

Friends of Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park meeting

April 16, 2016

APPROVED MINUTES

Agenda

1) Call to order

- a. Roll call, in attendance (sign-in sheet is Appendix 1):
  - i. Tim Kozusko, CSO President
  - ii. Christina Evans, CSO
  - iii. Donna Bollenbach, CSO Treasurer
  - iv. Paul Gray, CSO Secretary
  - v. Dave Kandz, CSO
  - vi. Evan Hall, KPPSP Manager
  - vii. Chris Clauson, KPPSP CSO liason
  - viii. Kim Kandz, citizen
  - ix. Stan Czaplicki, citizen
- b. Approve previous minutes: approved.
- c. Approve agenda, additions/deletions
  - i. Approved unanimously, Paul will PDF them

2) Treasurer's report

Donna passed out treasurer's statement (send electronic version to Paul for Appendix 2)  
Revenues down somewhat due to reduced spring event  
\$15,627.60 in the bank  
No membership report  
Dave will send editorial suggestions on accounting principles document

3) Manager's report

- Burning: 17,000 acres burned since March 4 (and one Nov burn), goal around 30,000 acres for the year
- Doing Florida Grasshopper Sparrow (FGSP) sparrow monitoring
- Finding new FGSPs, including a bird banded at Three lakes WMA on the Preserve
- Continuing exotic control
- Triple Diamond Ranch still on state lands list and priority acquisition,
- Division of State Lands came to look at the Durando Ranch to east of Preserve (adjacent to the old Audubon Sanctuary), proposed as Headwaters National Wildlife Refuge property
- Wildland Restoration International (started by former TNC fire crew) may take over fire assistance for the region, it is being set up
- A male panther was photographed on the KPPSP, and an Axis Deer

CSO members and friends, please put our hours on the web site: there is a new tracking system, hours are not compiled quarterly anymore. Chris will get Dave Kandz in the system, and will make a monthly reminder email to help us keep up (within the next 3 weeks). This helps the CSO—it is

reported on the 990EZ federal form, and gives us credentials for other efforts such as grant applications and outreach.

#### 4) New Business

We want to add Board members who can help us with astronomy and hiking issues. We will invite some to attend Friends meetings to see if they may be suitable for the Board:

- Dark sky candidates include, Dave Holko and Larry Crary. Diana Umpierre and Jen Hughes can help us with prospects.
- Paul will send a greeting and invitation to the trekkers list he got from Betty Loomis

5) CSO review with FPS—It went well, FPS representative Kristen Zimmerman was satisfied with our report

#### 6) Plant Walk

- Held today, 2 tours of 7 people each, Roger Hammer lead them
- 2 tickets that were not used were left as donations, Paul Straus may need a refund
- Was advertised only to members, virtually sold out in 2 days
- Roger was compensated \$200 for leading them
- \$56 per person charged
- Future: Craig could do a summer trip and August is less prone to burning conflicts
- \$17 buggy trip at Preserve is very cheap but raising the price has to be approved by FPS
- We will consider having Board members lead tours in the future.

[email correspondence after the meeting confirmed that Roger and Craig could do tours on October 15 and the Board selected that day by email]

#### 7) Dark Sky Ceremony recap

- It rained like crazy which meant no telescope demonstrations
- 35 people max attendance with some coming and going, so more total came
- People enjoyed it
- Jen Hughes got an award for her work on the application
- Tim spent 10 minutes telling them how to spell “Kissimmee” for the cake and they misspelled “Prairie”
- Derek Demeter gave a well-received presentation on astronomy. He is with Valencia College and a potential invite to be a Board member
- Ray Seeley sang and entertained
- KPPSP still looking for a way and location to display the award

#### 8) New business

- In the past year Friends bought a DVD player for visitor center, pre-paid card for ice, hay for prairie day, display materials
- We did events on prairie (flowers, dark sky), Battlefield event, bought bricks for centennial,

- Christina pointed out we have not fulfilled many of our stated goals and with money in our account we should consider trying to finish things on the list. To maintain our 501c3 status we need to produce results. We set goals 5 years ago.
- Some of the goals we set that we should consider include: Wells for primitive campgrounds, buying a buggy, getting research center housing, prairie restoration activities, FGSP supplies, interpretive displays, and perhaps building an amphitheater or outdoor meeting area—many designs possible
- next steps:
- Evan will give a price for a well at the campsite
- Evan will supply outdoor facility options, including but not limited to: roofed options, benches, a telescope shelter
- People riding in the back of the buggy on tours can have trouble hearing people in the front over the engine and other noise. Chris will find out what's available for sound systems, especially ear buds and the like, and the costs
- At the next CSO meeting will have a review of our goals (in CE's email)

Okeechobee County 100<sup>th</sup> event: Okeechobee County's 100 year anniversary is in 2017 and they are looking for events during the year to celebrate. Paul proposed we host an event at the Prairie, probably in the fall (must be coordinated with other County events). We can organize it about the county's early cattle industry and perhaps partner with the cattle community (re-enact a cattle drive?). We also could have "A Land Remembered" theme after Patrick Smith's book.

The Board agreed to pursue this and Paul will attend Okeechobee Historical Society meetings to learn more how we can begin interacting with them and planning.

Okeechobee Battlefield re-enactment: Christina and Donna did a table for the CSO and KPPSP. Public reaction was favorable, people took the trail guides, maps, plant checklists

- Chris thinks some folks came for buggy rides as a result of learning about the prairie from there
- most people were snow birds, who are looking for activities
- the Caracara photo was popular
- the Display needs a map of how to get here
- Paul was shot by Indians and did not help

9) Member reports

- a. Tim is now on the Forever Florida advisory board
- b. Tim will request a night space photo of the prairie from the space station

10) Audience comments: Stan is making progress on the dark sky compatible entrance light

11) Adjourn Donna moved, Christina seconded, adjourn

Submitted by Paul Gray

Appendix 1. Sign-in sheet

Sign-in Kissimmee Prairie CSD

Paul Gray  
CHRISTINA EVANS  
Tim Kaul  
DAVE KANDZ  
DONNA Bollenbach

STAN CZAPLICKI  
Evan Hall  
Jim Cleason  
Kim Kandy

**Friends of Kissimmee Prairie Preserve Inc.**  
**Balance Sheet**  
 As of March 31, 2016

	Total	
	As of Mar 31, 2016	As of Mar 31, 2015 (PY)
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current Assets		
Bank Accounts		
1010 Checking/517069-CK1	15,313.08	12,233.48
1020 Savings/517069-SA1	250.63	250.51
1030 PayPal	63.89	1,393.10
Total Bank Accounts	<b>\$ 15,627.60</b>	<b>\$ 13,877.09</b>
Total Current Assets	<b>\$ 15,627.60</b>	<b>\$ 13,877.09</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 15,627.60</b>	<b>\$ 13,877.09</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>		
Liabilities		
Total Liabilities		
Equity		
3010 Unrestricted Net Assets (R/E)	15,347.62	12,228.29
Net Income	279.98	1,648.80
Total Equity	<b>\$ 15,627.60</b>	<b>\$ 13,877.09</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$ 15,627.60</b>	<b>\$ 13,877.09</b>

**Friends of Kissimmee Prairie Preserve Inc.**  
**Profit and Loss**  
 January - March 2016

	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Total 2016
<b>Income</b>				
4000 Direct Public Support				
4010 Individual Contributions	500.00	10.70		510.70
4011 Cash Box Individual Contributions	192.00		110.00	302.00
4020 Corporate/Business Contributions	0.00	7.86		7.86
<b>Total 4000 Direct Public Support</b>	<b>692.00</b>	<b>18.56</b>	<b>110.00</b>	<b>820.56</b>
4100 Gifts In-Kind		1,413.79		1,413.79
5000 Program-Related Revenue				0.00
5210 Membership Dues	70.00	140.31		210.31
<b>Total 5000 Program-Related Revenue</b>	<b>70.00</b>	<b>140.31</b>		<b>210.31</b>
5310 Investments - Interest	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.03
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>762.01</b>	<b>1,572.67</b>	<b>110.01</b>	<b>2,444.69</b>
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>				
7000 Program Expenses				
7030 Dark Sky Fund Program Expense		64.41		64.41
7040 Grants/Support to Preserve	54.08			54.08
7050 In Kind Program Support Expense		1,371.00		1,371.00
<b>Total 7000 Program Expenses</b>	<b>54.08</b>	<b>1,435.41</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,489.49</b>
<b>Total Cost of Goods Sold</b>	<b>54.08</b>	<b>1,435.41</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,489.49</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>707.93</b>	<b>137.26</b>	<b>110.01</b>	<b>955.20</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
8530 Dues & Subscriptions			12.00	12.00
9100 Contract Service Expense				
9110 Accounting & Professional Fees	220.36	220.36	220.36	661.08
<b>Total 9100 Contract Service Expense</b>	<b>220.36</b>	<b>220.36</b>	<b>232.36</b>	<b>673.08</b>
9211 Merchant Processing Fees	2.14			2.14
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>222.50</b>	<b>220.36</b>	<b>232.36</b>	<b>675.22</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>485.43</b>	<b>-83.10</b>	<b>-122.35</b>	<b>279.98</b>

Appendix 3. CSO goals from five years ago. These can be discussed in detail at the next meeting.

**Brief Description of the CSO's Plans for Next Three Fiscal Years:**

- To continue working to raise awareness about Kissimmee Prairie Preserve and its rare habitat, to add members and continue to solicit donations locally, throughout Florida, nationally and internationally for the benefit of the Preserve.
- To continue to work toward helping to save the Florida Grasshopper Sparrow population in the Preserve through use of our FGSP fund.
- To help promote and continue to provide funding and support for the Preserve's Dark Skies Initiative.
- To try to engage and educate our local community by participating and having a presence in local events.
- Some of our proposed CSO-funded projects include: Wells for the primitive campsites; a new 16-passenger swamp buggy for educational visitor tours; Prairie restoration projects; Research staff housing; New interpretive displays