

## Friends of GTM

### ***Minutes of Board Meeting: Tuesday, August 11, 2004***

*Members present:* Steve Harrison, Joe Hutnan, Pierre Pierce, Anita Pierce, Carl Hampp, Barb Starck, Judy Sulser, Ken Berk, and Janet Zimmerman

- I. Meeting called to order at 4:15 p.m.
- II. Approval of the minutes – minutes approved as submitted.
- III. Steve – Bylaws review and approval.
  - Joe asked about the change of the Friends business address to the new building. Steve will make that note in the bylaws.
  - Joe motioned to accept bylaws with address change. Carl seconds with all in favor.
- IV. Steve – Nominating Committee will be appointed and meet before the next board meeting. A slate of officers will be presented at the next meeting. Any one with an interest in an officer position should speak with Steve or Agnes. Board has a few seats open and a few unmet needs (attorney, accountant/bookkeeper, retail start experience).
- V. Steve – mass mailing to St Johns residents based on demographics. This mass mailing is being done as a membership drive. Another mailing will go out to all members for membership renewal. Mailing will include a letter from the Friends President, a buy-a-brick brochure, membership brochure and possibly the NERR flyer. Talented Friends Inc. has been contacted to design the brick brochure and the membership brochure. Cost for this will be \$2000. Judy made a motion to have Steve go forward with \$2000 for the development of the 2 brochures. Seconded by Pierre with all in favor.
  - A second company will do all the printing, stuffing and mailing. Joe made the motion to get a price quote for 5,000 and 10,000 pieces. Seconded by Judy with all in favor.
  - Steve will see if both companies can make a presentation or present quotes at next meeting.
- VI. Name discussion – For informal purposes or after introducing the full name, the Friends of Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve can be shortened to Friends of GTM Reserve for ease of communication. There was also some discussion about a Friends logo to be distinct from the GTMNERR logo.
- VII. NERR Annual meeting in Maine Oct 17-22. Ken gave an overview of the annual NERR meeting. Janet will look into the agenda for the Friends track. Joe made the suggestion to pass on this years meeting.
- VIII. Ken – Building update
  - Building construction completion will have a 45-day extension, now looking at Nov 1. At that time exhibits, furniture, and computers will be moved in. Staff should be in by Jan 1, 2005. Winter and spring to set up aquariums, train volunteers and do some “soft” programs/classes Jan – March. Expected “Grand Opening” event to be done for National Estuaries Day Sept 2005.

-Other construction projects include: the Guana dam recreation area parking and restrooms (March completion), shoreline stabilization and dock at EEC, renovation of shop building, new gates at beach parking lots, and the shell bluff revetment.

IX. New Business

-The new Biologist, Matt Love, is now on board. Future staff will include, stewardship Coordinator, research tech, facilities consultant, receptionist, environmental educator, CTP Coordinator and volunteer coordinator.

-Birds, Botany and Breakfast will continue on September 25<sup>th</sup>.

-Beach parking issue in PVB, hearing about an idea from some in the Ponte Vedra area to reroute A1A west into the Reserve's coastal strand/scrub habitat to create large parking lots on conservation land.

X. Meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.