

Minutes Board of Directors
Friends of the Brazoria Wildlife Refuges
12/12/13 Draft 1/9/13

Minutes by Mickey Dufilho

Meeting called to order by Ed Barrios, President, at 1:30 PM, Discovery Center, BNWR

Attendees:

- Board Members: Ed Barrios, Ron Bisbee, Marty Cornell, Mickey Dufilho, Phil Huxford, Sandy Henderson, Neal McLain, Denis Mudderman, David Plunkett, and Tom Taroni
- Refuge Staff : Jennifer Sanchez, Tom Schneider, Shane Kasson, Cody

Minutes – Mickey Dufilho

- Minutes from 9/10/13 were reviewed. Motion to accept minutes was made by Marty and seconded by Phil. Motion passed.
- Action Register was reviewed and updated. See attached action register

No Financial Report

- Krissy will e-mail Financial Report [Did we get the report? If so, I suggest that it be inserted here with a note that it was post meeting. If not, then just say there was no financial report]

Old Business

Grants

- Jordan Tract Purchase via Meadows – Eliminate this grant
- Add Birding Initiative
 - Bird lists and Brochures have to be approved by Region 6.
 - White board has been purchased
 - 2 Bird Blinds cost less than expected. With remainder of money, Denis purchased yard sign, white board and event banners to be used for Discovery Center Open House and other events
- Bastrop Bayou Crossing
 - Bid Package written by Neal McLain, Aug.
 - Contract awarded to Five Js Concrete Company for \$102,000 in September, 2013
 - Paid \$65,000 to contractor at onset of contract
 - Paid \$25,000 to contractor on completion of items 3.01 through 3.07 as set forth in Section 3 of this RFP, and certification by owner's Inspector that said items have been completed in compliance with this RFP
 - Balance to be paid on completion \$18,000.
- Discovery Center Exhibits
 - The amount left on the agreement is \$32,750.
 - 50/50 split.
 - End Date: January 22, 2014
 - Update
 - Did not purchase high magnification scopes because we were given scopes from INEOS
 - Installed HD large format wall-mounted TV
 - Joe Lange is contracted to work on movie to highlight EE activities
 - Plants have been purchased for Butterfly Garden
 - Still trying to source the roll up tarps for the shelters

- Land Acquisition Discovery Grant # 1
 - \$300,000.00 from Houston Endowment
 - Mike Lange coordinates with contractor.
 - Marty Cornell is grant administrator.
 - Spent as of 10Jun13 \$293,099.82
 - Pending appraisal invoice (in July): \$7,500
 - Total Grant expenditures: \$300,599.82
 - Final balance: -\$599.82
- Land Acquisition Discovery Grant #2
 - \$300,000.00 from Houston Endowment
 - Mike Lange coordinates with contractor.
 - Marty Cornell is grant administrator.
 - Houston Endowment Board decision 16 July 2013
- Houston Initiative Outreach
 - Incorporate a demonstration of live birds of prey, some in flight, in our environmental education initiatives in and around Houston, Texas.
 - \$6,000
 - Federal grant application pending.
 - No cost-share requirement
 - David Plunkett, grant administrator
- **A Taste for Nature**
 - Attendance – 160 total (128 registered, 7 not registered, 25 hosts)
 - Income total \$26,622
 - Expenses \$10,621
 - Profit \$16,001

[Was the discussion on ATFN really this sterile? Did we not talk about the impression made on guests, the contribution of students, the relative success of the event, the venue, etc.?)

- **Grants - No Report [looks like from above there was a fairly detailed report, so this item is confusing]**

Refuge Update – Jennifer Sanchez

- Woods Project came to Hudson Woods in November and want to have a return visit.
- January – Houston Parks Director is coming and might want to bring children from the Parks summer program
- Project Wild is showing interest in partnering with the refuge.
- 10 Birds of Prey programs done at the schools **[What schools?]**
- The refuge staff will explore with Dow the idea of donating Horseshoe Lake (100 acres) in Freeport
- Bill Ostrand, who represents the Forest Bird Study Group, has requested money to present the Forest Bird Study Group Data (which represents 13 years of data) at the state meeting of the Wildlife Society. Phil moved to give him money for expenses. Motion was seconded by Ron. Motion Passed.

Outreach

- David reports there were seventeen different outreach events this year.
- Edith Fisher of the Chamber of Commerce was looking for someone to man **[staff]** a booth at an event in Conroe. David will get more details and send out an email with details. **[???**

- Future events include:
 - Kid Fest 2/15/13 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM [what's this? Where?]

Holiday Open House [What's this? Where?]

- Dates 12/27 – 1/1 9:00 – 4:00
- Denis needs volunteers to help out on those days

Photo Contest Display at the Fine Arts Center will be May 3. It is sponsored by Phillips 66
[I believe this is more than one day]

Future Meetings

- None [perhaps you mean none have been scheduled]

Adjourn: 3:30 PM

Friends General Meeting to follow with field trip to observe Geese and Sandhill Cranes at BNWR.