

Minutes for Marine Resources Task Force (MRTF) Meeting: June 13, 2018

Time meeting began- 4:35 PM

Members Present:

1. Bill Veach
2. Keri Weeg
3. Shannon Mapes
4. Steve Johnson
5. Mary Rose Spaletta
6. Greg Holmes
7. Louise Kowitch

Minutes Approval for April 11, 2018

1. Bill motion for approval for minutes
2. Mary Rose Second
3. Unanimous approval of Meeting minutes

Public Comment

1. Lucinda Keller
 - a. Lives on Carolina Ave
 - b. Bird rookery in her backyard
 - c. Asked MRTF about bird safety and about how to remove the birds from her house
 - d. She would like more information about how to prevent cars from hitting birds
 - e. She claims that motorists drive too fast down her road and would like a sign to get people to slow down for wildlife crossing.

Beach Sign Discussion

1. Beach Access Signs
 - a. **Bill**= conservation corner makes sense, but would like praise to be given to people and items that help turtles in the secondary message of the sign (turtle time, turtle excluder devices, etc). Also the signs should include more messages for the tourists that visit the island, since more and more tourists are making up the population of the island.
 - b. **Mary Rose**= In regards to the main photo, a loggerhead picture should be put in the place of the current leatherback sea turtle picture. This is due to leatherback sea turtles not nesting on Fort Myers Beach
2. Seasonal Signs

- a. **Bill**= Requests permission to go forward to council to ask for six seasonal signs to be placed on the beach accesses along with the new beach access signs
 - i. **Keri**= motion to send bill to council to request the new signage
 - ii. **Shannon**= second
 - iii. Unanimous approval

Steve arrived to the meeting at 4:52 PM

Reusable Bags

1. **Bill**= Due to different opinions of what to charge for advertising spots on the bags there should be a group decision on what to charge for spaces
2. Group discussion on what to charge, moving forward with pitching ideas to the chamber of commerce, and obtaining pledges
3. Outcome of discussion
 - a. Pricing for vendor slots (12 sponsor spots total)
 - i. \$250
 - ii. \$500
 - iii. \$1000
 - iv. \$2,500
 - b. Distribution of work
 - i. Bag cost research= Keri and Mary Rose
 - ii. Chamber and Business outreach= Shannon and Steve
 - iii. Town Accounting questions for how to handle the money= Rae and Bill

Green Award

1. Tabled (Date TBD)

Adopt- A-Beach Program

1. Rename to Adopt-A-Beach Access

"Murphie" Award

1. Nominations
 - a. BASE team *
 - b. Lahina Inn's turtle notices sign painter
 - c. Anyone filling in holes on the beach
2. Winner: Lahina Inn sign painter

Jose

Member Items

1. **Shannon**= has questions about what will be planted in the right of way for new Estero Construction. She would also like the group's opinion on her writing a paper on planting native plants on the island. Group approves of her article idea.
2. **Steve**= No new items
3. **Mary Rose**= Number of active sea turtle nests: 26. Number of sea turtle false crawls: 69. Asked that recognition of the sea turtle release that took place last week was due to the hard work and efforts of Turtle time and Steve, who had found the turtle.
4. **Keri**= no new items
5. **Greg**= no new items
6. **Louise**= she would like to introduce new content to the signs about the river, estuary, and their interconnection with the beach. Rae stated that this stage in the process new content cannot be added.
7. **Bill**= would like oyster colonies to be placed in town canals. Canal dredging needs to take place first before oyster colonies can be set up. Bill requested that MRTF allow him to approach council to write a letter as MRTF to Publix to stop plastic bag usage in their stores.
 - a. **Keri**= motioned to allow Bill to go before council with the letter request
 - b. **Mary Rose**= second motion
 - c. Unanimous decision to go forward with request

Public Comment

1. No public comment

Meeting Adjourned- 6:18 PM

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized name, possibly 'Rae' or 'Steve', written in a cursive or semi-cursive style.