

ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION, INC
WILDLIFE AD HOC SUB-COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
September 18, 2018

Meeting called to order at 10:13 A.M

Members present: Patti Cowin, Chair, Cari Hale, Jim Peterfeso, Belinda Olsen, Don Olsen, Jan Meades, and Steve Froggatt.

Absent: Joan Gotthardt, Lynda Chamowitz, Mike and Tammy Kipp

Patti called the meeting to order and apologized to the group for the late start. Patti and Cari were delayed due to a wildlife rescue call. The group then approved the minutes from the last meeting.

The Wildlife Facebook page is now up to 75 members. Cari suggested that broader exposure might be possible if we developed business cards for the committee members that had the facebook page link on them as well as other Wildlife Sub-Committee contact information.

The marking of additional gopher tortoise burrows continues to be on hold. Although members are still frustrated by the delay in having the matter revisited by the Board of Directors, Belinda noted that, "If you believe in something, never give up." Patti added that she was speaking with each Board Director directly to clarify what it is that the Wildlife Sub-Committee would like to do regarding the marking of burrows. The Olsens mentioned that they had encountered one of the mowers, Craig, and thanked him for being vigilant regarding avoiding tortoise burrows.

The members were then queried for input regarding the new "Rotonda West's Protected Wildlife" brochure. All agreed to go ahead with publication. Cari suggested that the Wildlife facebook page information be added.

Under New Business the question was raised as to whether the Sub-Committee was included in the 2019 budget. Patti explained as a sub-committee of Activities, Wildlife's budget needs were rolled into the Activities budget request and that she had worked with Sam Besase, who developed the budget request for Activities.

Cari mentioned that she and Patti had attended a wildlife rescue workshop co-sponsored by the Wildlife Center of Venice and Peace River Wildlife. Following the workshop both signed up as volunteer rescuers and had already transported and injured mourning dove to Peace River and was attempting to rescue a whistling duck that very day (which was why they were late to the meeting). They asked members if any were available to assist. Jan and Steve agreed to aid in the rescue.

Belinda then inquired as to whether the Wildlife Sub-Committee should have a table at the next Open House. The members were unanimous in their support.

Belinda also brought, to the attention of the members, an article in the Englewood Sun written by Brett Slattery. The article outlined how realtors/builders could work with the FWC in relocating gopher tortoises.

The next meeting is November 20th at 1000.

Meeting was adjourned at 1045.

Respectfully Submitted:
Cari Hale