

**ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION, INC**  
**Wildlife Committee**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**October 15, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 10:30.

Present: Patti Cowin, Cari Hale, Belinda Olsen, Don Olsen, Jim Peterfeso, , Lynda Chamowitz, Debbie Yeager, Jan Meades

Absent: Joan Gotthardt, Steve Froggatt

**Minutes:** The minutes of the September meeting were approved as written.

**Wildlife Facebook Page:** There are currently 185 members. Cari announced that she was planning to open the page, i.e. Admin approval will no longer be needed to view the page.

**Presentations:** Despite the fact that the entire RWA Staff left for Fort Myers, without notice, and without preparing the Community Center for the October 16<sup>th</sup> Reptiles presentation, the Wildlife Committee (assisted by the speaker, Jason Thompson and his staff) pulled together, taking down tables and setting up chairs for the nearly 40 attendees. Jason will be repeating his presentation - Reptiles of Broadmoor Park on October 18<sup>th</sup>, at 6PM.

**Upcoming Presentations:**

The Butterflies of Florida and Cuba presentation scheduled for 9 November is cancelled.

Cora Becham – Encore Manatee presentation, December 11<sup>th</sup> from 1-3 PM.

Sea Turtles - January 15<sup>th</sup> 1PM and 6PM on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Old Business:** Don and Belinda found a wonderful laminated field guide for Florida Snakes. Although the cost of \$8 is too high to be able to provide free for the taking a possible alternative is to buy two and mount them with/near the kiosks. They also found some nice FWC brochures on iguanas and another on alligators that can be reproduced. They also found a one-page flyer on armadillos that the Committee plans to expand upon for yet another brochure.

The first Bird Walk (Nature Walk) of the season was held on September 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:40 AM. Participants were treated to a rare sight, a small falcon, known as a “Merlin” seemingly posing in a pine tree. The next walk is scheduled for tomorrow morning, October 18<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30

Next meeting on November 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:30

Respectfully submitted, Cari Hale

