

20150224 - FOA Board meeting - 7:00 PM - Audubon Office

Attendees:

Board Members: Ray Brassieur , Charles Caillouet, Carolyn Delahoussaye, Jim Delahoussaye, Willie Fontenot, Charlie Fryling,

Advisors: Pam Caillouet, Sara Krupp, Woody Martin, April Newman, Karen Westphal

President Charlie Fryling opened the meeting at 7:12 PM

No special presentations were scheduled.

Old Business

Reports

Charles Caillouet

Secretary's report

The Board approved the minutes from the January 27, 2015 meeting.

The Secretary reviewed Board email activity - no official actions were taken.

No official actions were taken.

Reports on the results of the Atchafalaya Campaign were distributed to the Board and partners.

Treasurer's report

Since the last meeting, the first check for donations (\$714.01) to the Atchafalaya Campaign, was received from FirstGiving.

The end of year balance for 2014 was \$2,970.63.

As of the meeting the total in accounts was \$3,733.24, including initial Atchafalaya receipts.

As of the meeting the Atchafalaya donations totaled \$1,900, less \$133 in processing fees.

To cover the campaign fees and bring the total to the value of two kayaks, the Board approved an increase of \$133 in the previously approved \$500 FOA donation to the SwampBase, bringing the total FOA contribution to \$633.

After the remaining funds are received (estimate is 3/15/2015), the President and Secretary will set up a check presentation with the SwampBase and the top contributor, who will receive Bryan Piazza's signed book.

The Secretary agreed to send the list of contributors to the President for acknowledgments.

Web site update

Events and campaign status have been updated on the web site.

Trace Commissioner Charles Caillouet gave a Heritage Area update.

No changes in Heritage Area news; hopefully, the trail contract award will be announced at the March 6 meeting.

Sara Krupp and April Newman gave an Atchafalaya Basin Program update.

The CPRA approved the 2016 Annual Plan, so, based on the January decision of the Research and Promotion Board, the staff has forwarded the completed document to the Legislature for review.

The Secretary received the electronic version of the Bike Trail brochure from Charles Reulet as promised in the previous meeting.

Ray Brassieur requested a copy of the dredging permit for the Bayou Portage entry into Lake Dauterive and the Secretary agreed to forward it.

Because the permit is a public document, the Secretary will post it on the FOA web site for public access.

LA Wildlife Federation Representative Charles Caillouet reported that the LWF awards banquet would be held on March 28th at Juban's restaurant to present the Conservation Awards. The recipients have been selected but the names have not been officially announced.

Reports from Committees

Atchafalaya Campaign:

Charles Caillouet reported that the Atchafalaya Campaign received enough donations to provide two kayaks to the SwampBase and that the campaign was now over (see discussion in treasurer's report above.)

Cypress Preserve:

Woody Martin reported that Harold has not yet met with Sen. Cassidy staffers but they are still planning to visit.

Woody will coordinate with Harold to make sure we know the status of discussions with Sen. Cassidy's staffers.

Charles Caillouet provided letters to the Trace Commissioners to alert their Parish officials about the project.

Ray Brassieur has a meeting scheduled on Friday, Feb. 27 with representatives of the Chitimacha tribe on their support for the Preserve.

Woody and Charles will try to attend the Chitimacha meeting. Charlie has a class conflict. We need more white papers/issue reports on the area to give supporters background information. Charles reported on a message that he received from Jim Bergan at The Nature Conservancy after he sent the Cypress Preserve letter out to the Advisors. The message noted that a 2,400 acre property below Lake Fausse Pointe, known as the Adeline Swamp, is being set aside by the owners and that the CPRA Coastal Forest Conservation Initiative had placed an easement on the property. TNC is reportedly working with CPRA on a management plan for the property, which would be contiguous with the proposed Cypress Preserve.

Charles will attempt to set up a meeting with TNC about the project.

New Business

Plans for upcoming activities

The Mississippi River Commission low-water-trip meeting will be held on March 27 in Baton Rouge. **We still hope to have a presentation ready for that meeting.**

Apparently, Don Haydel will present for the Basin Program.

Partnership activities

Earth Day will be in April and we will again work with LWF on that event.

The LWF awards banquet will be held on March 28 and award winners should be announced soon.

Upcoming Events

Eagle Expo in Morgan City: 2/26-2/28/2015

Chitimacha meeting in Charenton: 2/27/2015

Tulane Environmental Law Conference in NOLA on 2/27-28/2015

ANHA/Trace Commission Mtg on 3/04/2015, at 10AM, at Capitol Park Welcome Center

Mississippi River Commission river trip meeting - 3/27/2015, Baton Rouge Dock

LWF Awards Banquet: 3/28/2015

Next meeting place and time

3/24/2015 (fourth Tuesday) at 6:30 PM

Butte LaRose: Delahoussaye Science Station

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.