

Rivers Coalition

Meeting Minutes

Date: February 23, 2012

Called to Order: 11:04

Attendance: Ted Guy, Greg Gardner, Jay Honan for George Jones, Darrell Brand, Frank Pryzbylski, Shari Anker, John Marshall, Jim Moir, Tom Tomilson, Marge Ketter, Charles Grande, Marge Ketter, John O'Brien, Dennis Buford, Barbara Taylor for Douglas Ashley, Will Ponsoldt, Rob Ranieri

Chairman's Comments:

Ted Guy announced that Leon Abood, Karl Wickstrom, and Mark Perry will not be here today. The Rivers Coalition Defense Fund had its annual meeting and voted Karl Wickstrom as President, Kevin Henderson as Vice President, Mark Perry as Secretary, and Ted Guy as Treasurer, the Rivers Coalition Defense Fund also voted Jacqui Thurlow-Lippisch to become an ex-officio (non-voting) member and as soon as Charles Grande runs for political office, he will also move into the ex-officio (non-voting) status.

Guest Speaker:

Ted Guy introduced John Marshall, "Streamlining Central Everglades Project Planning".

River Kidz:

Nicole Mader announced that Nia Mader and Evie Flaugh were awarded the Keep Martin Beautiful Youth award; they also attended the Martin County Commission meeting and presented the art work to be displayed. Go to Facebook and YouTube to view the River Kidz. The River Kidz just had a drain markers party and George Jones was the guest speaker. The River Kidz will be printing more t-shirts. Upcoming meetings and projects include: Environmental Studies Centers Earth day on April 22, Arts Fest booth on April 21. Like the River Kidz on Facebook for more upcoming information.

Legal Update:

Karl sent update. We're working on a number of issues and we have David Guest head of Earth Justice scheduled to appear at our March meeting. He will summarize the recent federal court ruling on numeric pollution limits and take questions on this very complex subject.

WRAC "Water Resources Advisory Commission":

Paul Millar announced WRAC is always televised live and you can submit your questions online and they will be answered. The meetings are the first Thursday of the month. Next meeting is March 8th.

Water Quality:

Kevin Henderson better than it has been in prior months, we have not recovered fully from the quality of what we had in the 1990's since the discharges from 2004-2005.

Speakers Bureau:

Rivers Coalition

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Ted Guy announced that Jim Harter spoke to the Rotary Club recently and that on March 5 they will be speaking with the St. Lucie Sailing Club.

ROGER:

Ted Guy announced that ROGER is active behind the scenes and are sponsors of Eco-Voice. They are publishing the Rivers Coalitions reports. This is a coalition of coalitions, right now there are 4 or 5 other coalitions involved.

Kevin Henderson announced that one of the items discussed at the last Rivers Coalition Defense Fund meeting was how relevant the Defense Fund is and we decided that we need to keep the bite, the legal defense fund will continue on to keep the bite if it is ever needed again.

Martin County:

Don Donaldson announced 6 projects that are in the works for a total of \$21 million. The County knows we have a lot of issues to deal with. Paul Millar position and the management position will be filled very soon.

ROG:

John Marshall announced that the Central Everglades Planning Process have taken over the ROG planning sessions.