

## **Manatee Eco Tourism Association**

### **META**

**12 MAY 2016**

### **General Meeting Procedures**

In consideration of others, we ask that you follow a few basic rules:

1. Please turn cell phones off, or place on vibrate. If you must make a call, please step outside in order to not interrupt the meeting.
2. If you must speak to someone, please speak softly or go outside in order to not interrupt the meeting.
3. Personal comments/remarks, directed to the Board, Members or the public are not allowed and are considered out of order.

There will be two Public/Member Input opportunities. At the beginning and end of each the meeting. Anyone may speak on the topic of their choosing for up to three minutes.

### **AGENDA**

**Call to Order:** Parliamentarian

**Adopt Agenda:** Parliamentarian Marty/Mike

#### **Introduction of Guests/Visitors**

Ivan Vicente from US FWS:

- Farewell Comments for Andrew Gude
- Introduction of Joyce Palmer
- Thanked META Members for providing feedback and suggestions – being the eyes and ears on the Bay.

Andrew Gude: Thanked META members for working with him during his tenure.

Joyce Palmer: Starting fulltime at end of month and looks to continue open door policy and work with META/Members going forward.

Adam Thomas from the Citrus Co Visitor Bureau

- Purpose of Visitor Bureau Welcome to Ideas to increase tourism
- Marketing Citrus County but starting with Crystal River...no one visits a “county”
- Invite to Monthly TDC Meeting – 2<sup>nd</sup> WED 9:00
- New web site to launch in July with “Discover Crystal River” versus Visit Citrus
- Coop Grants for non-profits for printing materials

Lou Newman – Marketing Consultant

- New Zip Line park to open in a couple weeks, last couple of “punch” items for clearing operational permits

- Citrus411 – Business to Business Listing

**Approval of 10 MAR 2016 Minutes** Marty/Mike – approved with revisions emailed.

**Public / Member Input** (3 minutes):

- Some Back/Forth with Adam Thomas regarding mission and opportunities with Visitor Bureau
- Mike Dunn expressed desire for shops to “give back” – Board requested he provide list of organizations and dates for activities that we could support since not all members are aware of them until after they are completed.

**Old Business:**

None

**Committee Reports:**

1. **Finance:** Marty Senetra
  - a. Financial Update – approximately \$1200 in (Marty has precise #)
2. **Legal:** Mary Morgan
  - a. Non Profit Status process – with Dr. Herzog
  - b. Funding for moving forward with Non-Profit – floated idea of prepaying memberships to raise cash but without specifics we did not move to vote or solicit funds.
3. **Science:** John Spann
  - a. Lowry Park Manatee Hospital 25 MAY. Meet at gate at 10. Hospital tour at 10:30. Park admission is \$27. 15 person MINIMUM.
4. **Membership:** Charlie Slider
  - a. Covered by Marty – waiting on Web site so something concrete to point at. Hoping for end of June.
  - b. Web site coding about 80% Need Data from Members
  - c. Expect Data Call to populate web site.
5. **Public Relations:** Mike Engiles
  - a. Still trying to schedule with STMC and SCR.

**New Business: None**

**Public / Member Input** (3 minutes):

**Adjourn 7:00!**