

FOB Meeting Minutes

February 18, 2015

Attendees: Board Members- Kelly Smith, Dub Lyon, Pat Wilkinson, Bill Carr, Lynette Holtz; USFWS- Cindy Fronk, David Maple

- Dub called the meeting to order at 5:32pm
- Previous meeting minutes were unanimously approved (motion made by Bill C, seconded by Lynette).
- Treasurer's Report – Pat – Received a check for \$1500 from the City of Marble Falls for Songbird Festival advertising. Received a check from the Lago Vista Chamber for \$500 for Songbird Festival. Received other monies for general donations in excess of \$2050. 2014 Budget finalized and emailed to Board. Updated 2015 budget handed out for review. Pat will start posting the profit/loss and balance statement on the drive each month for review by the board and for grant applications. Treasurer's report unanimously approved. (motion made by Bill C, seconded by Lynette).
- Refuge Report – David – no change in the status of a rehire for Project Leader/Refuge Manager. Refuge staff have been on a lot of conference calls regarding funding for acquisition monies. Five prescribed burns were done last week in various parts of the refuge totaling a couple thousand acres. There will be a burn in downtown Jonestown at the Nation Park soon. David has done three special event talk since the last meeting: SparrowFest, Williamson County Audubon, and the Friends Mixer.
- Environment Education – Cindy –
 - Recently received an email from Liberty Hill ISD to finalize plans to have field trips come out. Currently have 2-6 school districts interested and may get more (Llano, Lago Vista, Liberty Hill for three days, Bertram, Marble Falls for 5 days, Cedar Park/Leander for 2 days). *the board may need to consider increasing the fund for helping these groups get out to the refuge next year.
 - Cindy is talking with Faith Academy and Lago Vista ISD about starting an introduction to Monarch Butterflies curriculum. It consists of 10 lesson plans where 30 kids in the 7th grade grow milkweed plants from seed, raise the caterpillars, dissect a few pupa, tag the butterflies and release them.
 - Have had the Intermediate Sanction Facility from Burnet out at the refuge to help out with manual labor projects twice a week.
 - The refuge is designated as an Urban Refuge and will be more involved in the Urban Initiative being pushed by USFWS. This means a bigger presence in Austin to get more people out to the refuge. Cindy asks that members from the Friends go to events with her to represent our group.

- Audit – Dub – No updates. Still following leads.
- Insurance – Dub – No updates. Cindy suggests we look into the National Friends insurance program.
- Logo – The group needs to decide on a logo so we can make sure all of our propaganda has the same look and feel to it. Kelly will collect samples and send them via email for the board to review.
- Target projects – Cindy asks that we brainstorm some target projects for the Friends to get involved. Please email her or Kelly your ideas.
- Friends Mixer – Lynette – 31 people attended the mixer and it was deemed a success. We have already had some people express their interest in volunteering for the Friends. The membership committee is considering holding them bi-monthly rotating between Lago Vista, Marble Falls, and Cedar Park.
- Meeting adjourned at 6:34pm (Pat made a motion, seconded by Bill C).