

**SAVE LAKE WEIR ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 28, 2021
LAKE WEIR YACHT CLUB**

President Jane Sands opened the meeting at 2:08 pm. She thanked the Yacht Club for providing the facility for the meeting. Vic Knoblock led with the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance. Jane recognized Craig Curry and Jeff Gold, Marion County Commissioners and Laura McDonald, who is running for the SLW board. She also introduced the SLW officers - Jane Sands, President, Vic Knoblock, Vice President, Cliff Forrester, Treasurer, and Jane Voge, Secretary.

The speaker for the meeting was Robbie Lovestrand, regional biologist for invasive plant management for Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Mr. Lovestrand gave an interesting and informative presentation on aquatic plants in Lake Weir. He had numerous samples of plants and grasses including duckweed, water hyacinth, water lettuce, hydrilla, nitella, parrots feather, bladderwort, eel grass, pickerel weed, cattail, saw grass, lily pads, lake rush, maidencane and torpedo grass. He was most concerned about the spread of hydrilla which is treated with herbicides or physically removed by the roots. One of the most difficult grasses to remove is torpedo grass. It was noted that green algae does produce toxins but no toxins have been found in Lake Weir. Mr. Lovestrand stayed for questions by members after the meeting.

The business meeting was called to order after the presentation. Jane opened the floor for elections and nominations. Skip Archibald moved that the nominations be closed, Lou seconded, and all voted for approval. The following were elected to the board for a three year term:
Lou Archibald, At Large, Reese Bourgeois, Little Lake Weir, Laura McDonald, At Large.
Skip moved to approve changes in the by laws as mailed, Reese seconded, and all voted to approve the change in by laws.

Jane asked Jeff Gold to give an update on lake issues that he has been working on. One of the projects concerning the water flow under the causeway is being delayed until a permit is given by SJRWMD. He is also trying to get a permit for pumps to assist in the flow.

There have been many complaints of duck hunters shooting close to homes on the lake. Mr. Gold advised that the county has no jurisdiction over this and that the State of Florida would have to change the laws regarding duck hunting. He suggested that members contact our state representatives for assistance.

Reese Bourgeois acknowledged and thanked Jane Sands for 30 years of service to Save Lake Weir, and Cliff Forrester for 17 years as treasurer.

Cliff gave the treasurers report and it was approved.

Jane reported that last year, SLW gained 22 new lifetime members and 35 new annual members. She thanked Skip and Lou for their efforts to invite so many new members. Fifty-five members attended the meeting today.

SLW is working to have an ordinance banning fertilizers with phosphates. All members are encouraged to use phosphate free fertilizer.

To report fresh water algae blooms contact DEP – FloridaDEP.gov/algaebloom or call 855-305-3903.

Respectfully submitted, Jane Voge, Secretary