

FRIENDS OF THE MARJORIE KINNAN RAWLINGS FARM, INC.

Minutes of the Quarterly Board Meeting

January 15, 2008

Cross Creek Volunteer Fire Station, Cross Creek, Florida

Submitted by Judith Harris, Secretary

President, Dan Cantliffe called the meeting to order at 6:35PM. Also present were:

Mickey Angell

Brian Burket, Park Planner Division of Recreation and Parks

Brenna Daniels

Donald Forgione, District Coordinator

Judy Harris

Robin Lauriault

Eleanor Merritt

Murray Laurie

Shirley Page

Anne Pierce

Valerie Rivers

Jim Stephens

Larry and Linda Santucci

Flo Turcotte

Absent: Liz Pooley

MOTION to approve the minutes of October 17, 2007 by Anne Pierce, **SECOND** by Murray Laurie, **MOTION PASSED**.

Chairman Dan Cantliffe introduced Brian Burket and Donald Forgione.

Treasurer's Report

Anne Pierce distributed copies of the Treasurer's Report herewith attached to these minutes. Anne stated that \$3,150 has been collected as proceeds for the upcoming Fund Raiser dinner January 26th. Expenditures so far of \$58.00. We have three (3) paid for the February dinner. Calendar sales remain at 55 totaling receipts of \$825.00 with \$527.00 in expenses to date. Anne needs the receipts for the balance of calendar sales 10 after January. Note cards netted \$32.94 The Archivist has been paid the \$500.00 as approved at the October meeting. \$300.00 has been given to the Fire Department for use of facilities, tables and chairs. And the Post Office Box rental of \$68.00 has been paid for the year.

Anne states that the \$3,700 Tourism and Yulee Funds have been received in full.

MOTION by Murray Laurie to accept the Treasurer's Report, **SECOND** by Robin Lauriault, **MOTION PASSED**.

Membership

Ann reports membership as follows: we have 10 honorary members, 33 life members and 119 paid, with 29 overdue.

Brian Burket explained the Land Use Component to the Board and requested feedback from the Board Members. Our site cannot support a 3 million dollar project, however, a great deal can be done and Brian stated that the plan would provide a more visual concept before the visitor steps onto the site and greatly improve the existing visitor experience. Grove expansion is a part of the plan along with ADA accessibility lift replacing the present ramp and the plan affords the potential to expand the trails. Sites for park volunteers to camp, a building with bays for a shop area, an artifacts/museum/library area, administrative office space, shower/bathroom facilities for staff and a conference area are included in the plan. Valerie will have to prioritize as to which parts of the plan are instituted on an ongoing basis.

Donald Forgione passed out aerial photos of the proposed footprint of the new facilities, the trails, ingress and egress. The open air interpretive Visitor Center with walls displaying artifacts and pictures with possibly seating and a video area are the most comprehensive and cost effective plans for the site. Donald explained the reasons for the exorbitant costs of building even the simplest rest room facilities would preclude the formerly considered Visitor Center facility.

Donald explained that we need to get an architect and an engineer to draw up the formal plans for presentation. This could cost up to \$40,000. Donald suggested that the outdoor interpretive center might be a good place to start. The Bulowe Plantation as a good example of a plan that we could use and suggested we visit that location. Then the plans for the improvements to the MKR site go to the Department of Environmental Protection for review, then to the Public Workshop. As many as possible of the CSO members need to attend (these are Public Meetings), after which the plans go for formal approval. This is a ten-year plan.

Brenna Daniels, Park Program Specialist stated that the CSO Management Review/operational audit would be February 14th at the Cross Creek Fire Department. The District CSO Meeting will be February 2nd 10AM to 2PM, luncheon will be \$6.00. The subject will be Natural Resource Management, burning and hardwood removal. Brenna thanked Anne for her reporting.

Fund Raiser

Valerie Rivers reported the Fund Raiser for January 26, 2008 is on target.

Annual Meeting

Anne Pierce stated the Annual Meeting would be held Saturday, May 3, 2008. Tentative arrangements have been made to have the event at The Yearling with CREATIVE FIRE (video) and luncheon to follow. Charge of \$5.00 per person. **MOTION** to approve said arrangements by Anne Pierce, **SECOND** by Robin Lauriault. **MOTION PASSED.**

Anne Pierce reported that the MKR Stamp Ceremony would be held on February 21st at 10AM. For those who wish to purchase the commemorative stamp you may call 800-782-6724 for a catalogue. Stamps will be available also at the ceremony.

Website

Murray Laurie and Dan Cantliffe will meet with Jason, the present Webmaster to ascertain whether he intends to continue or may we have the access to the site so that we may engage another Webmaster. Dan stated that he would have an answer by January 21.

Flo Turcotte has been approached to help host the 2009 Annual Meeting of the MKR Society. Flo has asked for the assistance of the CSO in the project. We concurred.

Jim Stephens presented the Board Members with copies of his new book. CROSS CREEK READER'S GUIDE. The book long awaited, was received with much enthusiasm by one and all.

MOTION by Larry Santucci to admit Shirley Page as a Board Member, **SECOND** by Jim Stephens. **MOTION PASSED.** Welcome to Shirley!

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10PM