



FRIENDS OF SOUTH WALTON SEA TURTLES (FOSWST)

Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: Wednesday, November 9, 2022
Location: 30 Jasmine Circle, Santa Rosa Beach, FL
Time: 4:00 PM

Present: President Beth Coppage, Shelly Bowden, Christina Cabral, Mary Ann Farrell, Beth Hill, Etoi Moore (by telephone), Laurie Reichenbach
Guest: Pam Tedesco, The Arland Affiliation

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 4:09pm. A quorum was confirmed.

Approval of Prior Minutes The Minutes from the June 9, 2022 meeting were approved as presented following a motion by Laurie that was seconded by Shelly.

Old Business

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Walton School System Beth C. reported that Etoi was handling the MOU with the School District. She told the Board that the attorney is reviewing the MOU and it has not been finalized as of yet. The Directors noted that they had not seen a copy of the MOU and needed to prior to it being enacted. Etoi added that FOSWST did receive authorization for its recently conducted education programming at Seaside Neighborhood School and Freeport Middle School as the teachers had already planned for the presentations in their scheduling.

Service Level Agreement (SLA) for Volunteer Beach Ambassador Program with Walton County Beth C. informed the Board that the SLA was to be presented at the Board of County Commissioners' meeting this month. Laurie offered to research the meeting date, time and location and suggested that any Directors that could attend the meeting should, to show support for the SLA and to be available to answer any questions posed by the Commissioners.

Standing Business

Financial Report Etoi presented the Financial Report noting that the current bank balance was \$57,204.35 with YTD income of \$23, 339.80 and expenses of \$19,033.99 with a net gain of \$4,305.81. The option to support area nonprofits with FOSWST funds was brought up and after discussion, Christina made a motion that was seconded by Laurie that no grants would be provided this year due to FOSWST needs; the motion was approved. The financial report was accepted following a motion by Christina that was seconded by Beth C. with Shelly abstaining from the vote.

Committee/Director Reports

Education Beth H. reported that she is struggling to get into the Okaloosa County School District, having been successful in only presenting in two schools thus far. Her plan is to make physical contact with school personnel to further explain our education program in hopes of gaining access to more

classes/students. Christina suggested that FOSWST obtain testimonials from other educators regarding the positive impact of the education program that can be shared with new education partners. Laurie reminded the Board that any funding received from Walton County needs to be restricted to Walton County activities.

Beth asked the Board for consideration in reimbursing her for the cost of a Chromebook used for FOSWST communications. After discussion, Christina made the motion to reimburse Beth H. \$127.33; Shelly seconded the motion and it was approved. It was also agreed that any future expenses need to be authorized in advance and that after this reimbursement, the Chromebook would be FOSWST property.

International Coastal Cleanup Christina noted that the report had been provided at the recently held VBA breakfast, sent to the Board members and the TDC. The numbers were down slightly this year and areas for improvement had been identified and would be pursued for 2023.

New Business

VBA Breakfast Wrap Up The Breakfast was recently held and was well attended and received. Areas for improvement were discussed, including utilizing a sound system. The Board discussed the need to set parameters for the Ambassador of the Year such that repeat winners are not permitted.

Festival of Trees- Plans Finalized Beth C. reported that our entry has been finalized and the process for the event, which will be held on November 22, 2022, was reviewed. Seaside Neighborhood School is again assisting with the decorations for our tree.

T-Shirt Color and Design Beth C. presented options for the design of the new VBA shirts and received Director input on the color and design.

Acceptance of Resignations

The resignation of Chris Sennett, Secretary, effective November 5, 2022 was approved following a motion by Shelly that was seconded by Christina. The resignation of Donna DonFrancesco, VBA Director, effective October 3, 2022 was approved following a motion by Mary Ann that was seconded by Shelly. The Board noted their appreciation for the service of both retiring Directors.

New Director The nomination and appointment of Pam Tedesco as Secretary, to replace Chris Sennett, was unanimously confirmed by consent.

Report by Pam Tedesco, The Arland Affiliation, on the contractual project of the Organizational Review and Bylaws Update

Organizational Review Report Pam presented the Report that had been submitted to the Board on September 28, 2022. There were no questions from the Board on the contents of the Board and Christina made a motion that was seconded by Shelly to accept the Report and enact the recommendations with it. The motion was approved. Each Director was requested to review the Action Plan and report to Christina by November 18, 2022 which action item(s) they would be willing to spearhead along with an anticipated completion date.

Draft Bylaws Pam then presented the draft updated Bylaws, noting that the organization had grown and expanded programming over the years and its activities yet the Bylaws had not been updated until this project. The updated draft Bylaws, which were presented to the Board earlier in the summer, were a total rewrite of the Bylaws rather than a modification which is why they were presented as a new document instead of a marked up edit. She added that the updated draft came from boilerplate template that meets legal requirements and has been tailored for FOSWST. After discussion, Shelly made a motion that was seconded by Christina to hold a special meeting of the Board dedicated to reviewing the updated Bylaws,

allowing for more in-depth discussion and review of the changes. The motion was approved and the Board set that meeting for noon on December 7, 2022.

2023 Meeting Schedule The Board set the 2023 meeting schedule with meetings to be held bimonthly, on the second Wednesday of each month beginning in January.

Other Business Beth C. reminded Directors of the Christmas Tree event and voting on Tuesday, November 22, 2022 at Grand Boulevard and encouraged all Directors to attend, bringing friends, to cast votes for the FOSWST tree. The actual tree decorating will be done on November 20th, with details to be sent to Directors shortly.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:41pm following a motion by Shelly that was seconded by Beth H.

Respectfully submitted,



Pam Tedesco
Secretary

Approved December 7, 2022