

Mingo Swamp Friends Annual Meeting

October 8, 2019

Present: Amanda Mossman, President; Bruce Beck, Treasurer; Stephen Sutter, Acting Secretary; Debbie Koenigs, Visitor Services Refuge Ranger; Roy and Debbie Wright, Residential Volunteers; Layla Mossman, guest

Call to Order: President Amanda Mossman called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

Debbie Koenigs introduced the refuge's first residential volunteers. They will be at the refuge until mid-December.

Minutes of the July 9, 2019 meeting were approved as presented.

Financial Report: Bruce Beck presented the treasurer's report.

Committee Reports

Facebook and Website by President Mossman.

Bookstore Report by President Mossman.

Photo Contest Report by Bruce Beck. The current schedule is as follows:

| October | November | December | January | February | April |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Cape Nature Center | Sikeston Depot Museum | Dexter Public Library | Poplar Bluff Municipal Library | Puxico Public Library | Powder Valley Nature Center |

Locations are still needed for March, May, and June.

Pavestone Report: Stephen Sutter is still working on the wording for the John Toll pavestone.

Old Business

There was a suggestion to consider sending the photo contest display to Twin Pines Conservation Education Center in Winona, MO.

New Business

- Brief discussion of ordering more member polo shirts. President Mossman will ask again at a later date.
- Discussion of a budget was tabled until the January meeting.
- The Wrights made suggestions concerning items for sale in the bookstore including walking sticks and decals. Koenigs will work with them on a list for the future.
- Discussion of adding a professional category to the photo contest was tabled until the January meeting.

- Beck has spoken with Tara Brown about the photo contest. Hours involved in the photo contest need to be calculated.
- Beck motioned to pay \$125 to remain members of the Greater Poplar Bluff Area Chamber of Commerce, and to pay \$200 for registration at the 2020 Ag Expo. Sutter seconded the motion and it was approved.
- Beck made a motion concerning making the Wrights honorary Swamp Friends. Sutter seconded the motion and it was approved.
- Discussion of plants around the visitor center. This will be addressed again at a later date.

Staff Reports

Refuge Ranger Debbie Koenigs:

- There have been several fall field trips.
- The fiscal year just ended. There is a 7 week continuation.
- New biotech Andrew Dropik.
- Staff have been working on cover crops and food plots.
- Sweets cabin is finished for now.
- Muzzleloader hunt scheduled December 7-8, 2019
- Auto tour closes December 9, 2019-February 2020
- Debbie will be out December 10-21, 2019
- The visitor center will be closed Columbus Day.

Next meeting: January 14, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the Mingo NWR visitor center

Motion to adjourn: Beck made a motion to adjourn. Second by Sutter. Motion passed. Adjourned at 8:10 p.m.