

**ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION, INC
WILDLIFE AD HOC SUB-COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

February 19, 2019

Meeting called to order at 10:00 A.M

Members present: Patti Cowin, Chair, Cari Hale, Lynda Chamowitz, Joan Gotthardt, Jim Peterfeso, Belinda Olsen, Don Olsen, Jan Meades and Steve Froggatt. Debbie Yeager, who will be official on Thursday, also attended.

The minutes of the January meeting were approved as written.

Wildlife Facebook page: 100th member signed up-no prize. ☺ More posting occurring, so more approvals required. No ads ever permitted. Belinda asked if she and Don were members and Cari replied in the affirmative.

Educational Brochures: Jim is doing a brochure on Common Invasive Wildlife - Feral Pigs, Iguanas, and Cuban Tree Frogs - and is about 2/3 finished. Lynda asked a question about the frogs and Jim gave the group an extensive overview of the information he's learned about them. Among other things, these frogs are very invasive, leaving a path of destruction and they are spreading throughout Florida and up into Georgia and South Carolina. Jim also gave a brief overview about Feral Pigs, in part in response to a question that Jan had asked. Joan offered to prepare a brochure on Bobcats. Belinda will be working on a brochure on Butterflies, and Cari will do one on Snakes after Jason's presentations Feb 22 and Feb 25. Don asked what he needs to do to set up for the presentation, and Jim explained what he had done with the speaker he brought in.

Speakers: Jim asked if anyone had contacted Pattie Mihalik, who writes articles in the Englewood Sun, to cover the presentation on Snakes. Cari said she would contact someone else as Pattie wasn't able to cover this presentation. Pattie will be doing an article on Patti and Cari's work with wildlife rescue, and Cari said they would include a plug for the sub-committee and upcoming speakers. Jim has been posting information on various local nature organization websites about the upcoming presentation about Snakes. Belinda asked about getting a contact list for those that are coordinating presentations. Patti will check with Jason about whether or not the specimens he's bringing are live, and if so, will see about getting permission. Jan asked if anyone had contacted Mike and Tammy about giving a presentation; Cari said they are quite busy right now, but perhaps once they move to the new facility, they should have more time. Cari said the Venice Wildlife Center is having an Open House on Mar 2 and she will post that to the FB page.

Old Business: Don asked if the subcommittee issues regarding the gopher tortoises had been raised to the Board. The short answer is no.

New Business: Cari would like to hold a community-wide drive for the Venice Wildlife Center to help them get some of the items that they need.

Meeting adjourned at 1105.

Next meeting: March 19, 2019

Respectfully Submitted:
Lynda Chamowitz