

## SAVE THE HOMOSASSA RIVER ALLIANCE MEETING

7:00 PM 08/12/2021

Homosassa Civic Club, 5530 S Mason Creek Rd, Homosassa, FL 34448

1. President Kapocsi called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM
2. Roll call – Board members present were Kapocsi, Rose, Rendueles, Minguy, Runyon, Green, Jacobs, and Rimbey. Colvin was absent.
3. Treasurer's Report – Previous Balance as of 2021-06-30 was \$17,338.28. Current balance as of 2021-07-31 was \$15,331.73.
4. Secretary's Report – Minutes from the 2021-07-08 meeting were not read or waived.
5. Guest Speakers – Citrus Sheriff Mike Prendergast and Thomas Reid (FWC) Mike Sarmiento (FWC)
6. Forty-seven (47) concerned citizens attended the meeting.
7. Mr. Kapocsi introduced Sheriff Prendergast. Sheriff Prendergast detailed his efforts to get an additional 5 marine patrol officers in Citrus County and to purchase/repair needed equipment. The Sheriff is well aware of the unlawful and reckless behavior on our rivers but simply does not have the resources to address the issues. The Citrus BOCC has denied his request for additional funding to address the problem. Sheriff Prendergast encouraged all in attendance to contact their County Commissioners and encourage them to reconsider their decision and address the problem with appropriate funding for SCSO.
8. Mr. Kapocsi introduced Mr. Thomas Reid (FWC). Mr. Reid spoke about FWC's efforts to maintain safety during scallop season. Over 100 citations have been issued this season. Most of the violations were to out-of-towner's for ignoring diver-down flag regulations. FWC currently has two officers to patrol all of the Citrus waterways. He stated that is not nearly enough to cover all of their law enforcement duties in Citrus year-round. Three new FWC officers are expected soon to help in Citrus. Mr. Kapocsi presented FWC with a radar gun which was donated anonymously by two HRA members to help enforce speed violations on the river and diver-down flag violations.
9. Mr. Kapocsi introduced Diana Finegan who is running for County Commissioner and now lives in the blue water area of Homosassa.
10. Don Hiers provided an update on the Spring Cove sewer project.
11. Sue Pagano addressed the topic of lowering speed zones on the river.
12. Steve Minguy reported that the River Restoration project has encountered problems with scallop shells which have been dumped in the blue water area in the past and are unable to be sucked up by the equipment which has been deployed.
13. Next months speaker will be someone from SWFWMD who will speak about springs.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 PM. Brad W. Rimbey