

20151222 - FOA Board meeting - 8:45 PM - Fryling Home**Attendees:**

Board: Charles Fryling, Charles Caillouet, Jim Delahoussaye, Willie Fontenot, Ray Brassieur, Paul Kemp

Advisors and Guests: JoAnn Fryling, Karen Westphal, Woody Martin, Dan Collins and Marian, Charles Williams and Patty Murray, Amy Brassieur, Pam Caillouet, Harold Schoeffler, David Spring and Lorie, Crystal and Dayne Bounds, Ivar van Heerden, Dean Wilson and Kara

The Frylings served a great meal before the meeting.**President Charlie Fryling opened the business meeting at approximately 8:45 PM.**

Attendees introduced themselves.

Special Presentation:

Dan Collins reviewed his experience working for the Department of Natural Resources 10 years ago and the issues that he surfaced surrounding the Bayou Postilion dredging Project and oil leases in the Project area. He described his challenges in getting State agencies to take seriously questionable activities on the part of landowners, agency personnel and oil company representatives. The culmination of Dan's ordeal was a jury trial in his whistle-blower suit against the State, where he was found to have been wronged, and was awarded damages by a sympathetic jury. Crystal Bounds, Dan's lawyer on the case, plead that people "behind the scenes" knew the potential of the Basin [for generating income] and that the "powers that be" tried to shut down criticism of the actions. None of the current ABP staff were named in the case.

Old Business

November 24, 2015 meeting minutes were approved

Treasurer's Report - current month activity: nothing since last report

Regions Balance of \$1,380.12 + PayPal Balance of \$176.45

= \$1,556.57 YTD Total

Review Open Actions from previous meeting

Update by Charles Caillouet on Cypress Preserve Concept

Charles noted the discovery of the NPS Special Resource Study that opened the way for a Jean Lafitte preserve unit in Lake Fausse Pointe.

Harold suggested that the High Water Mark for the Lakes should be around 4.6 feet.

Charles will contact Paul Kemp about working on an official high water determination.

Charles will revise the documents for distribution for next month.

Open item: meeting with Karen St. Germain -

She is busy with her new job heading Motor Vehicles.

Charles Caillouet will continue to work on setting up a meeting.

Charles Caillouet reported that the FOA web site is still under attack and that he is taking steps to limit the intrusions.

Our Internet Services Provider is helping by doubling our bandwidth limit.

Event reports:

ABP and TNC signed MOU to work on restoration projects

Former Lt. Governor Dardenne has joined the new Edwards Administration.

Karen St. Germain will head the Departement of Motor Vehicles.

Partner Reports:

ANHA: Debra is helping with information on Parks Service processes, and is going to DC in February.

LWF: It is time for nominations for Conservation Awards

BasinKeeper: Dean testified at the Dan Collins trial.

New Business

- * The Board voted to nominate Dan Collins for a Louisiana Wildlife Federation Volunteer Conservation Award. Charlie Fryling and Charles William will work on the nomination. Nominations are due in by February 11, 2016.

Upcoming Events

Target Projects for 2015-2016

Cypress Preserve

Mississippi River Commission trip meetings

EA Every Day - Year-Round Events

"Ask me" program at visitors center -

Special Session?: January, 2016?

Mardi Gras: February 9, 2016

Tulane Env. Law Clinic: Feb 19-20, 2016, Weinmann Hall, Tulane

LWF Awards: April 2, 2016

Next Board meeting place and time

January 26, 2015

In Butte LaRose at 7:00 PM

The subject will be bear crossings on Highway 90, with a presentation by an LSU Landscape Architecture colleague of Charlie Fryling.

The following meeting would be on February 23 (fourth Tuesday.)

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10 PM.