

ICHETUCKNEE ALLIANCE (IA) MEETING MINUTES

6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 24, 2018

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

Board Members Present

Paul Donsky
Eric Flagg
John Jopling
Amelia McKnight
Lu Merritt

Advisory Board Members Present

Loye Barnard

Guests

Glenn Hunter
Laura Hunter
Jim Gross
Angeline Meeks
Brenda Wells

IA President John Jopling called the meeting to order.

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

GUEST PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION

2. *Glenn Hunter, Economic Development Director, Columbia County.* We had a good discussion with Glenn about economic development efforts in Columbia County and the need to protect the Ichetucknee. Glenn suggested that IA should send an article for inclusion in the next TREPO newsletter and we agreed to do that.

PRIORITY ITEMS

3. *Nominations for Board and Advisory Board memberships*

- *Bruce Robinson, Board.* John Jopling nominated Bruce, an attorney with contacts in Columbia County. The nomination was seconded and approved unanimously.
- *Brenda Wells, Board.* Lu nominated Brenda, who is coordinating water quality monitoring and fish counts since Jasmine resigned. The nomination was seconded and approved unanimously.
- *Jim Gross, Advisory Board.* Lu nominated Jim, explaining that he was already helping by answering her questions and that placement on the Advisory Board would formalize that relationship. The nomination was seconded and approved unanimously.
- *Judy Sayre, Advisory Board.* Lu nominated Judy, citing her extensive experience with public relations, marketing and communications. The nomination was seconded and approved unanimously.

OFFICER REPORTS

4. *Review/approval of March 2018 meeting minutes.* The minutes were approved as drafted.

5. *Staff Assistant's report, February 2018.* There were no questions about the report.

6. *Treasurer's report.* Amelia reported that IA has \$4382.00. We discussed a transition plan to have Amelia officially recognized as treasurer by our bank. We also discussed a problem with the PayPal account that will need to be resolved.

7. *Membership Report.* Lu reported that as of April 20, IA has 61 paid members; 1321 members of the Facebook group discussion page; 123 people like and 127 people are following the official Facebook page. John mentioned the importance of board members' efforts to recruit new members and the goal to have membership exceed 100. John would also like to have a fundraising event.

OLD BUSINESS & UPDATES

8. *Science Team update.* Brenda reported on dry monitoring (water quality) and wet monitoring (snails and fish counts). In response to board members' interest, Brenda and Paul will prepare a short presentation about this work for the next IA meeting on May 22.

9. *T-shirt and hat sales update.* Tabled because of lengthy discussion with Glenn Hunter.

10. *Update on videos.* Eric reported that the video of Bob Knight's and Angeline Meeks's presentation about the Blue Water Audit/aquifer footprints at the March meeting has now been uploaded to Vimeo. Eric will send the link via email. The video is password protected and is only available to IA board and advisory board members because the work is still in progress. Eric will continue working on our three new videos.

11. *Possible action items related to discussions held on the basin tour with Jim Stevenson on Sept. 23, 2017.* Tabled because of lengthy discussion with Glenn Hunter.

12. *Dye trace study.* Tabled because of lengthy discussion with Glenn Hunter.

13. *Report on Alligator Lake event tabling.* Amelia and Eric gave a brief report about this event on April 14.

14. *Report on TREPO picnic.* Lu gave a brief report about this event on April 14.

NEW BUSINESS

15. *Ichetucknee PARKnership Program at Fort White Schools: making an annual gift; end-of-year celebration on May 9.* After discussion, John moved that we contribute \$300 to this program that uses Ichetucknee Springs State Park as an outdoor classroom and service-learning center for the Fort White Middle and High schools. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously. Lu will find out how the check should be made out and communicate that with Amelia.

16. *Ichetucknee Estates Homeowners Association event on May 26.* Amelia reported that she plans to attend.

17. *Invitation to visit Columbia High School 10th grade English Language Arts classes.* Lu reported that she plans to attend.

18. *"My Home. My Springs." Water management districts' outreach education campaign.* We discussed IA's participation in this campaign.

19. *Getting IA business cards made.* Lu moved that we accept Stewart Thomas's quote for designing and printing business cards. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously. Amelia suggested putting the official IA email address on each card.

20. *Messaging: New Water Voices program; need to be proactive about what projected water use will mean for the Ichetucknee.* Lu reported that she has identified two possible venues, the Building E Auditorium at Santa Fe College's Northwest Campus in Gainesville (\$25) and the Fort White Area Chamber of Commerce Building (old train depot; free) in Fort White. Everyone thought a new program was a good idea.

21. *Meeting schedule for 2018:* fourth Tuesdays May 22; Jun. 26; Jul. 24; Aug. 28; Sept. 25; Oct. 23; Nov. 27 (the week AFTER Thanksgiving); No meeting in December (it would fall on Dec. 25).

22. *Other new business.* None.

23. The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Lucinda Faulkner Merritt, Secretary