

Rivers Coalition

Meeting Minutes: March 22, 2018

Jim Moir called the meeting to order at 11:00 A.M pm. 50 people were present. Members In Attendance: Jim Moir, George Jones, Charles Grande, Mark Perry, Marty Baum, Gayle Ryan, Jackie Trancynger, James Harter, Wayne Kuster, Regina Wood, Joanne Swann, Shari Anker, Mike Conner, Kenny Hinkle, Todd Weissing, Darrell and Jennifer Brand, Linda Grand, Jeanette Hartzell, Martha Boston, Jim Wharton, Paul Laura, Leanna Desmond, David Carlson, Allie Preston, Annie Potts, Pam Hopkins & Michelle Byriel (FOS), Ed Wolfe, Dianne Hughes (MC Water Quality), Terry Rauth (MC Public Works).

Chairman's Comments: Jim Moir welcomed everyone and called meeting to order at 11 a.m. with The Pledge of Allegiance. Then the organizational members introduced themselves.

Current Action Items and Voting:

Charles Grande, as President of the RCDF, announced that: in reaction to the submitted EAA reservoir plan sent to the ACOE - a committee will create a sign on letter/statement that will be presented to RC members for approval.

River Kidz of Martin County:

April 7th is RK event of Beach Trash Art at Sewall's Point Park and a celebration of the RK workbook V.3. Jacqui Thurlow-Lippisch is distributing the workbook in Tallahassee. RK received \$200 from Stuart Flyrodders, \$100 from Nettles Island HOA, and \$60 from Courtyard Marriott through SueAnne Hall.

Speakers Bureau: Todd Weissing says Marty Baum will speak at Ballantrae Lady Angler's Club luncheon on March 26.

Special Presentation: Jim Moir introduced Leesa Souto, PhD of Marine Resources Council and Claudia Listopod, PhD of Applies Ecology gave the preliminary presentation of the IRL Report Card. It is still in draft form so will not be released to RC website until a few months from now. To view the presentations and all reports:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/RiversCoalition>.

Government & Agency Progress Reports:

- **Martin County:** Dianne Hughes reported that the water quality has been good. No inflows from Lake O since 12/28/17. Announced St Lucie Shores and Willoughby Creek projects. Next water Ambassador Class is March 23. view Dianne's report go to: www.riverscoalition.org/reports-info/local-updates/ Go to the following websites for water quality updates: www.martin.fl.us ; www.martin.floridahealth.gov ; www.dep.state.fl.us and www.reportalagalbloom.com.
- **State and Federal Agencies and Issues:** Mark Perry spoke for Dr. Paul Gray: Lake O is "going down" it is at 14.26' feet. Mark spoke with WRAC re: EAA and how sugar needs to treat it's own water.

Coalition Reports:

- **Rivers Coalition Defense Fund Update:** Charles Grande gave his update above in the Current Action Items section
- **Indian Riverkeeper Update:** Marty Baum is in communication with Betty Osceola and hopefully have a report by next RC Meeting on the tribe's position on Holey Land and Rottenberger land. Two weeks ago they put a hydrophone into the water.
Marty will do a presentation at Everglades Audubon on "Plume Hunters" on April 3rd.
April 15th "Glades Lives Matter" will join together with persons from the east coast of FL.
- **Local Issues & Estuary Water Quality:** Michelle Byriel of FOS reported the St. Lucie River Estuary has an overall grade of 88% or B+. Mark Perry said the seagrass recovery is "not there" and zero in Sailfish Flats. The oyster restoration projects have resumed.
- **Member Comments:**
Regina Wood of the MC Chapter of FL Native Plant Society announced a Sat April 7th guided tour to see the restoration.
Michelle Byriel of FOS announced a Seagrass Survey March 29, 9-12; Seagrass Matting April 18, 9-11; Seagrass Survey April 25, 9-12; Oyster Bagging April 26, 9-11.
Gayle Ryan encouraged people to buy the "boney fish" rocks as a fundraiser for Inidan RiverKeeper

Meeting Adjourned: 12:28 p.m.