

FOTNF Board Meeting 27 April 2020 Minutes

The meeting was held using Zoom once again. This time things went smoother, as we didn't get cut off every 40 minutes!

Present were: Pete Allard, Dayan Anderson, Patti Fenner, Susan Sridharan and Scott Wood.

The meeting was called to order by Patti at 6:04 PM.

Brian is working in southern Arizona and wasn't able to attend the meeting. He will be going into Telegraph Canyon with Willie Sommers from AZ State Dept of Forestry, to look at work done by crews to remove oleander there this past winter. Brian asked that we assist this effort by using Collector to map saltcedar and oleander still growing in 2 miles of Arnett Canyon and 1 mile of Telegraph Canyon.

Susan Sridharan completed the "EZ" tax forms for Friends, which were much more involved than the e-postcard which we have been filing. But submitting more information will get us a higher non-profit rating on GuideStar, a website rating system which is used to publicly evaluate financial performance and accountability for prospective donors. We have completed GE's requirements to receive matching checks for Don Pike's donations last year and this year. Elizabeth Goff donated \$150 to Friends.

The Communications Committee was not on the call, but had just had a phone conference meeting. They would like stories for FB and the website, to keep things fresh and our org in peoples' thoughts. Georgy needs newsletter items by May 10.

The web-based riparian photopoint program is going very well. We have 21 return volunteers and 8 brand new ones. In addition, since the meeting, SRP, previously a strong supporter of this program, has called us, wanting to sponsor an on-line training for their employees. This will be done Thursday, May 14. Some of their employees have already been participating this year, just on their own.

We received a note from Lane Butler of the Desert Botanical Garden, who is working with Robert Madera, Tonto NF Botanist, on the Rare Plant Inventory project. They trained a roomful of volunteers right before the virus shut everything down, and we were not able to do the field portion of the training. Their team is now working to figure out a socially distanced method for doing the field training so that we don't lose too much momentum. They will be in contact. A few of us had done the classroom training.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.