

Minutes from June 15, 2021 MCDEC Meeting

The meeting started at 6:30 PM with some socializing. At 6:35, the meeting began. Attendees included Hank Bonner, Gayle Ryan, Sam Hay, Liz Piel, Dave Cross, Bridgit Kirouac, Carol Ann Leonard, Martin Markowitz, Greg Braun, Marty Baum, Ray Denzel, Karen Chapell, Barbara Scharman, Matt Sexton, Annie Potts, Jon Page, Elva and Bruce Beyer.

Announcements: The DEC is having Docktails this year. There will be a Silent Auction again, run by Patty Koff. Please think if you have anything to donate or know someone who would donate item(s). I will send her contact information out to the caucus.

Representative Anna V. Eskamani is very good. Write her at Annaforflorida.com with your thoughts on bills.

Guest Speaker: Greg Braun, a member of The Guardians of Martin County. Their website is theguardiansofmartincounty.com.

Carol Ann introduced the guest speaker Greg Braun who spoke about the Atlantic Fields and Loxa-Lucie Headwaters Initiative.

To learn more about Atlantic Fields, please read about the Atlantic Fields Development on the website for Becker (tree farm) <https://beckerlegacy.com>.

Carol Ann would like to discuss the Atlantic Fields project further and get some feedback from the caucus on what we should consider doing. Then we can see if we need to contact the LPA and the BOCC.

Greg did state no application has been transmitted to Martin County or the Town of Jupiter Island for the Atlantic Fields project.

Verify with county staff that the project application is now available and is set for LPA review. Pass on the project information to anyone that is interested. Ask your county commissioners how the challenges will be met. LPA addressed issue first, sends to BOCC.

Presentation overview

The Loxa-Lucie Headwaters Initiative, is a consortium of conservationists and non-profit organizations who are working on an initiative to acquire thousands of acres of underdeveloped land in the western Hobe Sound area for conservation. Attendees can read about the project on their website. It will protect an existing ecological corridor between Jonathan Dickinson and the Atlantic Ridge State Parks, and the benefits of the project for recreation, water management, helping to address flooding in Hobe Sound, conservation, wildlife protection, abating saltwater intrusion, carbon sequestration, ecosystem resilience, and growth management.

Website is: loxalucieheadwaters.org

We can donate any amount we can to the project.

Questions and Comments

The presentation, questions and answers from Greg Braun's presentation will be sent as an attachment to the caucus later.

Minutes: The Chair asked if there were any corrections to the May minutes. There were none. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's report:

Hank indicated the Bank Balance was \$1882.94

Act Blue was \$1.66

Rivers Coalition: Notes will be sent out.

DECF: (added by Carol Ann's notes) The list of candidates for DECF is out. Per the meeting on 6/13, nominations have been extended for a short time. One must be a paid member of the DECF to hold an office.

The date for the election, will be between July 28-to Aug. 1 this year. You can only vote if you paid your \$10 dues for 2021 directly to the DECF and have been a member for 45 days.

Some new changes to the already passed DECF by-laws were made and approved. Barbara Klein is still coordinating the DECF by-laws with each chapters' by-laws. She will have a Zoom meeting with chapter chairs to finalize the by-laws. Then Marian Williams will have the final approval. Our chapter by-laws were done in Feb. by our committee. They have been sent to the DECF by-laws committee and Barbara Klein. Our comments and changes were also sent to Barbara by her June 5 deadline which has been extended now.

Old Business-(added by Carol Ann's notes) if anyone in the caucus would like to become the designated person to be trained by DECF to register voters, please contact Carol Ann via e-mail. I assume one has to be a paid member of DECF to do this.

They want either a chair or a designated person from each chapter to do this. We do have to be careful in Martin County, to try and get Dems to register more. We can first try to ask the potential voter a question that we know how a Democrat would more likely answer. Then we can make the offer to register them. We can wear a t-shirt with some Democrat issue or caucus on it but we cannot vocally urge them to register Democrat.

New Business-(added by Carol Ann's notes) Please ask your contacts who are 18 and older who can vote if they would be interested in contacting me, Carol Ann, about posting a short script on their social media websites to encourage participation with the Martin County Democrats especially but could create interest with all Democrats. I think sites such as Facebook, Twitter and maybe Tik Toc would be best? I'm not familiar

enough with Tik Toc to know if that would be a good place to put a posting, but I was told it was. What do you think about Tik Tok? I believe I heard Pres. Biden wasn't going to be like Trump was with the site. Trump wanted to ban it but it was to be sold to a US company, I think, so it could remain in operation. Is that right? Bridgit said Biden reversed what Trump was going to do. I said, yes, that's right.

The Board will finalize a brief script that we think would interest younger voters and hopefully encourage them to get involved with Democrats and vote.

An idea for the script to include might be:

Help us combat Climate Change and protect the environment.

If you just became eligible to vote, protect your vote. It's critical that we work to protect all of our votes.

It's vital to protect our Democracy; get involved now.

Go to martincountydemocrats.org. You can send an e-mail to either contact the Democrats here in Martin County, get involved in one of the groups listed, or register to vote.

Do any of you have comments on this? You can also e-mail me with your ideas and let me know if you want the finished script to give to someone to send out to their social media. No one left at the meeting commented.

Members Comments: None

Adjourn-approximately 8 PM?

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Buckles, Secretary

Respectfully submitted by Carol Ann Leonard, President