

March FFINS Meeting Minutes
March 21st, 2017– 6:00pm
River room
150 West Avenue Patchogue, NY 11772

Attendees: David Hensen, Sarah Schaefer, Kelly Fellner, Patti Vertullo, Regina Casale, Brian O’Keefe, Renee Kantro, Peter Maust, Konstantine Rountos

February meeting minutes approved.

1. Sean McGuinness- a retired National Park Service staff member who is interested in helping FFINS.
2. People’s Climate Movement- Saturday, April 29th, 2017 – bus trip to Washington DC National Mall.
 - Reserved two buses for the day trip down to Washington D.C. National Mall.
 - Buses: GOGO Bus Tours Inc., Brooklyn, NY- approximately \$3,500 for two buses
 - 56 seats per bus
 - PA system, TVs and DVD player.
 - Ticket sales set-up through Eventbrite:
 - i. Student ticket is \$25.00 (plus fees is \$27.24), individual ticket is \$56 (plus fees is \$59.79). This cost pays for hotel room for two bus drivers to rest in during the march, plus a %15 tip.
 - ii. Optional additional donation is available for Marcelo Lucero Unity Tour.
 - iii. Have advertised on Facebook, button on FFINS website homepage and through email blasts.
 - As of 3/21/17 1 student ticket and 6 individual tickets have been purchased.
 - FFINS members should share the event with anyone who they think would be interested.
 - Building Bridges would like to give a donation for the Marcelo Lucero Unity Tour.
3. FFINS/ FINPS Agreement Discussion:
 - How do we want to structure the FFINS board and committees?
 - How do we want the bylaws to be set up?
 - Create an Advisory Board with representatives from academia, and expert members in the fields of environment, history, etc.
 - The specifics of the agreement will be decided in a separate committee discussion.
4. North Face Explore Grant- Applications due April 15th

- Regina Casale and Konstantine Rountos will work on submitting a grant for this year.
5. Upcoming Events:
 - Earth Stock 2017 at Stony Brook University- April 21st, 2017 11:00 am to 3:00 pm (<http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/earthstock/>)
 - League of Women Voters Meeting- April 22nd at Harbor Crab Patchogue, NY
 - FINPS Volunteer Appreciation Day- April 30th 1:00- 3:00pm at Watch Hill Ferry Terminal- breakfast or reoccurring volunteers.
 - Summer: Marcelo Lucero Memorial Unity Tour to Fire Island
 - National Park Conservation Association- Northeast Friends Convention (NCPA-NE) October 13th-15th in Hyde Park, NY
 - National Park Foundation (NPF) Friends Alliance at Acadia National Park October 17th-19th.
 6. William Floyd Estate (WFE)
 - Peter Maust is developing internship ideas for SJC students.
 - William Floyd School District plans a field trip for all 4th graders in the district to visit the WFE.
 7. Outdoor Nation Campus Challenge:

(<http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/earthstock/>)

 - Stony Brook University Sierra Club students have an interest in joining the challenge.
 - Plan to get SJC support for Outdoor Challenge Event on campus in April.
 8. Appalachian Mountain Club- Atlantique:
 - Outreach to western Fire Island Communities.
 - Host a visit for key faculty from SBU and SJC and students.
 - Could plan a Sierra Club event here in May.
 9. Marcelo Lucero Unity Tour – Summer 2017
 - Regina Casale is event planning Chair.
 - Watch Hill Ferry Terminal ferry may not be working in time for September 2017. A 41 foot NPS boat could fit 12 passengers and would be free to use.
 - Felix Padilla and Salvation Army in Patchogue could promote this event to their clientele and use the Salvation Army mailing list to send information about the event out. Salvation Army canteen could be used to provide food before the trip to Fire Island- Plan a trip for Salvation Army to Wilderness Visitors Center in April.
 - Bay Elementary School event went well on March 1st as an introductory event between FFINS and Latino community in Patchogue to build trust and form relationships.

- Structure the Marcelo Lucero Unity Tour as a two part event: Which group to target first will still be decided in committee meetings.
 - i. Family and children outreach events
 - ii. Community leaders event

10. Target Field Trip Grant

- Regina Casale was awarded \$600 to plan a trip to Fire Island for Heritage Learners and ESL Longwood junior high school students.
- Plan to have the trip to Sailor's Haven on May 9th for 44 students.
- Purchase T-shirts for the event- \$7.00/shirt.

11. Friends of Weir Farm NHS- Kelly Fellner wants to introduce FFINS to this group sometime in May.