

# Rivers Coalition

## Meeting Minutes

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Date: March 26, 2014

**Called to Order:** 6:03

Attendance: Leon Abood, Frank Pryzbylski, Jim Moir, Clint Starling, Mark Perry, Jackie Trancynger, Joanne Swann, Rip Fisher, John O'Brien, Don Voss, Phil Tafoya, Charles Grande, Todd Weissing, Jim Harter, Marty Baum, George Jones, Darrell Brand, Pam Joy, Shari Anker, Bob Murray, Annie Potts, Mike Glynn, Bob Pearson, Donna Melzer, Dennis Killila, John Bobb, David Carlson, Richard Erth, Robert Ryba, Jill Pinkham

### **Chairman's Comments:**

Leon Abood presented applications for new membership by Harbour Ridge Yacht Club. Motion made, seconded and passed.

### **Vote for Motion to Oppose HB 703:**

At the January meeting, Jackie Trancynger made a motion for the Rivers Coalition to write a formal resolution opposing HB 703. Voting quorum reached. Motion seconded and passed.

### **M.C.H.S. Leadership Class Video Presentation:**

Leon Abood introduced Christina Perez, a Martin County High School student who was involved in the making of the video; she spoke to the efforts of her classmates and their dedication to saving the river. The video was entitled "Goodbye to a River", it can be watched here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Yw7gbUJOAo>

### **Special Presentation – Lt. Col Thomas Greco:**

Leon Abood introduced Lt. Col. Thomas Greco of the Army Core of Engineers. His presentation can be found here: <http://riverscoalition.org/reports-info/videos-presentations/>

### **River Kidz**

Jacqui Thurlow-Lippisch let everyone know that the River Kidz event called "Get the Muck Out", using river muck to tie-dye t-shirts, was a great success. Over 200 kids showed up and over 180 t-shirts were tie-dyed. One t-shirt was left in a bucket with river muck for a few weeks and the kids were able to see first-hand how the muck ate through the cotton.

### **Past Events:**

Clint Starling announced our participation in the BBQ and Blues Festival was a success and we were able to sell \$1,100 of Rivers Coalition gear, in addition to garnering great exposure and reaching many new citizens.

### **Martin County:**

Deborah Drum gave an update on Martin County: Go [riverscoalition.org/reports-info:martin-co-sfwmd/](http://riverscoalition.org/reports-info:martin-co-sfwmd/) for the full report.

### **Local Issues & Estuary Water Quality:**

Mark Perry announced that the water quality currently looks good. The FOS is starting to recycle oyster shells and beds in partnership with local Stuart restaurants.

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### **WRAC - “Water Resources Advisory Commission”:**

There will be a WRAC meeting on Thursday April 3<sup>rd</sup> in Broward County.

### **Indian River Keeper:**

Marty Baum announced that during a trip to Lake Okeechobee with the ACOE, he was able to observe current construction efforts to improve and reinforce the dikes. He also announced that HB703 went through an agricultural committee with only two opposing votes from Representatives Lee and Watson. The Guardians of Martin County are also underwriting an advertising campaign in opposition to HB703.