

ICHETUCKNEE ALLIANCE (IA) MEETING MINUTES

6:30 p.m. Tuesday, August 28, 2018

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

Board Members Present

Paul Donsky
John Jopling
Amelia McKnight
Lu Merritt
Bruce Robinson

Board Members Absent

Eric Flagg
Brenda Wells

Advisory Board Member Present

Judy Sayre

1. Agenda approval/additions/deletions. Items #6 and #9 were tabled.

OFFICER REPORTS & UPDATES

2. Review/approval of July 2018 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Staff Assistant's report, July 2018. There were no questions.

4. Treasurer's report. Amelia reported that the Alliance has \$3,087.28 in our bank account.

5. Membership Report. Lu reported that as of August 23, 2018, the Alliance has 71 paid members. Our Facebook group discussion page has 1332 members and our official Facebook page is liked by 135 people and followed by 140 people. Bruce suggested that "Save Our Heritage" could be an effective message for membership drives in Columbia County.

6. Science Team update. Tabled; however, Paul reported that monitoring continues and a trash pickup has been added to the fish count effort.

7. T-shirt and hat sales update. None to report.

OLD BUSINESS

8. Angeline Meeks introduction. Tabled. Angeline will introduce herself and report on FSI's Blue Water Audit project at the September meeting.

9. Putting legal rights for the Ichetucknee on the 2020 ballot. The consensus among board members is that we are not ready to take on this project at this time but we may reconsider as we build membership and increase influence in Columbia County. We stand ready to support an effort in Alachua County to secure legal rights for the Santa Fe River, if such an effort develops.

10. BMAP challenge update. John reported that we have been granted an extension until Jan. 4, 2019. The Florida Springs Council will be involved in any decisions about which groups are in the best positions to challenge.

11. Update on Water Voices program, including budget & help needed at events. Because of lack of support from the board, video recording of the programs will be discontinued. Lu reported on publicity efforts and expenditures, which are in line with the preliminary budget approved at the July meeting. She will need help at the events with room set-up, attendee sign-in for our interested citizens mailing list, and staffing of information tables. Because of Columbia County Library regulations, we will not be able to accept memberships or donations or sell t-shirts or hats at that venue. Checks for rental of the Woman's Club in High Springs and ads in the Lake City Reporter will go out this week.

12. Possible action items related to discussions held on the basin tour with Jim Stevenson on Sept. 23, 2017. Tabled.

13. John Moran's "Burma Shave" springs sign project. Nothing to report. The possibility of a billboard was discussed. Lu will check with Heather at FSI to ask about response to the billboards FSI has placed in the past.

14. *Reminder: Florida Springs Restoration Summit is Nov. 2-4, 2018, in Ocala.* Lu reminded the group about this event; see: <https://www.springsrestorationsummit.org/>

NEW BUSINESS

15. *Report on fundraising/social event in Gainesville.* Tabled. John asked that this be made a priority item at the next meeting. Lu will remind Eric and Brenda to include Amelia in conversations.

16. *Meeting schedule for 2018:* fourth Tuesdays Sept. 25 (the day after High Springs Water Voices); Oct. 23; Nov. 27 (the week AFTER Thanksgiving); No meeting in December (it would fall on Dec. 25).

17. *Other new business.* None.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Lucinda Faulkner Merritt, Secretary