

**20160726 - FOA Board meeting - 7:15 PM - Butte La Rose****Attendees:**

Board: Charles Fryling, Charles Caillouet, Jim Delahoussaye, Willie Fontenot, Ray Brassieur, Carolyn Delahoussaye

Advisors and Guests: Rebecca Triche, Pamela Stacks Caillouet, Donovan Garcia, Karen Westphal, Annina Delaune, Richard Gauthreaux

**President Charlie Fryling opened the business meeting at approximately 7:15 PM.**

Attendees introduced themselves.

**Old Business:**

The June 28, 2016 **meeting minutes** were approved with no revisions.

**The current treasurer's report** was accepted with no revisions.

current month activity: no activity

**2015** Regions Balance of \$1,200.42 + PayPal Balance of \$1,154.15 + \$125 pending deposits = **\$2,479.57** Available

**As of 6/28/2016:** Regions Balance of \$2,018.72 + PayPal Balance of \$264.68 deposits = **\$2,283.40 Total**

Event reports:

Barney Callahan of LWF and Charles Caillouet presented a program to a second bunch of day camp kids with KidCamCamp of BR and Charles provided a Powerpoint file to the Camp staff for another group on the following Friday before Memorial Day because no one volunteered to present to that group.

Partner Reports:

LWF:

Rebecca reported that the convention is coming up in August; check the lawildlifefed.org site for info and to register.

Sierra Club:

Willie Fontenot is filing comments in support of the Flower Garden Marine Sanctuary expansion; it was recently announced that the life on the sanctuary is showing signs of stress and scientists are looking for direct causes other than general ocean acidification and warming

Plans for 2016 projects

The group discussed the need for expanding outreach to include social media and a follow-up meeting was set for August 16 at the LA Wildlife Federation offices.

Charles Caillouet presented the list from last month's meeting as starting point; the list was distributed to the attendees.

Ray Brassieur suggested that FOA should create three standing committees and that the committees might be:

Programming

Educational Outreach

Natural, Economic and Cultural Integration

In Ray's concept, the three committees would contribute specific aspects of planning for a major annual event.

There was general support for Ray's approach.

Donovan Garcia suggested that the success of an event is often dependent on news media coverage and other promotion.

Donovan noted that the Jeanerette Museum is looking for a presentation to mark the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Great Flood of 1927, and that a joint project could be based on the distribution of variants of the presentation around the State, with a culmination in a big event on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2027.

The Museum has facilities for presentation to a group of 80-100 people and many other similar venues exist around the State.

The Museum can provide good promotion in the form of ads and social media communication.

FOA could collect the content and plan the presentation. Hard artifacts and physical images would be desirable. Donovan has some images.

Video and/or audio interviews would also be good. WPA images might be available and Jean Lafitte Park might be a good source, as well as the State Museum and Library, both of which are under the Lt. Gov. Office, as is the Heritage Area. The Heritage Area might be a source of funding for programming and/or distribution.

Further discussion suggested that a target date for the presentation would be Spring 2017, followed by a probably repackaging for distribution to other organizations. Target time would be two hours.

The focus of the presentation would be the impact on the people and culture, including people in the pictures, and loss of physical records of history and raw economic costs.

In general, the presentation should contain images, not words.

There could be discussions about the impact of engineering decisions and subsequent environmental costs. There might be a tie to current discussions about an acceptable balance between security and freedom. Building levees changed lifestyles and livelihoods, and affected people inside and outside of the leveed areas.

The project could be turned into a public input process to gather images and artifacts for display in the Museum and/or in a travelling show. The annual Bayou Chene reunion would be a good place to start.

One goal of the project would be to bring more people into FOA.

#### **Potential 1927 Flood Project Items for future discussion:**

Use of permission and artifact loan forms

Plans for collection and protection of media and artifacts

Target “take-away” goals for participants

Layout of a compelling story that delivers the messages and leaves room for discussion and follow-up action by participants

Identify people to honor in each community

Identify large and small impacts on people

Balance between short-term safety and long-term (environmental?) survival of individual people, communities and culture

A follow-up meeting was agreed upon for August in Jeanerette, in place of the monthly FOA meeting. It could be held on Wednesday, Aug 24, the day currently planned for Jim Delahoussaye’s presentation at the Museum, but earlier in the day.

Willie Fontenot reminded us that all six Congressional Districts in LA touch the Heritage Area and that contacting the District offices for support would be a good outreach effort.

#### **Upcoming Events:**

In addition to the above discussion, the following ongoing projects are still in the queue:

Cypress Preserve project ? - needs a coordinator, public support, and coordination with officials and other organizations; needs to become a public input effort

Mississippi River Commission trip meetings every six months need ?

EA Every Day - Year-Round Events ?

“Ask me” program at visitors center

Experience Atchafalaya Days events throughout the year, coordinated by FOA

#### **Congressional Committees:**

WRDA bill is in review

#### **MRC Low Water Trip Hearing:**

August 19, 2016 in Morgan City at 09:00 AM

(no current plans for presentation)

#### **Next meeting place and time**

Web Presence Ad Hoc Committee meeting:

LWF office, 7:30 PM, August 16, 2016

Special project meeting: August 24, 2016 (in place of regular meeting)

Location: Jeanerette Museum

Time: 3:00 PM

Subject: Focus on planning for a “Flood of 1927” presentation project with the Museum

The following meeting would be on September 27 (fourth Tuesday.)

**The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30 PM.**