

Friends of South Walton Sea Turtles
First General Meeting
2/13/15

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm at The Bay restaurant on 331 in Santa Rosa Beach. Presiding was Beth Coppedge, who was elected president during the meeting.

Coppedge reviewed the Mission Statement. A vote on the statement was not taken.

By a unanimous vote of those in attendance at the first general meeting, the following officers were elected: Beth Coppedge, president; Julie Gibson, vice-president; Catherine Desautels, secretary, Linda Brasher, treasurer.

Also by unanimous voice vote, the following general board members were elected: Gayla Schaefer, communications/publicity committee; Faith Whalen; Elaine Parrett.

The proposed bylaws were distributed and will be voted on at the next general meeting. The bylaws will be posted on the website.

Committee descriptions were distributed and those in attendance signed up by area of interest. Linda Brasher will coordinate the sign ups at the meeting and those being collected online and distribute to the committee chairs or to Coppedge in lieu of selection of committee chairs.

It was decided that committees would be able to select from their own members a chair. Chairs will become board members responsible for reporting the committee activity and budget to the board president and treasurer. Committee chairs will be responsible for the goals and duties outlined in the committee descriptions.

Coppedge reviewed why the organization is being founded and how it is different from the Turtle Watch organization. FSWST will be a nonprofit organization (IRS designation and filing in progress) focused on education and awareness. It will hold fundraising events and campaigns, and conduct education outreach activities.

Several ideas were discussed from general members and board members including: merchandising, events, outreach and partnerships.

The next meeting will be held on March 17th at The Bay at 7:30 am.

--Minutes compiled in Secretary's absence by Gayla Schaefer. Minutes will be distributed to board members and posted online.