

Laffite's Cove Nature Society (LCNS)

Annual Members Meeting

The LCNS annual members meeting was held on March 8, 2014 at the Galveston Country Club. Bonnie White, President called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM. Proxies received and the attendance of members established a quorum. Directors present were Bonnie White, Ben Hock, Mort Voller, Brenda Dawson, and Jim Walters.

The minutes of the annual members meeting dated March 23, 2013 were reviewed. Motion by Bonnie White and seconded by Ben Hock approved the minutes by unanimous vote.

Ben Hock presented the Financial Report. Ben stated that we were under budget for the year. Our major expenses are in preserve work. Collections are on target and there was no increase in the assessment.

Bonnie White stated that the preserves are being well maintained. What we need is ongoing volunteers to help with various projects within the Preserve. We are working on controlling the parking for the Preserve to allow for access to the mailboxes. We continue to work on controlling the speeding within the canals. Four (4) buoys were installed and two (2) more will be installed.

Mort Voller stated a report was mailed with the notice of the meeting. We have good help from the Student Conservation group. Our main focus is to make sure the irrigation system is working, controlling the China berry tree, an invasive rose must be controlled. The south side is working its way through and must be controlled. We have maintained the Preserve at a low cost. We have interviewed two companies who have expertise in maintaining preserves. We are working with Peterson who has worked in the Preserve previously. What we need from Laffites Cove owners is to know what the rules of the nature preserve are and to have respect for the preserve. It is important to control the young adults/children and owners visitors.

The Wern cemetery has been beautifully restored. A historic designation was recently given. An interpret sign was placed at the Cemetery.

Discussion was held concerning the Marsh grass. Mort recommended that property owners look at the Marsh grass on Smith Street in Jamaica Beach as an example of what can be done. Discussion was held concerning the maintenance of the Marsh Grass.

The election was held. The members elected by proxy and ballot Bonnie White and Jim Walters.

Members' comments : Visitors to the Preserve need to be aware to stay on trails and be aware of the wildlife such as snakes.

Members commented that in the future there should be a resolution to the marsh grass issue.

A member thanked the Board for installing buoys

A member asked what was unscheduled work on the income statement. Unscheduled work is the work not contractual.

The Boards does not have responsibility on the PPOA ARC. Jim Walters from the LCNS Board was appointed to sit unofficially on the PPOA ARC and reviews the Laffites Cove plans.

It was recommended the once a year an overview of the rules on the Nature Preserve be provided to property owners and to new owners. The Board will work on providing an information sheet..

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 AM

Susan Gonzales, Recording Secretary