

Board Meeting Notes

Friends of Kealia Pond National Wildlife Refuge

Mile 6, Maui Veterans Hwy, Kihei, Hi. 96753

Date: March 6 2019

Time: 1:11 pm

Location: Kealia Pond National Wildlife Refuge, Visitor Center

Board Members Present: Barry Solomon, Skip Snyder, Gloria Snyder, Bruce Butler, Lourdes Venard, Joe Dratz. Absent: Courtney Brown, Heather Wade

Minutes from 12-12-2018 meeting amended and accepted.

Actions:

1. Treasurers report: Barry Solomon submitted that our current account balance as of March 1, 2019 is \$6,166.86. Report is accepted. The visitor center store is making money with new items including: Hats and redesigned T shirts. The store seems to be self-sustaining at this point.
2. Joe Dratz reported that the web page developer is currently sick, so no progress at this point.
3. Maui Nui Natural History and the City Nature Challenge event is still in the planning stages for April 2019. This is a 4-day event (April 26-29). Due to the Govt. shutdown and staffing shortages, the Saturday event may need to be held at the boardwalk, not at the visitor center.
4. Barry Solomon asked that we hold an internal audit in the next few weeks. 2nd Gloria Snyder. Unanimous approval. Barry Solomon and Bruce Butler will look over our financial status to clarify and improve accounting measures.
5. Skip Snyder will clarify the details regarding the Kaunoa Senior Center, 4 lecture series proposed by Sonny Gamponia and report to the board at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm

Respectfully submitted by Bruce Butler, Board Secretary

Board Meeting Notes

Friends of Kealia Pond National Wildlife Refuge

Mile 6, Maui Veterans Hwy, Kihei, Hi. 96753

Date: December 12, 2018

Time: 1:30 pm

Location: Kealia Pond National Wildlife Refuge, Visitor Center

Board Members Present: Barry Solomon, Skip Snyder, Gloria Snyder, Bruce Butler, Lourdes Venard, Heather Wade. Absent Courtney Brown, Joe Dratz

Minutes from October 17, 2018 meeting accepted.

Actions:

1. Treasurers report: Barry Solomon submitted that our current account balance as of November 28, 2018 is \$7100 and commented that the amount reported is always in flux.
2. Lourdes Venard said that the web page is coming along and reminded members to submit a short bio and a head shot photo jpg to include in the web page board info.
3. Brochure status: Sample were presented by Skip Snyder. No action was taken as Courtney Brown is needed to sign off on final version. The brochure is basically an application to join the Friends group. Reference in the brochure should direct the reader to our web page for complete information regarding Kealia Pond NWR.
4. Support of "Giving Back to the Aina" proposal deferred until we learn if the Disney Grant went through for Sonny Gamponia. Should take this up at the next meeting.
5. Guest Speaker John Starmer representing Maui Nui Natural History and the City Nature Challenge spoke regarding possible support from Friends of Kealia. An event is in the planning stage for April 2019. This is a 4 day event (April 26-29) directed at identification of natural habitat elements using the iNaturalist app. See <https://www.mauinui.org> for details. John asked if we could provide access to the pond on April 27th, and would be interested in giving a Saturday talk, or a weekday evening presentation at the visitor center before the 4 day event. The board was unanimous in voicing support and a willingness to participate in this event. Details will be worked out as we approach the April event.
6. Heather Wade provided some insight on the Facebook Page and will provide tutoring on an individual level when needed.

Meeting adjourned at 2:46 pm

Respectfully submitted by Bruce Butler, Board Secretary

Board Meeting Notes

Friends of Kealia Pond National Wildlife Refuge

Mile 6, Mokelele Hwy, Kihei, Hi. 96753

Date: August 29, 2018

Time: 9:13 am

Location: Kealia Pond National Wildlife Refuge, Visitor Center

Board Members Present: Barry Solomon, Skip Snyder, Bruce Butler, Heather Wade, Lourdes Venard, Courtney Brown.

New Board member Lourdes Venard was welcomed.

Meeting notes from July 12 2018 accepted as read in email.

Request for volunteer to be secretary accepted by Bruce Butler.

Weed pulling party: Saturday September 15, 2018 discussed. Skip Snyder and Heather Wade will do greeting and introductions. Participating Board members should arrive at visitor center at 7:00 am. Event starts at 7:30 – 11:30. Expect between 40 – 50 volunteers, mostly from Hui O Nawaieha. Food and drinks will be provided with Friends of Kealia Pond Board funds, unless donated from the Hui O Nawaieha. The logistics are to be finalized.

Discussion of upcoming concerns:

Need to consolidate list of Friends members and volunteers for future emails. Courtney will provide the list of volunteer emails to Barry.

The Board will review and update Board bylaws at the next board meeting.

Push to increase number of Friends through FB page, webpage, and contacts at boardwalk and visitor center. Improve signage at both sites.

Develop a wish list for use of donations and grant funds. Goal is to increase friends and volunteer membership, and to use Friends funds to improve community participation and educational opportunities.

Square financial software is set up to improve sales in the visitor center store.

Barry Solomon discussed application for a start up grant through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Approximately \$10,000. Can be used for membership drives, signage, and summer student intern salary. Grant application deadline is Sept. 27, 2018. Barry is preparing the application with some help from Bruce Butler.

A second grant application of \$4,000-5,000, also from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, will support a follow-up Regional Friends Peer to Peer meeting in Homer, Alaska next June. Two members will be supported for travel, and per diem food and lodging (probably Barry and Heather). More details as time passes.

Courtney Brown discussed the refuge fence project designed to exclude ungulates and other threats to endangered wildlife within the refuge. Approximately \$877,000 is available for this project. Includes funds for trailer housing for project interns. 1-2 trailer units will likely suffice to house 4-6 people.

Brief discussion with Heather Wade regarding Facebook page followed the meeting. Some problems with members posting information should be resolved soon. FB page is receiving many new contacts, and is an excellent way to draw more friends, volunteers and contributions.

Meeting adjourned at 10:14 am

Respectfully submitted by Bruce Butler, Board Secretary