



## Florida Black Bear National Scenic Byway Minutes Feb 2022 Meeting

**Present:** Jim Thorsen, Joan Bernat, Nikki Thorsen, Tony Enrich, Janice, Kristee Booth

### Treasury Report

- *Completed Items*
  - Florida Corporations year end report.
- *In Progress*
  - Cathy Connolly is working on the IRS 990N report.
  - Joan Bernat is working on the solicitation year end report for Florida Agriculture.
  - Joan suggested that money we make on events would be put into a separate fund, to complete small projects in our master plan. **Agreed**

### Bus Tour – Jim Thorsen

- 95 % complete, the other 5% is the walk through to make sure everything goes according to schedule.
- *Tour Description March 18, 2022*
  - Leave Lake View Terrace in Altoona at 9:00 am, visit a scrub jay habitat, wildcat lake, Drifters for lunch, Juniper after lunch, and a visit to the fire tower, then back home.

### Fire Tower

- Our next meeting the March 22<sup>nd</sup> should be with USFS to discuss the next steps on the fire tower project. **Agreed**
- Also to answer some of our questions.
- Kristee was going to ask Carrie Saraka to attend our next meeting.
- We also discussed the site of our next meeting should be at the ranger station. More details as the date gets closer.

### Misc

#### Newsletter/Correspondence **Agreed**

- It was brought to Joan's attention that the general public found errors in the newsletter and general correspondence.
- It was suggested that all formal correspondence will go to the chair for final approval with a date for corrections.
- Two reasons for that, it keeps the chair in the loop on what is going on, and provides another set of eyes for errors, etc.
- Joan is going to ask FDOT to review the newsletter before it goes out.

#### *Springs Festival March 5, 2022*

- Springs Festival is two day, Florida Black Bear National Scenic byway is going to do one day Saturday. **Agreed**
- Nikki Thorsen, Jim Thorsen, and Joan Bernat will attend.
- Joan will gather everything for the festival.

*Tree Planting and beyond* **Agreed**

- Joan made the suggestion of taking some of the money from our bus tour and putting it toward a small project in our master plan.
- Kristee and Jim suggested putting the money toward a kiosks or two.

*Possible Black Bear Festival*

- When Jim and Joan met with Emily from Silver Springs State park concessionaire to discuss a possible springs bus tour, the subject of a Black Bear festival at Silver Springs came up.
- Emily indicated she would help spear head the project.
- Jim thought it was a good idea, and the best time to do it would be during snowbird season.
- Joan indicated if this was going to be a project that Black Bear would pursue we defiantly have to make money from this.
- ***Table for March meeting or April meeting for discussion.***

*Tony*

- Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> International saw competition at Barberville.
- Tim Martin is the number 2 person in the states and will be preforming at Barberville on Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Clarification – saw competition is playing music with a saw.

*Replacement of old contents of kiosks.* **Agreed**

- Tony has the idea of when a panel gets replaced from a kiosks to take that panel and frame it and give it to the person on that panel, as an appreciation for all that person has done for Black Bear.
- Kristee is looking for ???? to present this picture to him.

*Volunteers for Kiosks cleaning*

- Tony had indicated that a friend of his indicated that some of the kiosks on the byway were dirty, and moldy, and represented a bad position for Black Bear.
- Tony discussed and agreed to write an article in the newsletter calling all volunteers to help.
- Joan also said she would contact Adventure Ocala for a free pass for volunteers who cleaned kiosks.

Meeting ended at 3:30 PM

Next meeting March 22<sup>nd</sup>