

ICHETUCKNEE ALLIANCE MEETING MINUTES

6:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 19, 2016

@ North Florida Springs Environmental Center, 23695 W. U.S. Highway 27, High Springs FL

Present

Jasmine Hagan
Scott Jantz
John Jopling
Jill Lingard
Charles Maxwell
Lu Merritt
Cathy Street

Guest

Eric Flagg

1. Agenda approval/additions/deletions. No adjustments were made other than some re-working of the order of items on the agenda.

PRIORITY ITEMS/RESPONDING TO OUTSIDE REQUESTS/GUESTS

2. Eric Flagg re: Ichetucknee Trace Race. Eric described his personal challenge of running, biking, kayaking and swimming the Ichetucknee trace and river. He also relayed information from a conversation he had with JulieAnne Tabone of the Florida Park Service about insurance and permits that would be needed if a larger event like this were to be held. The board was enthusiastic about the possibility of organizing such an event that would include an educational component. The event would be limited at first to biking and kayaking. We unanimously approved formation of a committee to explore the feasibility of this idea. Committee members are Eric Flagg, Scott Jantz and Jill Lingard; they will report back to the full board at future meetings and/or via email.

3. Trading memberships with Friends of Ichetucknee Springs State Park, a request from Leela Robinson. We discussed this request and had further questions about it. Lu Merritt will contact Leela Robinson to request clarification.

4. Should IA participate in a clean water rally in Ft. White on Oct. 29? a request from Pam Smith, Our Santa Fe River. Charles Maxwell and Cathy Street indicated willingness and possible availability to attend. Lu will publicize the event on the Alliance's Facebook page and website and get a supply of new brochures to Charles.

5. 2016 Baseline Assessment and Ichetucknee Report Card. Lu reported on her conversation with Bob Knight about the report card and her plans to draft a press release. She will send a draft of that document to Knight and board members for review before sending it out to our mailing lists.

OFFICER REPORTS

6. Review/approval of August & September meeting minutes. Both sets of minutes were approved.

7. Treasurer's report, including money earmarked for education (\$6,101.41) and money collected & spent for exhibition panels. Jasmine Hagan reported that the Alliance currently has \$3903.47. She will compile a total of expenses for the Water/Ways display panels and new brochures and email that information to the board; that amount will be subtracted from the \$6,101.41 amount to tell us how much we have left from the dissolution of Florida's Eden that is earmarked for education.

8. Staff Assistant's reports, August & September 2016. There were no questions about the reports. We again discussed membership levels and recruitment efforts. As in the past, Lu will begin emailing current members about renewals in November and continue with similar emails in December and January. Lu will make John Jopling and Cathy Street administrators of the Facebook page so that they, along with the current administrators, can make membership-recruiting announcements.

OLD BUSINESS/OTHER REPORTS

9. Science Team updates. Jill Lingard reported that the next monitoring sessions are Nov. 4 and Dec. 9. There will be fish counts on Nov. 6 and Dec. 10.

10. Report on t-shirt and hat sales. No sales to report.

11. Report on Springs Summit. John Jopling reported on the summit and Jasmine Hagan thanked the board for her scholarship.

12. Report on SRWMD meetings. There was no report of attendance. At our retreat, we decided to attend six meetings during the next year in order to convey a consistent message from the Alliance. Those meetings are:

November (TBD)

December 13, 2016 (Cathy Street will attend)

January 10, 2017 (Cathy Street will attend)

February 14, 2017

March 14, 2017 (Cathy Street will attend)

April 11, 2017

May (TBD)

June 13, 2017

July 11, 2017

August 8, 2017

September 12, 2017

13. Update on Springs Tag Grant application. John Jopling is the contact person on this application and has heard nothing about it.

14. Update on meeting with Rick Hicks & Terry Hansen of FDEP. Lu Merritt updated the group on an email she received from Rick Hicks.

15. Continue discussion re: gifts for members (t-shirts, hats). We decided to give new members their choice of a hat or t-shirt. Remaining t-shirts range in size from S to XXL. Lu will ask Stewart Thomas to adjust the website payment page and PayPal page to reflect this.

16. Review of action items from September Board Retreat, including conversation with Traci Deen re: granting legal rights to the Ichetucknee. Lu reported on her telephone conversation with Deen. We decided it would be a good idea to have a conference call with Deen to explore this idea in more depth.

NEW BUSINESS

17. Publicity strategy/Water Voices for new Ichetucknee Report Card. Lu reported that Bob Knight is willing to speak at such an event and that she is working on a PowerPoint presentation built around the new report card. We discussed possible venues, Trinity United Methodist Church in Gainesville and Florida Gateway College in Lake City.

18. Book club. Jill reported that with low response to this idea and her new assignment on the Trace Race planning committee, she does not think we should form a book club at this time. The board agreed.

19. Website update/information about exploring the Ichetucknee. Jill reported that she has gathered that information and sent it to Lu. Lu will upload it to the current website rather than waiting for the new website to be created.

20. Need to review & comment on draft North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan. Lu reported on her conversation with Bob Knight during which he indicated that the Alliance should comment on the plan, but that his current schedule prevents him from working on this right now. He suggested that the Alliance begin this review and send draft comments to him. After discussion, we decided that Lu would appeal to advisory board members for help and that she and Jasmine would review the plan to the best of their abilities.

21. Columbia County Fair & problems with display panels. Lu reported that Stewart Thomas is in the process of correcting some problems with the panels. Charles volunteered to help her install the panels at the Columbia County Fairgrounds on Tuesday, Oct. 25.

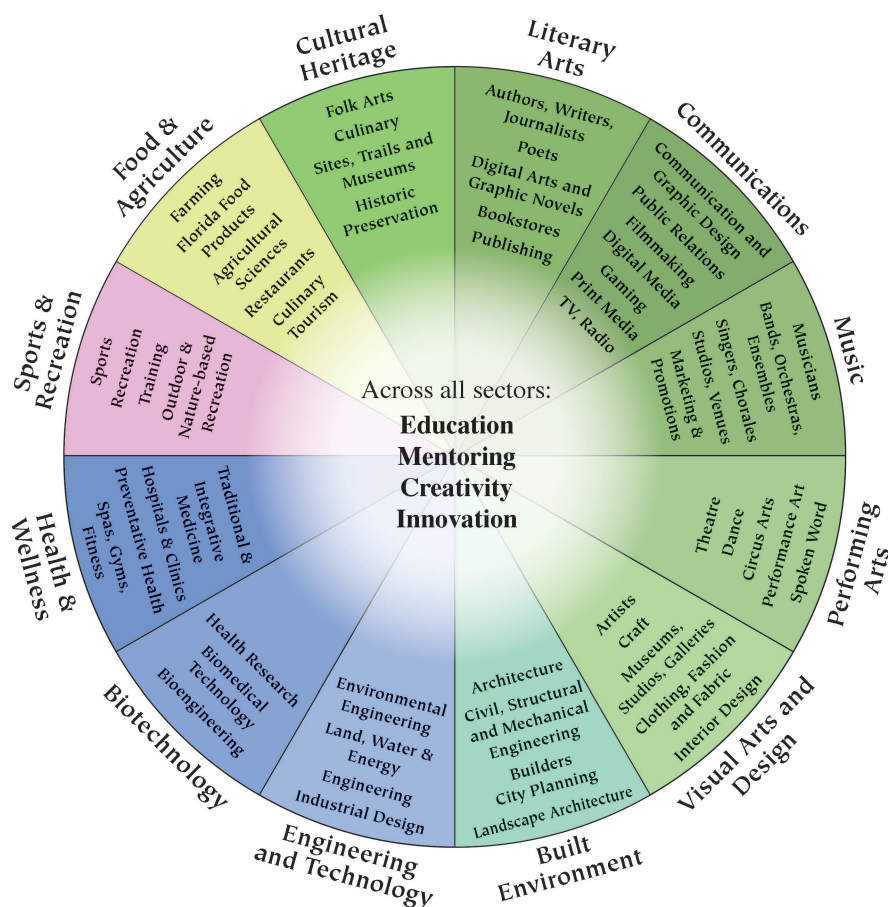
22. Confirm next IA meeting dates. John Jopling will be out of town on Nov. 16 but encouraged us to meet on that date without him.

23. Other new business. Jill reported that her talk to the Florida Trail Association had been postponed but is coming up. She will re-work the PowerPoint that she used for a presentation about the Alliance to Paddle Florida. Lu will send her an image of the new Ichetucknee Report Card.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Lucinda Faulkner Merritt, Secretary

SECTORS OF THE CREATIVE ECONOMY



The Creative Economy thrives in creative spaces in all sectors including educational institutions, incubators, start-ups, labs, museums, studios, labs, workshops and more.

2004 Official Endorsement of the Florida's Eden comprehensive plan by economist Richard Florida, author, *The Rise of the Creative Class*

Florida's Eden

"The Florida's Eden plan is on the leading edge of the international movement for developing regional creative economies.

Creativity is a tremendous engine for economic growth and the Florida's Eden plan is unique in its awareness of the many commonly experienced pitfalls and challenges.

This plan is an inclusive, open, and neutral agency developed specifically to address the problems of income disparities, rural isolation, and a degraded environment and quality of life.

As a plan which encourages cooperation and partnerships, Florida's Eden merits attention, as it allows individuals to participate without losing their own identity, control and investment.

In short, in bringing prosperity and improved quality of life, this is the work we would like to see happening in communities around the country."

Richard Florida

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