, newspaper coverage, tables at festivals, rack cards, etc.

Joe- What is happening about Board and NERR staff social hour?

Janet- Do the social hour on a Board Meeting date?

Discussion about best date and menu.

Bill- Pencil in July 10 meeting date for social.

Discussion about the refreshments at the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. It will include a bar.

Janet- Will see that Katie knows about refreshment arrangements.

Bill- Ken Brant was at Feb. Board meeting speaking about the proposed dock.

It was discussed at last council meeting. Will be continued at the next meeting this Monday because so many people wanted to speak on the subject and not all could be heard.

Mike-A letter outlining the ecological impact of the dock was read at the meeting and will be read again at the next meeting.

Bill- We need at least 2 new Board members.

Carl- We have 3 additional slots to fill.

Bill- That is a total of 5 members to find. Submit suggestions to Carl.

Janet- Will spread word with volunteers.

Frank- Have 2 tickets for the Business Expo from the St. Aug. Chamber. Using one would anyone like to attend? April 18 and 19 at World Golf Village.

Pierre- Committee needs money. Where have the boy scout funds gone?

Janet- Will look into it and get back with update.

Mike- Designated programs are in progress.

Pierre- Do they need more funds?

Janet- Not at this time. A check is coming from 4-H within the week.

Teri- Nature Store even though the traffic is down the store is holding its own. Working on a better connection with school groups. Pre-order forms

Teri cont.- to go to schools prior to visit.

Peter- Do something like the MRW calendar for the Nature Store.

Frank- Host a media reception at the EEC.

Janet-Host Chamber Meeting.

Frank-Be careful, hosting chamber meetings can be costly.

Meeting adjourned at 5:55pm Bill

Joe seconded