

SAVE LAKE WEIR ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 23, 2020
LAKE WEIR YACHT CLUB

President Jane Sands opened the meeting at 2:24p.m. She commended all for the outstanding attendance of members and staff from the Marion County Commission. She recognized Jeff Gold, County Commissioner and Craig Curry who is running for a county commissioner position, and Buddy and Ann McKay, former Governor of Florida and his wife.

Vic Knoblock, Vice President, lead with the invocation and the pledge of allegiance. Jane thanked the historical Lake Weir Yacht Club for the use of the facility, and Skip and Lou Archibald for providing the banana pudding, today's dessert. She introduced the officers for the SLW organization.

Jane Sands, President
Vic Knoblock, Vice President
Reese Bourgeois, Secretary
Cliff Forrester, Treasurer

Jane called on Jeff Gold to make a few remarks and introduce our speakers. He noted that each county commissioner gets to choose a project for the 5-year plan, and his was helping with the flow and issues, particularly addressing the flow under the Bird Island causeway and other lake issues. He was pleased to introduce additional staff who were willing to come on their own time for our presentation. They were: Kim Dinkins, Keven Vickers, Bob Titterington, and Jody Kirkland. The presentations were The Management Plan review, Water Quality and Levels, and Wells and Sewer Management. The concerns were septic tank loads, ground water run-off, increased fertilizer, old septic tanks.

There was a discussion regarding the aquifer and deep well, one mile from Lake Weir, being proposed for future usage in Marion County. This lower aquifer well would hopefully help offset existing wells on our lake. There was a question and answer session regarding wells, deep wells, and quality of water. The question of paying for all of this is still up in the air. Jeff Gold reminded the audience that the Commissioners are committed to this.

The business meeting was called to order at 3:08 p.m. The minutes from 2019 were waved by a motion by Jack Harwood, seconded by Mike Ayers. All approved. Note: minutes are available on SLW website.

Jane thanked Cliff Forrester for the Treasurers report.

The members were provided a summary of the four committees that have been working on lake issues.

The Septic/Sewer Committee (Jane Sands, Holly Curran, Carol Caruso) met with Marion County Growth Management and Utilities, the U of Florida extension office (IFAS) personnel, and Florida Wildlife and Fisheries for on-going information regarding septic and sewer impacts on our lake. There is a Septic/Sewer Seminar planned for March 3, at 1:00 p.m. at George Albright Kiwanis Beach on the proper care and maintenance of our septic systems. Free water testing will be available to those who come and pick up the jar for analysis for Coliform bacteria. If you would like additional testing for nitrates and lead, there will be a \$30 charge.

We were able to get St Johns and DEP to test for algae blooms and test for toxins. No toxins were found.

St. Johns is attempting to reset the Minimum Flow levels for Lake Weir.

Water Flow committee is in continuous meetings with Jeff Gold on improving flow to Lake Weir.

The County sunset the Transfer of Development Rights in the ESOZ,

We have extensively investigated the rules for dock building. These are available from DEP and Marion County Permitting.

Vic Knoblock, Kate Murrell, and Carol Caruso have helped with restoration and quilts with the Ma Barker project on the lake.

As a reminder, we need your email to correspond with you and provide information as we receive it.

Jane opened the floor for elections, nominations, etc. and the following were elected to the board for a three-year term.

Gene Camp, Ocklawaha
Bonnie Meyer, Sunset Harbor
Jane Sands, At Large

There were no other nomination and all voted for approval.

In closing, President Jane Sands reminded everyone we are in need of your support and membership to help Save Our Lake.

There was a motion by Buddy McKay to adjourn, second by Ann McKay, all were in favor. Adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lou Archibald for Reese Bourgeois.