

GTMNERR

Minutes of Board Meeting: Tuesday, May 10, 2004

Members present:

- Daryl LaBello,
- Joe Hutnan,
- Bill Dudley,
- Pierre Pierce,
- Kramer Upchurch,
- Steve Harrison,
- Carl Hampp,
- Barbara Starck,
- Agnes Danzigar,
- Judy Sulser

NERR Staff Present:

- Janet Zimmerman

The May meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

- I. Approval of minutes
 - Not necessary because there was not a quorum at March meeting. Making the meeting unofficial.
- II. Introductions from Steve
 - Need to move from working on organization to getting some accomplishments and reduce our dependence on NERR staff.
- III. Hard Hat Party – moved to first Sunday in June (June 6, 2004)
 - Member awareness, appreciation event.
 - Not official open house, but prospective members may attend.
 - NERR staff and Friends board members will direct people through the building.
 - Brick sales information to be available.
 - Volunteer and membership tables distributing information.
 - NERR has directional arrow signs to guide people into parking.
 - No speeches or presentations will be given; these will be held off until official opening.
 - Local politicians and such will be invited.
 - Members working event should meet of Saturday before to dry-rehearse. Volunteering board members should be at the rehearsal by **9:00 a.m.**
 - Agnes recommended that board members make follow-up calls to members after flyers have been mailed.
 - EEC has roof, event will be held rain or shine.
 - Newspaper and video press will also be invited.
- IV. Development committee – Carl Hampp
 - Passed out development committee meeting minutes.

- Taking out free admission language because admission policies and rate structure has not yet been decided.
- Discussion about membership billing in October. How do we handle people that sign up a month or two before the billing date? Possible give them the two months free and bill them next year. Dues are a donation and members are currently not entitled to anything other than a membership card and decal.
- Engraved brick sales – Hard Hat Party pricing
 $4 \times 8 = \$100$, $8 \times 8 = \$250$, $4 - 8 \times 8 = \$1,200$ – pre-construction pricing
 2 lines, 15 characters each (8 X 8 brick)
 Buyers get brick at facility and one for at home.
- Our cost for bricks are approximately \$49.
- Bricks will be tan in color with black writing.
- Questions were asked about profits from sale – does it all go to the Friends group or is it split with NERR. Current thinking is that Friends group will keep the funds and the NERR can request funds as needed.
- Agnes proposed a motion to approve dollar amounts for membership levels. Seconded by Judy.
 - Joe discussed giving some kind of benefit free brick or water color poster to upper levels.
 - Motion passed unanimously.
- Judy Selser proposed a motion that we accept the pre-construction brick prices
 - Motion passed unanimously.

V. Membership database – Barb.

- Database is up to date and address labels are ready to be printed.

VI. Gift shop - Steve

- Large area in the building devoted to gift shop.
- Friends group will be responsible for running, stocking, keeping it up.
- Agnes mentioned it might be a good idea to run a PSA ad to help find people with retail experience.
- Judy mentioned that we need to find a way to make displays.
- Possibly allow artists to sell items via consignment as long as the work conforms to NERR mission?
- We can tap the resources of other parks that have gift shops to help give us ideas.
- Looking for volunteers to step up and help set this up at hard hat party
- Kramer mentioned that we should find a budget manager or CPA that we pay to help keep the books. Information needs to be detailed to feed into financial reports.
- Profits from the gift shop go into the Friends Group treasury to be used to support the NERR according to the mission of the park.
- Kramer getting ready to prepare reports (financial) that are due by June 30th and will need some assistance. May need to hire 10 – 20 hours of budget help.

VII. Website Update - Daryl

- Progress being made slowly
- Look for volunteers at Hard Hat party

VIII. New Business - Steve

- Janet has information on the Friends of Florida State Parks
 - Janet has information on First Coast Birding and Nature Festival to be held May 13-16
 - Janet – Need to decide about wine at hard hat party
 - Decision – no alcohol – water and soda only
 - **Next meeting Saturday June 5th 9:00 am at Guana River**
- IX. Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.