Peace River Audubon Society Board Meeting
1/10/2019

The meeting was opened by Mike K at 5:30 p.m. The following members were in attendance: Sandy Artman, Julie Black, Michelle Kloese, Mike Krzyzkowski, Cindy Macri, Eleanor Marr, Ron Mills, Barb Taylor and Nancy Turner. The minutes from the December board meeting were approved.
Sandy A’s treasurer report was accepted. Remarks from Sandy included that donations were received since this report, the website invoice was paid to Kalindi, and the Vanguard account is down due to stock market.

Mike K reported that the replacement speaker for the February general meeting is going to be Kellie Phillips from FWC plus Hunter Filmar, a biologist studying the red cockaded woodpeckers at Babcock Ranch.

OLD BUSINESS:
Young Birders Club- Michelle K postponed the meeting due to her busy school schedule and would like to table until summer so appropriate time can be given to this project.

Website update- no report

Pennington- Cindy M shared that a new member Rob has attended the work events at Pennington and already has planted porterweed & firebrush in landscaped area not planted by the scouts. Since there is additional funds from the scouts, she mentioned replacing an oak tree. Also a sign with butterfly identification can be purchased from the UF Extension to place at Pennington. The board was concerned with the vandalism issue so will hold off on this. Mike will speak with a member concerning disruptive behavior at Pennington work days.

Banquet- Julie B reported that a group of about 10 interested volunteers attended the banquet committee meeting. Currently working on the raffle portion of the banquet and decided to go with 5 raffle packages: entertainment, restaurants, golf, wine, and Brunch and Birding. Will sell tickets only at the banquet. Discussed ideas for raffle donations. Will also have a donation birdhouse at event. Ron M suggested music during cocktail and he will contact a friend about playing. Reservations will be taken at the Jan. & Feb. PRAS meetings and by mail for $35/person up to Feb. 28th.

Scholarship- website has been updated with a scholarship deadline of Feb. 1, 2019. Michelle reported for Greg K that just waiting for applicants, no limited number of scholarships- we can decide from candidate pool. Michelle will follow up.

Bluebird Trail- Mike K reported that Dan VanNorman has Peterson boxes, 1 already on Babcock Webb property which is monitored. With 2 groups- Charlotte
& Lee county involved in this project, will look at next Dec. to get started. The board was interested so Mike K will email Don. Will need some wood donated, but Mike can cut the boxes.

NEW BUSINESS:
Brenda C attending Everglades Coalition Conference at Duck Key as we speak. The group meets quarterly. Even though we approved participation in Nov., a motion was made, seconded, & approved to continue our participation.

Nancy T requested a change in date for her Earth Day event as she has another commitment on April 20th. The board approved changing the event to April 27th at Deep Creek Preserve. Nancy will follow up with John Phillips plus may add kite flying to the agenda (Shannon has kite experience).

Ron Mills will do chalk talk presentation at the Port Charlotte library on Feb. 8th as part of the “Love Your Community” event.

Doris Button, CEO of CHEC is still looking for PRAS member to participate as a CHEC board member. Will announce at meeting, ask Shannon?

Volunteering for the Nominating committee, Phyllis Cady, Larry Behrens, Ron Mills with Mike K assisting will seek any board members needed for the upcoming year.

Michelle K will talk to Cynthia about continuing the bird feeder project and with testing later in the year there will be more time to complete. Funding for project approved by board if similar to the figures for the previous year.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m. by Mike K.

Julie Black,
PRAS Secretary