

**ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION, INC**  
**WILDLIFE AD HOC SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**MINUTES**  
**March 13, 2018**

Meeting called to order at 11:08 A.M

Members present: Patti Cowin, Chair, Cari Hale, Joan Gotthardt, Lynda Chamowitz, Belinda Olsen, Don Olsen, Jim Peterfeso, Jan Meades

Absent: Jim Lowe, Ruth Fletcher

Others present: Carol Abarbanell, Scott Feldkamp

A motion was made by Lynda Chamowitz and seconded by Cari Hale to accept the minutes of the February 12th meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Someone asked if we needed to go through the formal "rules of order" (approving minutes, formal agenda, etc.) and Patti said she would check on that.

The group then discussed finalizing the areas of responsibility for responding to resident concerns regarding wildlife issues. The area assignments agreed upon are:

Pine Valley/White Marsh – Jim Peterfeso, Belinda Olsen, Don Olsen  
White Marsh/Long Meadow – Lynda Chamowitz, Joan Gotthardt, Jim Lowe  
Broadmoor/Pinehurst – Cari Hale, Patti Cowin  
Pebble Beach/Oakland Hills – Ruth Fletcher, Jan Meades

To date, 3 wildlife issues have been referred to the Wildlife Ad Hoc Sub-Committee.

A discussion then ensued regarding the cataloguing of gopher tortoise burrows. It was suggested that information gathered include wedge (neighborhood), GPS coordinates, lot, address, and map, if possible. Patti Cowin mentioned that her attempts at creating an Excel spreadsheet for the information did not achieve the desired results. She then inquired of Scott Feldkamp whether RWA had a license for Microsoft Access or another database program. He said that if RWA doesn't already have the program, one can be purchased and placed on one of the Activity Committee laptops. Patti asked all the Sub-Committee members to send her their data and she would input it into and maintain the database.

Cari Hale discussed her investigation into establishing a gopher tortoise relocation site in Broadmoor Park. She is coordinating with Bill Byle, Charlotte County Environmental Specialist, to have the FWC point person to come and conduct a site visit to determine if Broadmoor Park is a viable relocation site. Patti also noted that once approved by the FWC, the RWA Board

would also need to approve the establishment of Broadmoor Park as a Designated Tortoise Relocation Area because this site would have to be set aside in perpetuity. The group also discussed costs associated with relocation and how we could offset some of the RWA costs by charging builders for the relocation.

Jan Meades noted that missing from the agenda was “new business”. This will be added to future agendas as well as “member’s input”. So, under “new business” Jan Meades opined that as we are entering alligator mating season it would be a good idea to educate RW residents as to the alligator behavior changes that will result. Lynda suggested that an article be written for publication in West Ways. Don and Belinda Olsen also suggested that Pattie Mihalik be contacted to see if she could write an article for the Englewood Sun on the same topic. Scott said he might be able to get us some Alligator warning signs. Jan Meades will collect information and draft an article for review by the sub-committee to review. Jim Peterfeso will explore posting the information on “Nextdoor”.

Jim mentioned that he attended area lectures on local flora and fauna, and distributed several handouts related to butterfly and plant events and meetings. Patti asked Jim if he would “vet” some of the speakers at these various for a for potential presentations here at Rotonda and he agreed.

The Chair asked Carol Abarbanell if she had any comments or questions. She said she only attended to observe.

Meeting adjourned 12:15 PM

Next meeting April 10, 2018

Respectfully Submitted:  
Joan Gotthardt