



FTA Board of Directors Meeting July 16, 2016 Comfort Inn, Deland

ATTENDING		
Officers: Carlos Schomaker, Megan Digeon, David Waldrop, Leslie Wheeler, Holly Parker, Pam Hale Directors: Jim Powell, David Denham, Adam Wiegand Quorum established.	Excused: Greg Knecht, Jan Wells, Auz Gage	Staff: Janet Akerson, Alex Stiglano, Kelly Weiner Guest: Mitch Sapp – Sandhill Chapter, Pete Durnell Renee Tallevast – Volusia Tourism Bureau

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
President's Report – Carlos Schomaker	<p>Currently 3 openings for Director. The Board wishes to thank Eve Barbour and Christopher Boykin for their service to FTA. David Waldrop's position is vacant since he is now VP Trails.</p> <p>Described upcoming 50th Anniversary Conference. Thursday will be movie night. Friday will honor the past: historical marker and awards. Handmade pineneedle baskets by Melissa Bruneau will be the awards this year. Saturday will be guest speakers: Sean Gobin of Warrior Expeditions and Fran Mainella (former Director of National Park Service 2001 – 2006). Sunday will be closing. Jim Kern will also be a speaker. Store has ordered special merchandise for event designed by UF graphic design summer intern.</p>	<p>https://warriorexpeditions.org/ http://fmainella.com/</p>

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
Treasurer - Pam Hale	<p>Financial performance is positive, but not robust. Pam working on new budget.</p> <p>Chapters receiving rebates for new members only at this time. Pam suggests that all chapters have the State Treasurer on individual accounts. Carlos discussed need for chapters to become more proficient at Excel in order to lessen burden on office staff. Chapters can purchase Excel, and chapter treasurers should be able to use it.</p> <p>Discussion regarding how to reorganize chapters that are not performing. Continue with Chapter Strengthening Initiative.</p> <p>Board is reminded that all directors need to contribute over and above routine membership levels.</p>	<p>Carlos request proposal for next BOD.</p> <p>Strengthen Bylaws to enforce chapter compliance.</p>
VP Development – Holly Parker	<p>Urged all directors to donate on a regular basis, preferably using monthly online tool.</p>	
Guest – Renee Tallevast, Volusia County Tourism Director	<p>Excited about FTA celebrating 50th anniversary at Deland Conference Center. Welcomed FTA to Volusia County!</p>	
VP Membership, Carlos	<p>The Board wishes to thank Eve Barbour for her hard work as VP Membership. Activity Manual still pending. New Members contest to be announced in EBlaze: Loxahatchee won with 25 new members.</p>	
VP Trails Report, David Waldrop	<p>David reminded Board to use Office 365, including Excel.</p> <p>Kelly Wiener presented Pitcher Pump Initiative based on \$5000 grant from REI and partnering with Framing Our Communities. Each pump cost approx. \$800 each. Project will prioritize location of pumps around the state.</p> <p>Mitch Sapp requested Cracker Chapter be changed to Sandhill Chapter. Majority of chapter voted for the new name using Google vote tool.</p> <p>Alex Stigliano presented Program of Work update. USFS providing more attention to promotion and marketing of FNST. Trade show style materials will be available for purchase by the</p>	<p>Holly Parker moved to accept name change from Cracker to Sandhill. David Denham seconded the motion. 100% approval from Board. No change in geographical boundary of chapter.</p>

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	<p>chapters to use at festivals, conferences, etc. Graphic design intern working in Gainesville office now on promo materials for 50th Anniversary. We will continue to use “Building More Than Trails” as our motto. USFS copyrighted FT logo to the FNST logo many years ago. We do not own the FT logo.</p> <p>Alex stated Spring Creek boardwalk project is in preparation. Last year, 48 miles of trail was added to FNST. Goal is to add 100 miles by end of USFS 5 year plan by end of 2017. Other future projects include: Swift Creek, Nokuse, Sopchoppy, Little Big Econ, Eglin, and Pitcher Pump initiative.</p> <p>Board reminded that February is Florida Hiking Trails month. Discussion followed on how to enhance our presence in Tallahassee.</p> <p>Alex discussed use of regional representatives. Land managers appreciate communications from RR. USFS and FTA looking for way to fund RR for Panhandle region. Board reluctant to commit to yearly funding, but may be able to provide funds for materials rather than personnel. FTA members may be more willing to help support specific trail projects which will free up funds from USFS for new RR. No decision has been made.</p>	<p>Alex and Karl will try to copyright this slogan for FTA.</p> <p>Board is reminded to review USFS 5 Year Plan as attached at end of these minutes.</p> <p>Holly will look into promoting a FTA Day in Tallahassee.</p>
<p>Staff Report Janet Akerson</p>	<p>Office needs new roof. FTA was the beneficiary of an estate for \$5000. Getting new internet system installed. Petty cash stolen (\$180) so new locks installed on all file cabinets. Gradually converting old membership data base to Sales Force software.</p>	
<p>Old Business</p>	<p>Need to schedule Board meetings. Holly suggested 1 meeting to coincide with Lobby Day in March 2017.</p> <p>3 Director openings on Board at this time. VP Membership office is vacant.</p> <p>Activity Leaders Manual still under review. Chapter Council has not yet approved.</p>	<p>Leslie will work on schedule. Next meeting will be October 1 in Polk County.</p> <p>Leslie will assist with final review.</p>
<p>New Business</p>	<p>AHS/Anheuser-Busch are funding trail projects near large urban areas and FTA has been invited to participate. This will</p>	

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	<p>not be the same contest mechanism as last year. FTA guaranteed to receive funding. Project sites will probably be Little Econ and Big Cypress sections.</p> <p>Carlos was approached by Arcadia Power to have FTA participate in energy credit co-op. Board voted not to participate at this time. Need more information. Greg Knecht has been picked as Chair of Nominating Committee.</p> <p>Pete Durnell (former FTA President) has requested to serve on the Board as a Director. David Denham motioned to approve Pete as a Director. Leslie seconded motion. 100% approval.</p> <p>Adam showed Board his AT Passbook as an idea for the FTA Conference.</p>	
Adjourn	Motion to adjourn by David Denham. Second by Holly Parker. Meeting ended at 14:50 pm.	

Submitted by Leslie Wheeler, Secretary July 26, 2016

Florida National Scenic Trail 5-Year Strategic Plan



2012



Barbara Bowen