

Audubon of Southwest Florida, Inc. (ASWF) Meeting Minutes

October 21, 2021

5:30 pm Conservation Committee Meeting (optional); 6 pm Board Meeting

Call to Order and Attendance

At 6:05 pm

Attendance (those attending in bold)

Gerri Reaves (P)	Brad Cornell	Lina Ramirez-Granada
Dan VanNorman (VP)	Vivian Cardoso	Wayne Daltry
Jim Rodenfels (T)	Sean McCabe	Pete Quasius
Michele Bellinger	Carol Newcomb (S)	

Approval of Minutes of September 16, 2021 meeting; Jim 1st Sean 2nd

Treasurer's Report: Discussion and vote to approve Jim's emailed report; vote to approve the following expenditures:

- Eco Voice annual sponsorship - \$100
- Cape Coral Friends of Wildlife annual membership - \$50
- WiX – contact form app – \$39.72 annual renewal due Nov 6 (auto pay)

Motion to approve report and approve expenditures: Brad 1st Dan 2nd

Committee Reports

Membership/Jim: Staying steady

Conservation:

- Brad: Southwest Florida Regional Conservation Priorities 2022; Immokolee oil well – Brad visited the site: Hearing on Oct. 7th - Brad attended. Not an appropriate site for an oil well in the city of Immokolee. Recommended denial.
- Oct. 8 Resiliency Compact meeting – nothing reported
- Dan: EvCo update – asking for us to vote on a resolution for the FL Keys National Marine Sanctuary Management Plan. Sign off for resolution is due October 28th. Gerri said she will look it over.

- Sean: Estero Bay ABM update – resigning as chair of ABM. Sean will step down as rep for ASWF. Will stay on with ASWF BOD as long as we still meet virtually.
- Jim: Shorebird Stewardship update – It's quiet. Rochele will be involved with Friends of Cayo Costa.
- Gerri: FM City Council's reactivation and revamping of Brownfield Advisory Board – Asking for people to get involved with FM City Advisory Brownfield Board
- Gerri: bird-glass collision update: info to architect re: Black Culture Center; widened downtown survey area; Global Bird Rescue week w/Carol; contact with City of FM and county. Carol attended full day workshop: FLAP Bird-safe Building Strategies Workshop
- Brad will research the county's ongoing palmetto berry issue—access to public lands and non-enforcement of laws.

Education/Jim:

Field Trips/Jim: Hawk Watch with Sierra Club - 25 attended; no trip planned for December; 2022 field trips planned and posted (see emailed materials). 20 signed up to go to Hendry County field trip (sold out) for November. Final field trip for 2021.

Approval to spend money to print flyers for field trips. Motion to approve: Brad 1st, Sean 2nd

Publicity, Website, Newsletter, and Social Media/Jim: review the DRAFT gmail blast for October; deadline for inclusion in next blast is October 23.

National & State Audubon Updates

- Brad: Audubon Assembly – Opening session began October 21st. For \$15 you can attend the entire virtual Assembly
- Gerri: Last Presidents' Zoom Call: meeting and communicating during pandemic; good lead on purple martin program offered via Zoom.
- Gerri: Zoom meeting with Kelly Cox, Audubon Florida, Dir. Everglades Policy. Kelly mentioned that special field trips can be given by Paul Gray on airboats, etc.. Audubon FL is concentrating on pollution north of the Lake O.- such as biosolids.

Programs/Gerri: November program is cancelled; no in-person meetings or programs thorough 2021; we'll later consider whether to resume in-person in January 2022; programs are scheduled at the Collaboratory for January and March.

Carol: Holiday party—discussed to hold or not to hold: possibly pot luck dinner on December 16th to coincide with BOD meeting.

Old Business:

New Business

- Jim/photo contest posted; (see email) It is up and running!

- Jim/Shorebird Stewardship: LCEC grant approved; discuss utilization plan - \$2,998 given to the Shorebird Stewardship program. Approximately 70 hours of work went into last year's Stewardship position. PROPOSED: \$1,100 should be paid to Steward. Hire a part-time assistant for education – pay \$400 for that position. Call it an honorarium (non-contract employee). Grant money will be used to buy: Spotting Scope-\$899.00 / Tripod-\$199.00 / Binoculars – \$196.95 / \$300 for supplies /\$60.00 for parking pass
 - Brad will hire
 - >>Refer to spending plan<<
 - Motion to pass proposed plan to spend grant money: Sean 1st, Brad 2nd
- Everglades Coalition conference attendance? Sponsorship (Sawgrass Roots) \$'s = 250 (budgeted \$200) complete commitment form. Dan will be our representative. Motion to approve \$250: Jim 1st, Carol 2nd
- AWRA Sponsorship \$200; financial backing? Check will be mailed to Dan. Motion to Approve payment of \$300: Carol 1st, Jim 2nd
- Jim/Year-End Postcard (in lieu of hardcopy newsletter); Gerri will help edit; publication date near year's end
- Jim/Audubon Chapter Annual Report: questions re: EDI&B answered
- Pete: vote of support for Cypress Chapter of Izaak Walton League's application for Evo membership; Pete is president and here's info: <http://www.cypressiwa.org/index.html> Jim 1st, Dan 2nd
- Pete: CBC, proposing new circles; Jayne still heading Orange River Circle; email her if interested
- Phosphate Mining and Processing in Peace River Watershed – no new info provided
- Gerri/CWK News: new executive director, Trisha Botty; KC Schulberg now with Collier County Waterkeeper
- Osprey platform request: Discussion ensued about whether to lend our organization's (ASWF) name to a community organization in Olga in order for FPL to install a pole for an Osprey platform. FPL is requesting an organization's name to back up the request. No motion

Meeting Adjourned: 7:30 pm

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, November 18, 2021 via Zoom

Annotated and submitted by Carol Newcomb, secretary

on October 21, 2021