

Grand Harbor Audubon Annual Meeting and Garden Party

April 24, 2022, Grand Harbor Main Dining Room

Welcome and Opening Remarks – BOB JOY

Bob opened with a warm welcome and hopes for a rain-free afternoon. His theme was *partnership*: Leveraging time and treasure with like-minded people and groups to further the cause of GHA—

Bird guide printing shared with marketing at GHB&GC.

Notecards: Women's 18 Hole Golf Audubon theme gift plus sponsors to underwrite the cost of printing.

Audubon Island: relinquished to GHO HOA.

JJ Frank and Creative Landscaping who donates trees and labor.

Golf grounds crew who oversees Native Garden and Bird House maintenance.

Shain and Clubhouse who host the pastries and coffee for the four Bird Walks on two Saturdays in February.

GHA donation of funds to GH and from Bob and Donna Dole for pond resources.

Approximately 80 in attendance and quorum was reached.

Introduction of Board and Advisory Council members—Bob Joy recognized all Board and Advisory Council members.

Membership Report –Linda Renna

The mission of GHA is to educate and motivate, the goal is to remember and respect the value of our environment.

Membership has grown to 250 total with 32 new members.

Treasurer's Report –Diane Spence

Total revenue: \$29,276

Memberships and donations, \$13,040

Annual Fundraiser, \$6,775

Restricted Donations, \$7,000

Notecards, Field Trip, Swear Jar, \$2,461

Total expenses: \$16,381

Programs \$3,220

Trees and plants \$3,392

Special Projects, \$6,488

Admin and misc. \$3,281

Reserve, \$15,000

Program Report – Kathy Phillips

Tentative programs for 2023-2024:

February Bird Walks

Live Animal Show

A Lagoon Presentation by GHA favorite, Heather Stapleton

Annual Meeting and Closing Reception/Garden Party

Recognition of Retiring Board Members – Bob Joy

Molly Mugler, thanked for her time as Program Chair, time spent on revising the bylaws, and facilitating the transfer of Audubon Island to GHO.

Art Irvine, long time member and VP, among other things chaired and hosted six years of Field Trips

They were each recognized for their years of service, camaraderie, and contributions to GHA.

Nominating Committee Report – Rose Virgin

Requested a vote for three candidates: Kathy Phillips, Alex Diedrick, Linda Renna. A vote was taken, and all three were approved.

Volunteer of the Year Award – Chris Thurlow

John Lindsey – Named and honored for tireless efforts and selfless donation of time and resources to the Nature Garden.

He was awarded a framed certificate and his name has been engraved on the GHA plaque.

Recognition of two special GHA Founders – Deb Fletcher and Brad Allin

Joan Klimm, in 2009 instrumental in the creation of the Nature Garden

Dr. Don Morris, also in 2009, founder of the Butterfly Garden

Each will be honored with a sign bearing their name posted in the Gardens.

Lyn Groves opened her remarks with the history and description of an historic plant that played a significant role in the history of Florida. Once in the garden we are to look for the Coontie (*Zamia integrifolia*), North America's only native cycad, which is the host plant for the Atala butterfly.

Debbie Lindsey announced the plans for a brick path to replace the pea gravel in the Gardens. The plan was approved by the board and GH Club and the timing was to begin as soon as possible. There was also mention of raising funds and engraving individual bricks.

Debbie then invited all to visit the Nature Gardens and celebrate with wine and light appetizers.

Meeting adjourned – Bob Joy, 5:00 p.m.

The lightning horn then blasted so people stayed inside and mingled over the wine and cheese spread provided by Shain and his crew.

Respectfully submitted: Barbara Reis, Secretary