

Minutes
FTA Annual Meeting 4/7/18
Wyndham Garden Hotel, Gainesville, FL

Leslie Wheeler, President, called the meeting to order and roll call of chapters was taken.

Absent: Suwanee, Tropical Trekkers

Quorum established

Officers:

Leslie Wheeler, President

Pete Durnell, VP Governance

David Waldrop, VP Trails

Carlos Schomaker, VP Development

Pam Hale, VP Treasurer

Jan Wells, Secretary

At Large:

Megan Donoghue

Bill Turman

David Denham

Greg Knecht – Excused

Lauren Krebs

Staff:

Janet Akerson, Administrative Director; Van Tran, Community Outreach Manager

Guest:

Shawn Thomas, USFS

1. President's Report – Leslie Wheeler

a. Year's accomplishments:

*FTA is now a member of the Florida Conservation Voters;

*Big Bend reroute is now finalized and awaiting approval in Washington;

*TEAMS network for Board and committee communication has been installed on the internet;

*office mold remediation study was completed;

*Orange County reroute completed;

*review of administration policies started;

*new offices were taken in downtown Gainesville with 3-year lease;

*old office has been vacated and demolition planning of the old building has been started;

*Board has heightened the expectation of financial commitment from each Board member based on a level that is significant to the individual member;

*electronic voting for statewide offices has now been approved;

*attendance at various meetings around the state and participation in the Washington DC "Hike the Hill" event;

*attendance at outdoor retail shows.

b. Many thanks to the FTA staff for all their hard work

2. Treasurer's Report – Pam Hale

a. There was a \$28,000 surplus as of year-end; however, the budget was revised based on the rental cost of the new offices which produced a deficit of \$10,700.

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b. The October conference is in the next fiscal year but is incurring costs now; and moving expenses are not yet recorded.

c. FTA has received major gifts of \$50,000 (unrestricted) and \$100,000 for the building campaign.

d. The FS has an inventory of willing sellers and the FTA has a land acquisition fund of \$48,000 but \$33,000 is restricted and cannot be used.

3. Election of new Board members - Meghan Donoghue, Nominating Committee

*Pam Hale – third term, VP Treasurer

*David Waldrop – second term, VP Trails

*Greg Knecht – second term, Director

* Bill Turman – first full term, Director

*Deborah Schroth – first term, Director

*Ralph Hancock (nominated from the floor) – first term, Director

Motion made by David Waldrop to accept these nominees; Helen Wigersma seconded; motion was carried. New officers were sworn in by President Wheeler.

4. Helen Wigersma (Western Gate) announced their Andrew Jackson Hike to be held May 19th. This will be a 10-mile hike in Blackwater River State Park.

5. Janie Hamilton reported that the 10th annual IDidAHike grossed \$6,200 and netted \$5,200. Over the last 10 years over \$25,000 has been raised. She presented a \$5,000 check to President Wheeler.

6. Awards were presented by President Wheeler and staff member Van Tran (a list of the awards and recipients can be found on the website).

7. President Wheeler moved to adjourn; Judy Trotta seconded. Unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Wells, Secretary