

ROTONDA WEST ASSOCIATION, INC
646 Rotonda Circle, Rotonda West, FL 33947
Wildlife Committee

MEETING MINUTES

August 4, 2021

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:00 PM

Present: Cari Hale (Chair), Patti Cowin (BOD Liaison), Cindy Chatham, Brenda Frankenbach, Via Zoom: Joan Gotthardt, Lynda Chamowitz, Jim McNeal, Jim Peterfeso

Absent: Kip and Ann Stadnicki, Belinda and Don Olsen

Guests: Stan Plizga

Approval of Minutes: Patti indicated that she had not drafted the minutes for the July meeting and therefore there are no minutes to approve. Cari stated that minutes for July and August meetings will be approved in September.

New Business:

Cari stated that she had spoken with Aquatics Chair, Stan Plizga and Manager Hedges regarding the possibility of using poles left by FPL for Osprey nesting platforms in Broadmoor Park. One possible location is near where the old pine tree, that housed an Osprey nest, fell. Brenda motioned that we pursue placing a platform at that location. 2nd Cindy. Motion passed unanimously.

Cari brought forward the idea of creating bird identification card similar to that used by the Lemon Bay Golf Course. Jim is working on an identification guide for flora and fauna in the littoral zone. Brenda motioned we develop the Bird ID card. 2nd Joan. Motion passed unanimously.

Stan would like to coordinate with the Wildlife Committee on presentations of the water quality of the ponds (John House) and a presentation on Broadmoor Park revitalization by Mark Hoffsteder.

Cari stated that Belinda is scheduling a Bee presentation for October.

Old Business:

Cari congratulated Cindy on the success of the Bat presentation and suggested the speaker be brought back during fall/winter and perhaps partner with Ainger Middle School for the students to attend as a "field trip" type of activity. Cindy suggested that as the Committee has already approved a bat house that this might be a good time to get a pole placed for it since we could have the Osprey and Bat poles placed at the same time, but at different locations, in the park.

Cari addressed the plantings that were done around L11, noting that wildlife is already returning to the area as a Green Heron was spotted nesting in the grasses Manager Hedges had planted. Brenda will monitor the health of the plantings until Jim McNeal returns.

Patti motioned to procure signs and markers on an as basis up to the previously approved budget amount. Cindy 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.


Member Input:

Stan is promoting a natural means of mosquito control in the form of floating “B” mats that will allow the nesting of birds and cover for “mosquito fish” that eat the mosquito larva. He also mentioned that Bill Dunson is extending an invitation to the Committee to tour his property. Susan DeHont extended a similar offer.

Committee comments: Cindy expressed her concern about the next stage of Brazilian Pepper removal. She wanted to ensure that mass clearing wasn’t going to happen. Derrick noted that the removal has already taken place and he had video to show that where the Peppers were there were no native flora/fauna.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM

Next meeting: September 1, 2021

Respectfully submitted: Patti Cowin, Wildlife Committee Secretary