



# FLORIDA TRAIL ASSOCIATION

Building More Than Trails



## Florida Trail Association Meeting October 21, 2023

### Zoom Online

ATTENDING		
<p>Officers:</p> <p>In Person: Chair, Bill Turman Treasurer, Elwood McElhaney</p> <p>Zoom: Vice Chair, Maria Llornes Secretary, Chelsey Stevens</p>	<p>Executive Director: Royce Gibson</p> <p>Directors:</p> <p>In Person: Tom Daniel Rick Robbins</p> <p>Zoom: Karl Byars Eric Emery Michelle Duncan (Joined 6:30 into meeting)</p> <p>Absent: Joshua Johnson (Excused) Leslie Wheeler (Excused) Tiffany Bright (Excused)</p>	<p>Guests:</p> <p>Adam Fryska – Trails Director - FTA Britt Moore – Membership Coordinator - FTA Shawn Thomas – FNST Program Administrator</p>

ITEM	TOPIC	DISCUSSION/ACTION	RESOLUTION AND FOLLOW-UP
1.	Welcome/Attendance – Bill Turman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting called to order on October 21, 2023, 09:58 AM Eastern Time</li> </ul>	

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2.	July 14 <sup>th</sup> meeting minute approval – Chelsey Stevens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Last month’s meeting minutes were distributed prior to today’s meeting for approval.</li> <li>● Amended per Bills comments sent via email on 10/19/2023. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Need to have the membership status available at every board meeting.</li> <li>○ Highlighted Person for the month will continue in January.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Tom Abstained from Voting</li> <li>● Minutes approved by all others in attendance.</li> </ul>
3.	USDS Forest Service Report – Shawn Thomas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Expand discussion on MOU in January meeting.</li> <li>● FNST Coalition partnership meeting regular schedule to resume. Date TBD.</li> <li>● Challenge Cost Share Agreement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ \$720,000 invested by forest service from FY 2023 agreement.</li> <li>○ Mod to agreement to add an additional \$100,000.</li> <li>○ Held \$25,000 specifically for land acquisition planning and gap closure strategic planning.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Communication Framework for FNST is included for discussion. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This shows the communication flow chart and the commitment from each partner to manage the FNST.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Standard Design Plan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ If there is a need for a kiosk, we have the funds. Please request these following the communication protocol.</li> <li>○ Bridges and boardwalks need to follow the standard design plan. They can explore alternative designs if there is a specific reason with a regional engineering team.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Planned Projects. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There is a desire to have a 3-5 year in que project list.</li> <li>○ Spring Creek inventory review is completed and permitting will start soon to move forward on bridge design.</li> <li>○ Bridge across the Econ River has been delayed for prioritizing.</li> <li>○ Yellow River bridge will be moving forward.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sean to send a save the date for coalition meeting.</li> <li>● We need to ensure that the flow of communication goes through the proper chain of command to ensure the approval process is followed.</li> <li>● Planned projects need to be compiled and communicated following the proper chain to get items added to a project que list.</li> </ul>

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4.	Storm Damage – Adam Fryska	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Idellia had extensive storm damage in the Suwannee River Section.</li> <li>● Hundreds of trees down per mile with apparent tornado damage.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Several weeks of Sawyer saw work are in the planning phase.</li> <li>● Working with land managers on proper trail restoration.</li> </ul>
5.	Finance Committee – Elwood McElhaney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No Change from last meeting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● We are in good financial shape.</li> <li>● Bill requests that financial reporting be made in a consistent format each time.</li> </ul>
6.	Advancement Committee – Chelsey Stevens on behalf of Josh Johnson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Kristen Williams is no longer a member of the BOD.</li> <li>● Josh Johnson is the new advancement committee chair.</li> <li>● Brews for Views brewery event is scheduled for National Take as Hike Day. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Located at Swamp Head and Deviant Wolf Brewery.</li> <li>○ Donating \$1.00 per specific brewery selections.</li> <li>○ Both breweries will be nominating gift cards for a raffle.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Discuss a partnership round up event for the future at realtors.</li> <li>● Discuss print on demand items as an option for items in the FTA store.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ask that all BOD members do what they can to promote events in their circle and on social media.</li> <li>● Bill enquired about a Film Festival; this should be added to the advancement committee for future discussion.</li> </ul>
7.	Development and Planning Committee – Tom Daniel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Updating Trail Manual is still in progress.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Waiting for manual input on google drive from Adam and other staff members.</li> </ul>
8.	Governance Committee – Maria Llornes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● ED Evaluation is wrapped up.</li> </ul>	
9.	Chapter Council Committee – Bill Turman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No update, Leslie Wheeler out of town.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Next meeting 10/28/23.</li> </ul>

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10.	Nominating Committee – Bill Turman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Michelle Duncan will be leading this committee.</li> <li>● Need to push Next Gen members to join. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Make one slot permanently available to next gen members.</li> <li>○ Perhaps agreeing to a shorter term that rotates every year.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● BOD members to encouraged to nominate candidates they feel are strong.</li> <li>● Maria/Governance to look into next gen BOD member slot.</li> </ul>
11.	Executive Director Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● We brought on a new TA, though we lost our GIS Specialist.</li> <li>● REI Sarasota is opening, and we are having a pint night there.</li> <li>● Chapter material had arrived and will be distributed</li> </ul>	
12.	Additional Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Eric Emery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A lot of hikers this year want to start in November and travel SOBO</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Adam to get involved with the local Facebook groups to offer input to hikers.</li> </ul>
13.	Motion to Adjourn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Motion brought by Rick.</li> <li>● Motion seconded by Elwood.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● We hope more folks can attend the meeting in person come January!</li> </ul>

Submitted by Chelsey Stevens, Secretary, FTA BOD

Approved by Board of Directors Vote: January 20, 2024