**Apalachee Audubon Society Board Meeting**

**Tuesday October 6, 2020 via Zoom**

**Scribed by Heather Levy**

**Attendees**: Donna Legare, Heather Levy, Amelia Fusaro, Nelson Ball, Liz Schold, Norma Skaggs, Robert Williams, Howard Kessler, Dara Wilson, Peter Kelly, Howard Kessler, Kathleen Carr, Chase Brestler, Harvey Goldman, Ben Rangel

**Housekeeping**:

* September’s meeting minutes approved with minor edit to correct date of Big Bend Environmental Forum
* Treasurer’s Report approved
* Sign up for Audubon Assembly (Oct 20-24) on the Florida Audubon website if you plan on attending
* Natasza to stay involved with Pines to Palms and Cornell eBird grant

**Environmental education:**

* Pines to Palms - Amelia
	+ Meeting next Wednesday (10/14) 5:30 – 6:30
	+ Waiting on county to finalize dates and let us know how they want to handle public events
* Lake E update - Nelson
	+ Debbie Segal from Gainesville gave us suggestions for when/how to mow
	+ We met with the city and have agreed to no mowing of beds for two years then we will reassess
		- City offered to treat invasive tallow
	+ Invasive workday tentatively scheduled for October 19, need to finalize with the city
* Sustainability fellows update – Heather
	+ Partnering with Lubee Bat Conservancy from Gainesville to purchase/install the house
	+ Good example of a bat house at extension service in the garden
	+ Solicit from private donors, then AAS could fund internally
	+ City has also agreed to assist with matching funds via installation
	+ Ask Sarah to provide information for slide to be used in introduction of next meeting
* CLI mentors
	+ Dara and Donna paired up with two FSU students, Heather to help out
* Program Meetings
	+ Tallamy webinar
		- Posted on website
		- 2700 people attended!
		- Making a follow up video of how one person in Tallahassee is doing this
		- Unfortunately, audio did not work – potential scheduling a re-do
		- Norma – herbicide spraying right of ways with Talquin electric, can we help?
			* No experiments about using controlled burns and right of ways, but apparently costs too much money
	+ October meeting – David Jones
		- Ben/Dara setting up meeting and writing blurb
			* Need to put program up on website and get rid of stuff about the King building location – put meeting dates even if program not confirmed
			* Kathleen using constant contact to send reminders to listserv
			* Must register beforehand, we have capacity of 100 people
			* Intro before webinar: bat house (Heather?), Nov program eBird with Pete
			* Look up software to create waiting list for webinars
* Deeproots meet in Greenville FL
	+ - Donna and Peter K looking for possible field trip on sustainable agriculture

**Conservation:**

* M-Cores toll road issue
	+ Legislature doesn’t want to count form letter, so we are encouraged to write personal letters
* Fertilizer ordinance
	+ Jody spoke as a representative of AAS and Native Nurseries
	+ Commissioners reviewing ordinances from Alachua and Indian River counties
* Project 4Forty
	+ Donna spoke at special meeting concerning the live oak at corner of Monroe and Virginia
	+ Partnering with Alliance of Tallahassee neighborhoods to protect the tree
* Welaunee Arch
	+ Asked AAS to comment – Donna will write a letter to the city and commissioners before the next meeting on Oct 13
	+ AAS agrees to comment on protection of wetlands and support low-income housing
* Conservation updates – Rob
	+ 18,000 acre purchase at bluffs at St Teresea
	+ Dispute between state forest service, which wants to manage all the land and the parks service, which wants to create a new park that will go from Ochlocknee State Park to Bald Point State Park along the southern edge of Ochlocknee bay
	+ Spoke to Julie Wraithmell – we may need to show public support for the park – revenue for Franklin county as a park
	+ Now a tiff between governor (DEP) and commissioner of ag (FS)

**Other additions**

* There is an awesome cypress roost site near post office on Centerville, but keep it on the down low!
* Chimney Swift towers for next semester FSU sustainability fellow project – Heather to send in application tomorrow

Meeting adjourned 7:34