

ICHETUCKNEE ALLIANCE (IA) MEETING MINUTES

6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 23, 2019

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

Board Members Present

John Jopling
Lu Merritt
Brenda Wells

Board Members Absent

Eric Flagg
Amelia McKnight
Bruce Robinson

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

PRIORITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

2. *Jim Stevenson and representatives of Alachua Conservation Trust will tour the Ichetucknee basin on May 1.* Lu reported about this tour. John Jopling will not be able to attend.

3. *The Florida Springs Institute will donate a portion of the proceeds of their next outing to IA.* Lu reported about this arrangement and changes to the event's itinerary.

OFFICER REPORTS & UPDATES

4. *Review/approval of February 2019 meeting minutes.* The minutes were approved.

5. *Staff Assistant's report, February 2019.* There were no questions.

6. *Treasurer's report, including financial summary of March 27 event at Cypress & Grove.* Lu reported that the March 27 event netted \$1182.89 and that IA had a bank balance of \$4510.01 as of 4/21/2019.

7. *Membership Report.* Lu sent the report prior to the meeting via email.

8. *Science Team update.* Brenda reported that water monitoring and fish counts are proceeding. She showed a mockup of a new fish identification print publication that the Florida Springs Institute is producing; this is in addition to the video fish identification guide that has already been released to the public.

OLD BUSINESS

9. *Wrap-up and evaluation of March 27 "Follow the Ichetucknee" event at Cypress & Grove.* We agreed that the event was a success and needs to be replicated in the fall in Lake City. Participation of people who live and have contacts in that area will be key to the event's success. Lu will check with Merrilee to find out who to contact at Halpatter Brewing Company to set a date, preferably in October.

10. *Land acquisition project.* Lu reported that the new Alachua Conservation Trust hire will be on the May 1 tour of the basin (see item #2, above).

11. *Podcast report.* Lu reported that this project has been on hold because of increased workload after the special event on March 27.

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

NEW BUSINESS

13. *Accounting for the value of hats & t-shirts, per the IRS.* Tabled. Lu will research and report at next meeting. We agreed that we should order more hats. John sent information about the vendor to Lu.

14. Keeping new members engaged and energizing old members (EDUCATE -> ENGAGE -> ENERGIZE). Various ideas were floated, including:

- “Curated events” such as members-only trips down the river or moonlight swims (requires closer contact with park personnel; we should invite them after summer tubing season).
- Periodic “Waterfolk” social hours at Cypress & Grove.
- “Water Folk” benefit concert to raise money for BMAP challenge.
- Tour of state lands in the basin.

15. Remaining meeting dates for 2019: May 28; June 25; July 23; Aug. 27; Sept. 24; Oct. 22; Nov. 26 (that may change since it's the Tuesday before Thanksgiving); no meeting in Dec. since it would be on Christmas Eve. John will be out of the country for the June meeting.

16. Other new business. John asked Lu to draft a thank-you letter to Gov. DeSantis for the recent land purchase in the Ichetucknee basin.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucinda Faulkner Merritt
Secretary-Treasurer