

Surfrider Foundation- Cocoa Beach Chapter

Monthly Meeting Minutes 02/18/15

Executive Committee-

Chair: Sallie Lopez

Vice Chair: Sandy Beach

Volunteer Coordinator: Bruce Moeller

Treasurer: Jo Branagan

Secretary: Jackie Beatty

Past Events-

Sea Oat Planting on 2/7/15. Approximately 40 people came to help of which about half were children. Sea oats were planted behind Beach Shack and on the beach at 9th, 12th, 13th, and 14th Street North. 1200 plants were planted total. Thank you to everyone who came out!

City Commission Meeting on February 5th regarding beach raking. 5 members of our Surfrider Chapter got up to speak about the importance of the seaweed in our ecosystem and why it should remain on the beach. Surfrider will be included in the process of decision making on whether or not to mechanically rake the beach. Commissioner Skip Williams came to our monthly meeting and encouraged us to keep coming and speaking at commission meetings. The Waterways and Wildlife Advisory Board meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:30 and we are encouraged to attend these meetings as well. Biff Branagan got his article on beach raking printed in Florida Today.

Chapter Business-

Calendars-only 3 left and they were given away. Thank you Surfinista for helping us sell our Calendars!

Volunteers- we need more. Does anyone have recruitment ideas?

Tents- we need both tents this Friday for Friday Fest because Space Coast Saunter will be using one.

Stake Painting- We are looking for a location for a painting party and then store them there until they are dry. They are too messy to paint at Friday Fest.

New T-shirt logo- Local artist Rick Piper designed an awesome new logo for our new chapter shirts. We narrowed it down to 2 designs and took a vote. The vote was 50/50 so the logo will be decided depending on the color of the t-shirt.

Operation Surf- Krista Small came to the meeting to talk to us about Operation Surf. It is a non-profit that helps disabled soldiers learn to surf. The event is scheduled for March 19-25 at various locations in Cocoa Beach. Volunteers are needed. Email Krista at krista.small57@gmail.com.

Executive Committee Meeting needs to be scheduled-it is tentatively scheduled for March 3 at 6 p.m.

Campaigns- We are looking for Committee leads and volunteers
Not The Answer-Seismic Airgun Testing- Sandy Beach is the lead.

Hold Onto Your Butts-We will be ordering more pocket ashtrays. We are starting to plan the 2nd Annual Hold Onto Your Butts Day in July. Bill Haussman and Lawrence are leads.

Ban the Bag-We need to present a resolution to the city council to lessen impact of single use plastic bags. The Bag Ban Bill will be presented at upcoming legislative sessions. Hopefully Cocoa Beach can be included in the pilot program.

Surf Impact Study- Dr. John Hearin- All the observations are uploaded, there were over 1,000. Dr. Hearin will demonstrate affect of the beach fill to our waves after he incorporates the surveys at the end of spring.

Lawrence's Last Word-

We are losing our city manager and when we find a new one we will need to establish a good relationship with them so that we can set a plan to protect the dunes from events on the beach. The Easter Surf Fest will be at Lori Wilson this year and we need to think about how we are going to protect the dunes.