

Rivers Coalition

Meeting Minutes

Date: September 24, 2014

Called to Order: 6:03pm

Attendance: Mark Perry, David Wisehaupt, Paul Gray, Mike Conner, Jill Pinkham, Mike Littell, Jackie Tracynger, George Jones, Joanne Swann, John OBrien, Charles Grande, Jim Harter, Marty Baum, Shari Anker, Darrell Brand, Nic Mader, Katy Lewey, Mike Brescher, Dennis Phelan, Jim Moir, Frank Pryzbylski, John Bobb, David Lowe, Robert Ryba and Mike Glynn.

Chairman's Comments:

Vice Chairman Mark Perry called the meeting to order, as Chairman Leon Abood is absent.

Kidz of Martin County:

Nic Mader announced that the River Kidz participated in International Coastal Clean-up Day by joining the Hobe Sound Beach cleanup effort with the Earth Savers Crew on September 20th. On Saturday, October 18th there will be a kid's catch and release fishing tournament called Lines in the Lagoon. There will be an event to following in downtown Ft. Pierce with lots of activities and food.

River Kidz of St. Lucie County:

Katy Lewey announced the River Kidz of St. Lucie and Indian River County and the Manatee Center will be hosting the River Kidz Fishy Halloween Party Oct. 12th from 1pm to 3pm at the Manatee Center in Ft. Pierce. All Kidz are encouraged to create a fishy upcycled costume to wear.

Rivers Coalition Defense Fund:

Charles Grande announced he would be temporarily stepping aside as the Rivers Coalition Defense Fund President while running for St. Lucie County Commissioner. Kevin Henderson, currently Vice President, will be taking on the role of President in Charles' place.

Solidarity Fish Art:

Janeen Mason gave a brief presentation about the Solidarity Fish art installation currently in the Commissions Chamber. The art installation and presentation can be seen here:

www.youtube.com/user/RiversCoalition

Special Presentation:

Mark Perry gave a special presentation, which can be watched here:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/RiversCoalition> . Following the presentation, Mark made a motion for Chairman Leon Abood to send a letter on behalf of the Rivers Coalition to Governor Scott, opposing the SugarHill sector plan proposed by Hendry County. The motion was seconded by Marty Baum and was passed.

Martin County:

Diane Hughes gave an update on Martin County: Go to www.riverscoalition.org/reports-info/local-updates for the full report.

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Indian Riverkeeper:

Marty Baum gave an update, you can go to www.riverscoalition.org/reports-info/local-updates/ for the full report.

Lake Okeechobee:

Paul Gray announced that the lake is currently at 14.8ft, while it can safely reach 16ft. This year so far, the Army Core of Engineers has been able to avoid releasing lake water into our estuary.