

Rivers Coalition

Meeting Minutes

Date: July 28, 2011

Called to Order: 11:04

Attendance: Mark Perry, Douglas Ashley, Marge Ketter, Phil Tafoya, Louise White, Karl Wickstrom, Greg Gardner, Charles Grande, George Jones, Ted Guy, Shari Anker, Todd Weissing, Jackie Trancynger, Max Quackenbos, Bob Pearson, Morris Crady, Frank Pryzbylski, Jim Harter, Susan Smyth, John O'Brien

Chairman's Comments:

Mark Perry; Leon Abood could not be here. I will chair the meeting.

Jessica Briske; Ben Swann is a member of the Rivers Coalition with the Rustic Acres HOA. He was diagnosed with a brain tumor and is in hospice. Please sign and pass the card around so we can show Joanne our support. The Rivers Coalition will be raffling off the painting at our last meeting October 27th. Please purchase a T-shirt for a chance to win. The River Kidz are now on Facebook, please like us. Thank you to Jacqui Thurlow-Lippisch for all of your help with the River Kidz. We are looking into setting up our kickoff meeting for September or October.

Guest Speaker:

Dr. Melodie Naja, "Mercury Threatens St. Lucie Estuary and Everglades".

Charlie Grande suggests that the Rivers Coalition create a task force to establish a position regarding the mercury. Mark Perry appointed Charlie to head the task force and come back to the Rivers Coalition with a letter recommendation to send to our politicians.

Legal Update:

Karl Wickstrom; we lost the appeal and we are advised that we should not appeal to the U.S. Supreme court, but the lawsuit spotlighted the problems we are having. Martin County, the Town of Sewall's Point, the City of Stuart, and the Everglades foundation supported our lawsuit. Thank you to the plaintiffs and everyone that has supported our lawsuit.

Charlie Grande; motion to terminate any legal action recommended by the lawyers. Ted Guy seconded motion.

Discussion: Douglas Ashley; would like more discussion. Thinks we should table the motion until the members have more information. Greg Gardener; first he has heard of this and it would be beneficial to discuss in more detail. Mark Perry to be tabled and taken off the floor until the next meeting.

WRAC "Water Resources Advisory Commission":

Vincent with Florida Oceanographic; the meeting was all about the SFWMD budget decisions. No meeting next month..

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Speakers Bureau:

Todd Weissing; August 10th Mark Perry and Leon Abood will be speaking in front of 80 to 100 people for the Stuart/Martin Chamber of Commerce.

Mooring Pilot Program:

Mike Durham, City of Stuart attorney; the FWC will be holding public workshops for the Mooring Pilot program. We would like to have a representative from your organization. Ted Guy will be the representative.

Water Quality:

Mark Perry; water quality is a B+.