

ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION, INC
WILDLIFE SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
February 12, 2018

Meeting called to order at 9:10 A.M

Members present: Patti Cowin, Chair, Cari Hale, Joan Gotthardt, Lynda Chamowitz, Belinda Olsen, Don Olsen

Absent: Jan Meades, Ruth Fletcher

Others present: Stan Plizga

Stan, Chair of the Aquatics & Canal Committee, spoke of how Sub-Committees should function. He then mentioned the mistakes that had been made at Broadmoor Park that hurt butterflies, etc. expressing his concern that, moving forward, the Wildlife Sub-Committee should try to avoid those pitfalls.

Discussion then moved to gopher tortoise block captains for each wedge. Captains had been identified for each wedge from our first meeting, but Don and Belinda (not present at the first meeting) said they would like to be the block captains for White Marsh, so they suggested Lynda and Joan take Long Marsh instead. Belinda also said that they knew someone that might want to be captain for Pine Valley, but added if that person didn't want to that she and Don could do that wedge also. (The discussion moved on to another topic at that point without a final decision about wedge block captains.)

Don and Belinda have some gopher tortoise signs and they have been putting them out. Patti reminded everyone that the object of putting out signs is not for homeowners; it's to show the mower guys with the big equipment where the gopher tortoise burrows are so they don't mow over them.

Patti said she would ask about getting more signs and how much they cost. Don and Belinda said they knew someone in Rotonda who might be interested in making the signs and it might be less. Don also suggested that this guy could make shirts and hats for the committee to buy with our name or logo.

Discussion then ensued regarding our sub-committee name. Patti said she and Cari had talked about "Rotonda Wildlife Advocates", which had the added benefit of having the same initials as the Association. Patti said she would send out email and phone contact info for committee members to share amongst themselves, and she also asked members to think about and suggest names for our new sub-committee.

Cari said she would like to take on researching about how to become a "home" for relocated gopher tortoises. These would only be for tortoises relocated from lots in Rotonda. Patti said the Board would ultimately need to ok the proposal for our community to become a home for relocated tortoises.

The group then discussed possible activities to pursue. All agreed we would focus on gopher tortoises first (before tackling other projects).

Meeting adjourned 10:00 A.M

Next meeting March 13, 2018

Respectfully Submitted:
Patti Cowin