

**ICHETUCKNEE ALLIANCE
MEETING MINUTES****6:30 p.m. Wednesday, August 17, 2016****@ North Florida Springs Environmental Center, 23695 W. U.S. Highway 27, High Springs FL*****Present***

Jasmine Lott Hagan
Scott Jantz
John Jopling
Charles Maxwell
Lucinda Merritt
Cathy Street

Absent

Jill Lingard

1. *Agenda approval/additions/deletions.* None.

PRIORITY ITEMS

2. *September Board retreat?* After considering #s 3 & 4, below, the Board unanimously decided to hold a closed planning retreat on Sept. 10, 2016. Tentative meeting spot: Charles Maxwell's house. Alternate: John Jopling's river house, if possible. We brainstormed a list of topics. Lu will email the list to board members who will rank them and send them back to Lu for tallying. We will pick the top three to five topics to address at the retreat.

3. *Update on fifth Water Voices program and continuation or cancellation of Water Voices speaker series.* Lu and Cathy talked about the need to evaluate this effort, given failure to reach area leaders and given the new speaker series being developed by Our Santa Fe River. We decided to evaluate this program at the September retreat.

4. *Presentation of IA Report Card to Tourist Development Councils, county commissions, etc.* John mentioned the need for a PowerPoint presentation and Lu reminded the group that she and Jill had developed one for their presentation to a Paddle Florida group. Lu also reported that she is working on a draft of a different presentation that can be used as soon as the next Ichetucknee Report Card is issued; the report card will be the core information around which that presentation will be developed. We will evaluate the idea of making presentations to civic, community, and church groups, etc., at the September retreat.

5. *Renew affiliation with Florida Wildlife Foundation?* The Treasurer's report revealed that a check for \$100 to renew our affiliation has already been sent. John Jopling agreed to complete the paperwork since it requires his approval and signature.

6. *Idea for property owners in the area.* Jasmine talked about an idea for homeowners on the Santa Fe River to "adopt" an area for trash collection and discussion about the pros and cons of the idea followed.

OFFICER REPORTS

7. *Review/approval of May 18 meeting minutes.* The minutes were approved with no changes.

8. *Treasurer's report.* The report was approved.

9. *Staff Assistant's reports, May, June & July 2016.* There were no questions except for the usual questions on how information about memberships and membership renewals is being publicized. Lu reported that this information is publicized regularly on the Facebook page, via emails to lapsed members and people on the interested citizens' list, in targeted renewal emails to active members, and in the "Become a Member" page under the "Get Involved" tab on the IA website. "Join us" is also a prominent message in our new informational brochure and in our older membership recruitment brochure as well as on the information card we hand out at special events.

OLD BUSINESS/OTHER REPORTS

10. *Report on & consideration of future for IA display currently at Smithsonian exhibition in High Springs.* We have been offered space for the display at the North Florida Springs Environmental Center, but our original idea was to circulate the display in Columbia County. Lu is going to approach libraries in Fort White and Lake City as well as the Lake City Chamber of Commerce and Florida Gateway College. She will also contact the Columbia County Fair representatives about getting a booth at the fair in October.

11. *Science Team updates.* Reporting for Jill, Scott talked about the fish count and said the next monitoring session will be September 9.

12. *Report on t-shirt and hat sales.* Reporting for Jill, Scott said four hats and one shirt were sold at the Water/Ways exhibition opening, and one shirt was sold at the Water Voices session.

13. *Report on SRWMD meetings.* No report.

14. *Update on grant applications.* SRWMD has indicated their wish to complete the work proposed in the second grant we submitted for their consideration (for ranking for FDEP). There is still no word on the first grant, the Springs Tag Grant.

15. *Reminder: Springs Restoration Summit in Ocala, Sept. 30-Oct. 2, 2016.* Lu reminded the group about this event, for which registration is now open.

16. *Confirm next IA meeting dates:* Third Wednesdays at North FL Springs Environmental Center, except we will not meet on September 21 since we are having a planning retreat on September 10. Upcoming meeting dates for the remainder of 2016 are Oct. 19; Nov. 16; Dec. 21.

NEW BUSINESS

17. *Request from Florida Trail Association for a speaker.* We agreed that Jill should be asked to contact the Trail Association since she is able to speak not only about the Alliance but also about two other organizations that Trail Association members might be interested in.

18. The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Lucinda Faulkner Merritt
Secretary