2:00 p.m.    Meeting Convened – Roll Call

In-Person:    Vicki Tschinkel, Jake Varn, Paul Owens, Toni Russell, Vivian Young
On phone:    Lee Constantine, Courtney Cunningham, Andrew Dickman, Roy Rogers, Timothee Sallin, Jim Swann, Susan Trevarthen

Welcome and Introductions; Purpose of Meeting

Vicki thanked the board members who assisted with hiring decisions of the new Policy and Planning Director, Jane West. She also thanked Vivian for her efforts on the communications survey and thanked Toni for her efforts on the fundraising front. Vicki thanked Paul for his hard work.

Paul shared that 1000 Friends opened with a good start for FY19. He noted that Board members have been very generous in their support and gave special thanks to Vicki for her very generous gift.

Board Action and Discussion

ACTION: Approve/Modify Meeting Minutes June 7, 2019

• Jim moved to approve, Vicki seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Advocacy and Activities

Overview – Paul Owens

Paul shared that a great deal of staff time and resources have been devoted to just a couple of bills from the 2019 legislative session, the expressways bill and the growth management bill.

SB 7068 – Expressways Bill: Paul said he, Andrew and Thomas attended the opening meeting of the expressways task forces in Tampa. During his task force meeting Paul reminded members that 1000 Friends had agreed to serve to try to ensure that the roadways are constructed with as little damage to the environment as possible. Paul also suggested that the task force agree to a presentation by Lee Constantine regarding the process for planning the Wekiva Parkway. The task force presentations are scheduled to be submitted to the Legislature on October 1, 2020. Andrew also provided an overview of his task force meeting. Vicki suggested that Vivian post updates on what has been happening on each of the task forces. Vivian agreed.
HB7103 – Growth Management: Paul then shared that op eds were written against HB 7103 because of the damage it did to growth management, and 1000 Friends also urged the governor to not sign the bill. After he did, 1000 Friends followed up with a letter calling for a repeal of the bill in the next session and also prepared a legal challenge of the entire bill. Paul shared details surrounding our challenge to HB7103 and Vivian will post information regarding our position on the bill.

Sea Level 2070: 1000 Friends’ request made through the University of Florida for a grant for this project from SeaGrant was turned down. Paul said we will continue to pursue other financial options for the project, one of which is to request funding from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Paul discussed meetings for the 2020 legislative session and other policy priorities, and several scheduled appearances he is making before other groups. Jake shared information regarding policy positions on water by state organizations and agencies. Paul said that in response to feedback from board members, 1000 Friends is working to be more proactive prior to the 2020 legislative session.

Communications Update – Vivian Young

Vivian shared that 1000 Friends increased the ability to accommodate a larger number of webinar participants and for the first time had over 500 in attendance. She also shared the schedule for the upcoming webinars through spring. Vivian noted that the website was overhauled over the summer and that it should be in preview mode soon. She also added that M-CORES primers were created and have been posted on the website and that she will be on point for the dissemination of M-CORES information. The 2018/2019 Annual Report is at the printer and 1000 Friends’ social media is continuing to see an increase in following.

Policy and Planning Update – Paul Owens

Paul shared that Robert Hartsell has been involved in development issues and he also shared highlights of the activities that have moved forward in the absence of Thomas. Additionally, Paul attended some FDOT meetings and feels that it made a positive influence on securing appointments to the expressway task forces.

Update on New Policy and Planning Director – Paul

Paul shared the Jane West has been hired as 1000 Friends new Policy and Planning Director. She is an attorney who has been practicing since 1998 and she will continue with her law practice on the side but will not engage in anything that conflicts with 1000 Friends. Paul thanked all board members for their input and feels that Jane will be a real asset to the organization.
Financial and Fundraising Report

Fundraising Update – Toni Russell

Toni shared that the Spring Appeal did very well this year and generated revenue over the budgeted goal. The appeal has grown from an average of below $40,000 to now over $100,000. The Anniversary Cards were redesigned this year and have gone out to our members. The Year-End Appeal planning has started, with great news received that Nathaniel Reed’s children have graciously agreed to sign 1000 Friends’ fundraising letters. Toni also noted that 1000 Friends received an estate gift notification though, as of now, we have no idea of the total of the bequest. She added that preparation for our annual audit is underway. In addition, the Munson Foundation gift has been received and Paul is working to schedule a meeting with their administrator. Jim asked about making visits to mid-level donors and Vicki shared that there is room for improvement with board involvement in making donor visits.

Budget and Status - Paul

Paul shared the year-end totals for fiscal year 2019. 1000 Friends ended in the black and well over budget by more than $135,000. Paul also discussed some costs associated with some of the expense items.

2020 Legislative Preview

Paul shared that he and Lee will be meeting with some key members of the Legislature and he encouraged board members to consider attending the meeting of the legislative delegations in their areas.

Update on Legal Challenge to HB 7103

Jane is working on the challenge to HB7103 and Terrell Arline and Richard Grosso are working on the challenge on our behalf. Paul shared that our financial commitment to the filing of the lawsuit is $500 or less.

Future Strategies on Growth Management

Andrew, Vicki, Jake and other board members discussed possible future directions for policy on growth management. Vicki suggested that perhaps a group of board members get together to create a strategy to share with the board next year.

Further Board Discussion

Vickie announced that the next meeting date will be on Dec. 3rd, at 10 a.m. in Winter Park. Additional meeting details will follow.

Staff departed and executive session began with Paul in attendance.
Paul departed and the executive session continued until meeting adjournment.

Timothee Sallin, Secretary
1000 Friends of Florida
Board of Directors Meeting
Agenda
December 3, 2019
Albin Polasek Museum, Capen House
Winter Park, Florida

10:00 a.m. Meeting Convened – Roll Call

In-Person: Susan Trevarthen, Vicki Tschinkel, Andrew Dickman, Timothee Sallin, Jim Swann,
Lee Constantine, Paul Owens, Jane West, Toni Russell

On phone: Courtney Cunningham, Mark Watts, Lester Abberger, Vivian Young

Welcome and Introduction; Purpose of Meeting

Vicki began by acknowledging her successor as chair, Susan, and thanking other board members for
their participation. She said the meeting would provide a chance to review Paul’s work after a year and a
half, and to introduce Jane.

Introduction of Policy and Planning Director

Paul introduced Jane. He complimented her quick start, her productivity and her knowledge of
environmental law and planning. Jane talked about her interest in the job and the work of 1000 Friends,
her professional and personal background, and her long acquaintance with 1000 Friends’ leaders and
issues. Vicki and Susan lauded her hiring. Jim encouraged Jane to take a critical look at 1000 Friends and
recommend improvements for any weaknesses. Vicki suggested that Paul and Jane convene a discussion
of weaknesses and invited board participation. Timothee said the discussion could be informed by the
results of surveys conducted among staff, board members and followers.

Board Action and Discussion

ACTION: Approve/Modify Meeting Minutes from September 3, 2019

- Susan moved to approve; Andrew seconded. No objections were made. The minutes
  were unanimously approved.

ACTION: Resolution to elect Susan Trevarthen to a two-year term as chair, effective Jan. 1, 2020

- Vicki moved to approve; Andrew seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

ACTION: Resolution to elect Greg Barnhart as vice chair

- Vicki moved to approve; Timothee seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

ACTION: Resolution to elect Tim Jackson as treasurer

- Vicki moved to approve; Jim seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

ACTION: Resolution to elect Timothee Sallin as secretary

- Vicki moved to approve; Mark seconded. Motion unanimously approved.
ACTION: Resolution to elect Vicki Tschinkel as chair of the Legal Advocacy Committee

- Susan moved to approve; Jim seconded. Susan and Mark expressed support for Vicki’s election. Motion unanimously approved.

Toni reminded Board members of the need to sign their annual conflict of interest statements, and distributed them to members present.

Paul mentioned that there are two vacancies on the Executive Committee and invited any Board members who are interested to indicate at the next meeting.

Advocacy and Activities

Overview – Paul Owens

Paul briefly summarized the activities of other staff members.

Jane filed a lawsuit against HB 7103 on behalf of 1000 Friends and arranged for us to join a friend of the court brief in support of an appeal filed by Maggy Hurchalla of a $4.4 million SLAPP suit verdict against her for speaking out on a local environmental dispute. Jane and Paul made multiple appearances before county legislative delegations to deliver 1000 Friends’ priorities for the 2020 session, part of an effort to be more proactive at the suggestion of Jim Swann and others on the Board. Jane increased 1000 Friends’ exposure in the press by joining Paul in responding to interview requests.

Vivian oversaw a major redesign and upgrade in 1000 Friends’ website, rewriting and reorganizing all the materials. The site is better looking, more contemporary and more accessible. Vivian edited and published the most recent annual report, which covered 18 months because of 1000 Friends’ switch in fiscal years, and the most recent newsletter. Vivian oversaw 1000 Friends’ messaging on its legal challenge and attempt to repeal House Bill 7103, and its public education campaign on M-CORES. Vivian has been continuing to organize and present our free webinars, which have been well attended.

Toni has been organizing and executing our year-end appeal, now underway. It is already producing good results in contributions. She has also been working with our auditors.

Paul has been serving as a member of the M-CORES Northern Turnpike Connector task force, and working with 1000 Friends’ other representatives on the task forces, Andrew Dickman (Southwest-Central Florida Connector) and Thomas Hawkins (Suncoast Connector). (Florida’s Sunshine Law does not prevent their collaboration.) Paul and Vivian worked with our partners at the University of Florida to produce maps showing critical resources at risk in the M-CORES corridors in time for our November webinar, a project funded by a generous contribution from Tim Jackson.

1000 Friends is working with the same partners at UF on a proposal for another 2070 report on the impact of sea level rise, and has received a tentative, $50,000 commitment from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, half of the project’s projected cost. 1000 Friends’ role will be to publish a report based on the work and disseminate it to the press and the public.

Jane and Paul planned and presented another pair of county 2070 workshops in St. Johns County in November. They used maps and statistics for the future growth and development trends in the county produced by the University of Florida. Attendance at the two events exceeded 150 people. The workshops epitomize 1000 Friends’ role as a discussion leader on growth management issues. Attendees were invited to rate the county’s performance and the importance to them of a number of categories related to public services and quality of life. Paul provided further details on the planning and cost of workshops in response to Jim, who suggested we prepare a price list to propose to other
counties for future workshops. Paul, Jane and the board discussed strategies for engaging local workshop sponsors. Paul also said he had met with the mayor of Orange County to discuss a possible workshop. Jim said concern is growing about damage to the state from growth, making it a good time for 1000 Friends to propose and conduct county workshops.

Paul participated in a widely covered news conference marking the fifth anniversary of the passage of Amendment 1. Paul also noted a letter of appreciation from the mayor of Jupiter Island for 1000 Friends’ leading role in a campaign that persuaded the Governor and Cabinet to reject a petition that could have allowed more intense development from Harmony Ranch in western Martin County. Susan said her firm is defending Martin County in a suit filed by the developer.

Communications Update – Vivian Young

Vivian said 1000 Friends has hosted seven webinars in 2019 with 2,871 attendees, exceeding total attendance in 2018 with one webinar still to come for the year. Webinars for the first half of 2020 are set up and open for registration, with details still to be filled in for January and May. The subject of the March webinar is a planner and economist, Joe Minicozzi, who has done work throughout Florida and around the country. He will be speaking on how much more fiscally sustainable compact urban development is than sprawl. He normally charges $6,500 for presentations, but is doing ours pro bono.

Vivian said the website design update is almost complete, with just a few tweaks remaining. It’s a new system that will allow simultaneous updates for multiple platforms — desktops, tablets, phones. It replaces an eight-year-old system. It will allow Vivian to make many changes and updates, rather than rely on our design firm for them, which will mean big cost savings.

On M-CORES, Vivian has taken the lead on communications and outreach to avoid any conflicts from Paul, Andrew and Thomas serving on the task forces. Vivian has established an extensive M-CORES section on our website, with pages for each of the corridors and links to Florida Department of Transportation pages with more information. Our M-CORES section also includes maps highlighting environmental assets in each of the corridors. The maps were prepared by our partners at the University of Florida, and the cost was covered through a generous donation from Tim Jackson. Our November webinar focused on M-CORES and attracted 350 attendees. Vivian has sent numerous email alerts encouraging people to attend task force meetings, and posted information and articles on the subject regularly on our social media platforms. Vivian also has been working with Tim and Vicki on M-CORES op-eds, and Paul has been working with Lee Constantine on one. Vicki praised Vivian’s leadership on M-CORES, noting that other groups are relying on 1000 Friends for information.

Vivian has been supporting Paul and Jane in their efforts to repeal or amend House Bill 7103, and worked with Board members and staff on op-eds.

Vivian is working with Paul and Jane to monitor the Legislature by managing and regularly updating our database of bills. She is working with them to plan and execute legislative alerts.

Vivian and Paul have been working with Timothee Sallin to help organize his OUTSIDE Collaborative 2020 Workshop. Vivian has agreed to apply for professional certification credits for attorneys, planner, certified floodplain managers and others.

Timothee gave a short explanation of the workshop, and its goal of promoting collaboration and best practices to achieve more sustainable landscaping by reducing its environmental cost. It is a two-day event, scheduled for April 23-24, in Clermont. Timothee said he hopes the effort might lead to improvement of local landscaping codes and ordinances, and spur the use of more sustainable plant
varieties. Andrew said he had worked on an ordinance for St. Pete Beach that would give local staff more leeway to approve landscapes with more ground cover and less grass. Susan said the workshop is “perfectly aligned” with 1000 Friends’ mission.

Vivian said 1000 Friends received a $20,000 grant from the Martin Foundation to fund an analysis of Collier County’s Rural Land Stewardship Area. Thomas did the analysis, and Vivian presented it through a newsletter article and a new section on our website.

Vivian reported on her effort to encourage donations through Giving Tuesday. Multiple emails and Facebook appeals have raised at least $700.

Policy/Legal Update – Jane West

Jane updated the status of our lawsuit against HB 7103, a two-count constitutional challenge filed on September 13. The defendants have filed a motion to dismiss, with a hearing set in February. Joe Little, one of the lawyers assisting us on the case, has recommended a third count — alleging a free speech violation — because one of the counts, based on violating the constitution’s single-subject rule, will be moot when the Legislature convenes. The third count, which could be addressed in federal court, will make the case more likely to survive. The amended complaint will be filed by the end of the week.

Jane explained the other part of our strategy to repair the damage done by HB 7103 is legislative. She said an outright repeal of the law in the Legislature is unlikely. Based on a suggestion from a legislator skeptical of repeal, Jane will draft language targeting frivolous development order challenges.

On our joining an amicus brief supporting Maggy Hurchalla in her appeal of her $4.4 million SLAPP verdict, Jane said the lawyer writing the brief, Gary Oldehoff, is still assembling a coalition of supporting groups. Susan said there is no deadline to file the brief until the Supreme Court agrees to review the case. Jane said 1000 Friends reserves the right not to sign the brief if we don’t approve of its content.

Jane provided details of her advocacy for 1000 Friends on local issues, usually in response to appeals from citizens or local organizations. 1000 Friends is working with other groups opposed to a proposal to expand Miami’s urban expansion areas. Susan warned that the homebuilders promoting expansion are presenting it as an affordable housing initiative, and will be able to assemble a nontraditional coalition supporting it. In Hillsborough County, Jane responded to an appeal for help to protect the historic city of Wimauma by testifying in favor of a 9-month moratorium on development. In Pasco County, Jane responded to an appeal from a local citizen and spoke to 120 people opposed to a comprehensive plan amendment about procedures for amending the plan. In Bay County, Jane responded to an appeal from citizens concerned about damage to a freshwater dune lake, but was unable to find a sponsor for a bill to restore the lake. In St. Johns County, Jane and Paul conducted two 2070 workshops, and plan to present their finding to the County Commission. In Sumter County, Jane accepted an invitation to speak to a private gathering of about 40 citizens concerned about the expansion of The Villages. Multiple political candidates attended. Jane also detailed numerous appearances she has made since joining the staff. That includes presentations to county legislative delegations and an upcoming event promoting Florida Forever at Fish Island, property purchased with funding from the program.

Fundraising Update – Toni Russell

Toni provided an update on our year-end appeal, a three-month process that began in August. All the letters have been sent, with more letters – 7,100 – mailed than ever before. About half the mailings, some 3,000, went to prospects. We also made 35 new foundation grant requests, and renewed requests to 17 foundations that have supported before. Paul praised the inserts included in the mailings
that Toni custom-designed for members and prospects in different parts of the state. Susan also complimented the approach of showing our knowledge and concern for issues particular to different parts of the state.

Toni said our final total from our spring appeal was $129,846, higher than the $110,000 we projected. We received a $10,000 grant from the Weiler Foundation, identified through our Palm Beach prospect list. Toni said those lists, now three years old, are starting to produce results. Prospects receive all of our written materials. Toni thanked Tim Jackson for facilitating a $7,500 gift from Weyerhaeuser, and updated the board on our efforts to obtain grants from several foundations. We received a notification from the Sara Sinclair Ellenburg Trust that 1000 Friends has been designated for half her estate. Toni said a conservative projection from the trust is $700,000. A Hobe Sound resident also informed us that they would be naming 1000 Friends in their will. Toni also noted that a resident of Windsor in Vero Beach, Estelle Brashears, had offered to host a luncheon for 1000 Friends. We have been cultivating this relationship for three years.

Toni said our revenue total for this year is running behind last year’s, but last year’s totals were boosted by unique and unusual gifts following the passing of Nathaniel Reed. If those gifts are not counted, we are actually running ahead of last year. Toni said the year-end goal is $207,500, and we have received $70,000 so far, but it is early in the campaign. Last year our year-end appeal reached $246,760, and one of those gifts was an unexpected $30,000 gift. There was an extended discussion of fundraising strategies involving Toni, Jane, Paul, Jim, Andrew and Vicki.

Budget and Status – Paul Owens

Paul directed Board members to page 49 of the board packet, where the update on revenues collected through October 31, 2019 shows a $25,000 surplus over the budgeted projection. Paul then directed members to page 50, where the operating expenses for the period are running about $2,600 below budget. Page 51 shows that we are nearly $70,000 in expenses over revenue through Oct. 31, but Paul said we are in the “trough” between spring appeal and year-end appeal revenues, and our budget actually projected we would be more than $100,000 in expenses over revenues at this point. Paul said our overall outlook is better than projected. In response to a question from Susan, Paul said we are running over budget in printing and copying, because we published both an annual report and a newsletter within the first four months of the current fiscal year. We are also over budget on accounting, reflecting our ongoing audit. Paul said expenses in both categories should drop during the rest of the year and come closer to what is budgeted. Timothee requested an explanation of a negative $14,510 in “cash flows from investing activities, property, plant and equipment.”

2020 Legislative Agenda

Paul said we expect to follow dozens of bills covering a wide range of issues during the session, but we decided to streamline our priorities to just three: full funding for Florida Forever, a crackdown on water pollution and a repeal of the Brandes amendment to HB 7103. Paul and Jane attended, together or separately, 10 county legislative delegation meetings to deliver our priorities. Paul said the appearances were intended to leave an impression of our organization and us with legislators and with the public attending the meeting. Jim asked us to add reused water to the list of pollution sources we are tracking during the upcoming session. Paul complimented Vivian for sharing our priorities with our followers and urging them to echo them in their own appeals to legislators.

Lee Constantine reported on meetings he and Paul conducted with Senator Tom Lee and Senate President Bill Galvano, calling them encouraging. Lee explained his role in overseeing the planning and construction of the Wekiva Parkway to Galvano, and the critical differences in the process with M-
CORES. Lee also advocated using bonding authority for Florida Forever. Susan said meetings with legislative leaders should be a permanent addition to the calendar.

**M-CORES Update**

Paul gave an update on meetings of the task forces evaluating the environmental impact of the three authorized toll roads. Paul, Andrew and former Policy and Planning Director Thomas Hawkins are representing 1000 Friends on those task forces. Florida Department of Transportation officials recently decided to add two meetings to the schedule for the task forces, in part because of questions raised by Andrew and Thomas. Paul said virtually all the members of the public who have addressed the task forces have criticized the plan to build the roads. Andrew said he thinks FDOT staff is struggling to carry out their assignment to oversee and complete the task force agenda, and task force members are not necessarily getting satisfactory answers to their questions regarding the need for the roads. Andrew told FDOT staff that a minority report should be possible for dissenting task force members, and a no-build recommendation, and was told by the staff those options would be available. Andrew noted that FDOT staff regularly liken the M-CORES process to the Wekiva process. Lee cited the differences: The Wekiva process was set up with the mission of protecting the resource being as primary as building the road. The task force recommendations were delivered before the law was passed, not after. The law authorizing the Wekiva Parkway required that sensitive lands be publicly purchased and protected from development before construction could begin. Vicki proposed we do an analysis of the law that authorized M-CORES and compare it to practices of the task forces, highlighting where the task force process has not been following the law. Paul reported that 1000 Friends had been invited to join the No Roads to Ruin Coalition. Jim said it was premature to be taking that position at this stage in the process. Vicki said our role is to make FDOT do a better job of thoroughly evaluating the impact of the roads.

**Webinar Hack Update**

Vivian reported on her efforts with our webinar provider to investigate a flood of fake email addresses that filled up registration to a recent webinar. The provider, Go-To-Webinar, refused on privacy grounds to provide information on the source of those addresses. Our computer provider, Absolute, gave us an estimate of $1,500 to do a comprehensive security assessment to identify vulnerabilities in our computer system, though not our website. Vicki said the assessment must be done because it is essential that our system be safe. She said if we have any additional problems with our webinars, we will need to find a new provider.

**Further Board Discussion**

On our messaging in opposition to HB 7103, Jane said she would emphasize during the upcoming legislative session that the law poses a huge liability for local governments, and their taxpayers, when those governments deny a development order and are sued by the developer. Lee asked for that information to be shared with the Association of Counties and the League of Cities, and he would emphasize it in his role as vice president of the AOC. Susan cautioned that the law is unclear on liability for local governments, and she wouldn’t want developers seeking attorney fees from local governments to cite 1000 Friends’ interpretation.

Vivian complimented Vivian, Toni, Jane and Paul for their teamwork, and invited other board members to do so.

Staff was adjourned and executive session began with Paul in attendance.

Paul departed the executive session which continued until adjournment at 2 p.m.
1000 Friends of Florida
Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting
March 26, 2020
2:00pm – 5:00pm
Via conference call

2:00 p.m.  Meeting Convened – Roll Call

On Phone:  Board: Chair Susan Trevarthen, Vicki Tschinkel, Jake Varn, Courtney Cunningham, Timothee Sallin, Tim Jackson, Andrew Dickman, Lee Constantine, Jim Swann
Emeritus: Lester Abberger
Staff: Paul Owens, Toni Russell, Jane West, Vivian Young, Haley Busch

Welcome and Introductions; Purpose of Meeting
Susan thanked everyone for making time during this uncertain time and acknowledged that the report reflects a strong and resilient organization. She noted the organization may face some duress but thinks we can withstand it thanks to the foundation set by Vicki’s and Paul’s leadership. Susan inquired into the health and wellbeing of each board and staff member’s family.

Introduction of Outreach Director
Paul introduced Haley, complimented her work with the FCC and explained part of her focus will be reaching out to a new generation of followers of 1000 Friends. Lee complimented Haley’s ability to coordinate FCC Steering Committee members and the member organizations. Haley talked about her interest in environmental advocacy work and her excitement to join the 1000 Friends of Florida team.

Board Action and Discussion

ACTION: Approve meeting minutes from December 3, 2019
• Susan asked for a motion to approve. Motion made, seconded and unanimously approved.

Financial Report/Further Board Action

Investment Policy
Paul explained the investment policy: This plan would put reserves in higher interest earning investments. Paul worked with Toni and Jeannie Scruggs, 1000 Friends’ accountant. He shared the preliminary draft with our Treasurer, Tim Jackson. Paul said there are layers of accountability and approval for any investment and it is a more financially prudent approach for reserve funds than a traditional low-interest bank account.
Vivian recalled that the existing designated short-term reserve fund was established by the board with the policy that it would be used for cash-flow problem situations only. She wondered if the old language from this policy could be pulled into the new investment policy. Tim suggested modifying the purpose under the short-term reserve fund policy to be more specific, to indicate that we intend to always have an amount that’s adequate to meet our cash-flow needs before any money would flow to the long-term fund.

**ACTION:** Review/approve investment policy
- Tim moved to approve the investment policy with the refinement to the statement of purpose of the short-term reserve fund to be clear that it is primarily to meet adequate cash-flow needs of the organization. Vicki seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

**Audit Report**
Paul explained that 1000 Friends received a clean bill of health in its most recent audit, just as it did in the prior two audits. A technical recommendation was made in the latest audit to adjust the way we handle restricted funds. Another recommendation was that we adopt an investment policy. Both recommendations have been followed. Susan and Tim thanked everyone involved with the audit process.

**ACTION:** Review/approve audit report for 2018-2019 budget year
- Lester moved to approve; Vicki seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

**Coronavirus discussion**
Paul discussed the impacts of the coronavirus crisis on 1000 Friends of Florida and presented the staff’s plan to suspend the spring fundraising appeal. He explained that moving forward with a “business-as-usual approach” might come across as insensitive. As a contingency plan, a letter from Paul will be inserted in the spring newsletters that were already slated to go out, expressing concern for the well-being of recipients. A donation envelope is already included in the newsletters, and, paired with the letter from Paul, is a subtle reminder for those who want to donate, without having to ask directly.

Paul described the rest of staff’s plans for responding to the crisis, including sending an email with a video of Paul expressing our concern for them and laying out our organization’s responses, engaging with followers on social media and adding a distance-learning materials webpage. Paul concluded by noting that we will continue to monitor the crisis with the next major milestone being the year-end fundraising appeal.

Susan expressed her support for the decision not to move forward with the spring appeal. Vicki encouraged Paul and the board to prepare for various income scenarios and to discuss potentially necessary financial steps. Paul offered to add this as an item for the next board meeting agenda in June.
Advocacy and Activities

Overview – Paul Owens
Paul summarized the activities of other staff members, highlighting Toni’s work on the 2019 year-end appeal which exceeded the budgeted goal by well over $100,000. Jane ran the legislative committee meetings, provided first-rate testimony on legislation, and lobbied successfully to prevent the reckless expansion of the Bert Harris Act. Vivian spearheaded the letter in January for Susan to sign that highlighted the flaws in the M-CORES planning process and drafted M-CORES op-eds. Haley led the initiative for the distance-learning materials for kids and parents and got a start on planning the two Brevard 2070 events before they were postponed. The next milestone in the M-CORES campaign is a statistical analysis detailing how much of each corridor is made up of critical environmental assets.

Paul met with the FDACS Director of the Office of Energy to discuss the funding for the Sea Level 2070 report, and was told the funding was coming. Now with budgets in question, this could change. Paul said if the funding does come through, 1000 Friends will focus on lining up the additional funds to cover costs that would not be included in the FDACS funding, including staff time and materials to edit and disseminate the report.

Paul, Andrew Dickman, and Thomas Hawkins delivered presentations on growth management at the APA Conference in Bonita Springs. Andrew offered an interesting paradigm for the future of growth management in Florida. Paul would like to set up a committee to explore this further at our next board meeting.

Fundraising Update - Toni Russell
Toni has been focusing on starting the spring appeal which was just ready to go to print when the pandemic picked up and decision was made to put the appeal on hold. She would like to give prospective donors the chance to self-identify for estate-gifts, and would like to incorporate this into our newsletter, websites, wherever appropriate.

Toni shared that she was contacted by trustees of the Sarah Sinclair Ellenberg Trust. 1000 Friends is slated to receive a contribution between $800,000 and $1 million. After the first distribution, we might see another $100,000-$300,000. Sarah Sinclair Ellenberg gave regularly to 1000 Friends, but this estate gift was unanticipated. Toni said she would like to get a better understanding of our donor base in order to prospect and get to know those in the database. Toni will check to see if there are restrictions on how to use the money. Toni was also contacted by someone from the Ford Family Estate for information regarding adding 1000 Friends in their will.

Jim suggested we start thinking about longer-term types of investments. Vivian suggested setting up an endowment. Vicki and Paul concurred that this should be added as a topic for discussion at the June meeting. In the meantime, Toni, Vicki, Jim and anyone else who would like to be engaged on this will discuss.
Toni reviewed page 24 of the board packet, the data from the dashboard. The year-end appeal yielded $320,670 and was more than 56% over our goal and 32% over the year end appeal for 2018. Gifts are continuing to increase. Although there has been a large reliance on Hobe Sound donors, it is being shifted now to other parts of the state and donors, a sign 1000 Friends is diversifying its support. Giving trends across the U.S. are declining, which we are seeing for Hobe Sound donors. However, the number of gifts to 1000 Friends is going up. Toni thanked Vicki and the board for their generosity and support. Tim thanked Toni for the data analysis. Vicki concurred and appreciates Toni looking ahead to major gifts.

Policy/Legal Update – Jane West
Jane thanked Jake for his guidance through her first legislative session as a registered lobbyist. In January, oral arguments were heard for Walton County case where 1000 Friends filed an amicus brief. There isn’t a ruling yet. Jane noted this is an important decision because it could have a narrowing effect on the basis for consistency challenges. Jane updated the board on the Maggy Hurchalla case and said we are still waiting to learn if Florida Supreme Court will take up the appeal.

Regarding House Bill 7103 litigation, Jane reported that the State of Florida and Department of Economic Opportunity filed motions to dismiss our initial complaint. Since then, 1000 Friends amended the complaint, and added a new plaintiff, Robert Howell, who, in June of last year, had to dismiss his case against Pasco County, a development order challenge on mining operation adjacent to residential use. Howell dismissed out of fear that he would be hit with prevailing party attorney fees as a result of the passage of HB 7103. Jane said this is the first and only case she’s aware of where this has happened. She also amended the complaint to add a count challenging the law’s federal constitutionality with the thought that we might end up in federal court. The hearing is now set for June 3rd.

Jane reported on her activities working with the Florida Conservation Coalition on a letter to DEP regarding the rulemaking process on the state assumption of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Public hearings were set for April 2nd, but due to coronavirus, were canceled, and DEP proposed webinars instead. The FCC letter asked for postponement of the public webinar process due to concerns that this method is not the same as a public hearing. Jane thanked Vicki for her help in the drafting process.

Jane has continued to receive phone calls from individuals and organizations across Florida seeking 1000 Friends’ support and expertise on local issues. In Escambia County, there are citizens who challenged the county’s comprehensive plan and Jane continues to advise these residents. Jane was elected to the advisory board for the Guardians of Martin County and Paul noted that this role is one step removed from the actual working board. Jane has been involved in the Free the Ocklawaha River Coalition as a member of the legal and policy committee. Haley, Paul and Jane attended a screening event held by this organization in Tallahassee. In Walton County, Jane assisted concerned citizens with obtaining public records from the Walton County Planning Department regarding proposed developments adjacent to the Coastal Dune Lakes. Jane has participated in many speaking engagements, attended conferences and
multiple webinars, and spoke to the entire Florida Bar Association and attorneys nationwide. Vicki thanked Jane for being readily available to participate in all these events.

Communications Update – Vivian Young
Vivian reviewed some of the highlights from her board report and shared that we had 3,339 attendees of webinars in 2019 with an average of 418 per webinar, an increase from the year before. In March, a national speaker (Joe Minicozzi of Urban 3 Consulting in Asheville, North Carolina) provided a different way to look at development and how local governments generate revenue from land use planning. Vivian noted that he was interested in doing a free webinar with us each year. The May webinar will provide an update and long-term educational tool on the growth management process.

Vivian thanked Andrew Dickman and Thomas Hawkins for being sounding boards throughout the M-CORES process. Vivian alerted members that the Department of Transportation was considering holding the upcoming meetings online. She raised another concern — whether the M-CORES project is the best possible use of state taxpayer dollars amid the economic crisis resulting from the COVID pandemic. Vivian worked with Susan and others on the letter to DOT and put important issues on the record. Vivian is drafting the fourth primer and has a few other specific ones related to the M-CORES process coming up.

Vivian was very busy during legislative session updating the website on a daily basis at times, creating and sending action alerts and editorial board memos. She said she enjoys the new website platform and has been spending time consolidating pages and sharpening it up as a whole. Vivian worked with Tim Sallin on developing the Outside 2020 webinar after the conference was postponed due to COVID. Vivian continued working with Paul on the Sea Level 2070 project and is still hopeful to receive funding for the project. Tim thanked Vivian for the continued great work on all the communications, particularly the M-CORES content she has taken the lead on.

Andrew commented on his experience as M-CORES task force member that it is becoming clear the task forces are not there to accomplish much. He suggested that we begin thinking about a legal defense fund and strategy. Susan thinks it would be tone deaf if lawmakers insist on doubling down on money going to the construction sector while the tourism and hospitality sectors have been heavily affected. Vicki agreed with Andrew that it is not too early to talk about a legal strategy. Jake said he would like to learn more about what each task force is doing or not doing and try to determine legally what each are required to do and what legal tools can be used to make sure they do the right thing. Jim thinks the state is going to be hard pressed to pay bills going forward, and turnpike revenues will likely go down along with other revenues. Jake agreed and said this could be one of the things we start working on now for the next legislative session and to include in our list of priorities. Jim noted that a lot of the things we believe in, i.e. conservation land purchases, will be on the chopping block.

Outreach Update – Haley Busch
Haley began with 1000 Friends in January and has been spending time familiarizing herself with the organization’s ongoing work and learning about past programs and advocacy efforts. She is
taking on the 2070 workshops beginning with Brevard 2070, originally scheduled for the end of April. 1000 Friends is working with the Brevard Indian River Lagoon Coalition and other diverse community stakeholders in planning two workshops to discuss growth management and quality of life topics within Brevard County. She has contacts for collaboration on 2070 events in Volusia and Marion County, but will be waiting to see how the pandemic situation unfolds before planning any additional events.

Haley is supervising a University of Florida student intern who has been helping us research messaging for upcoming Sea Level 2070 project, as well as assisting with tracking and summarizing sea level-related comprehensive plan amendments. She will continue interning with us through the summer. Haley attended the Florida Gulf Coast Cela Tega conference as a speaker, provided comment at the Florida Wildlife Conservation Commission’s Harmful Algal Bloom Task Force meeting and intends to help provide testimony at future agency public meetings on behalf of 1000 Friends. Haley attended events in Palm Beach County with Paul, who presented 1000 Friends’ work to homeowner groups. Haley attended a Florida Wildlife Corridor “friendraiser” at a brewery in St. Petersburg which got her thinking about creative outreach events 1000 Friends could host that will diversify our audience. She will continue to work on this idea and brainstorm outreach events. Haley encouraged board members to contact her with any creative outreach ideas they may have for 1000 Friends.

2020 Legislative Review
Jane chaired the legislative committee and worked closely with Paul and Vivian on coordinating strategy throughout the session. Vivian authored a steady stream of alerts to our followers, and Paul reported that we did have an impact on the passage and defeat of some bills. Paul referred to the Bert Harris expansion bill that Jane helped kill, noted her hard work on this issue. 1000 Friends sent a veto request letter for SB 410 to the Governor and Paul is hopeful that he will listen due to the number of organizations and Republican delegation members on our side. Paul reported on our positive impact on budgetary issues such as the decision to increase funding for Florida Forever and full funding for affordable housing.

Jane noted that SB 410 is still out there and thinks it was good timing that our veto request letter went out before COVID 19 began shutting things down. Jane expects the return of the Bert Harris expansion bill that we did kill, as it has been pushed by Representative James Grant. This bill did not define “similarly situated,” which would affect local government coffers and open Florida up to more speculation. Jane noted that in preparing for the next legislative session we will need to work on how to soundly defeat this effort. Jane is concerned Florida Forever funding is at risk due to COVID 19’s effect on the budget.

Customary Use Beach Access
This issue of limits on public access to the beach began as a Walton County issue but is really spreading around the state and becoming an issue in Southwest Florida. Andrew referred to the 2018 House Bill 631 that passed and was met with controversy. It predominantly focused on the Panhandle area and local governments passing ordinances dealing with customary use, closely related to prescriptive easement. After signing, Governor Scott backpedaled and ordered his administration not to enforce it. Andrew noted that approximately half or more of
the coastline has been in private or semi-private hands; beach access will become limited to few people, and the general public will not be able to access Florida’s beaches. Andrew posed this topic to the board to gauge whether this is of interest to 1000 Friends. Jane said she thinks it is a relevant quality of life issue and is something we could make a priority and get a sponsor for a bill on expanding beach access. Paul mentioned there have been a couple bills since HB 631’s passage to repeal it that did not gain traction. He thinks we would need to get a Republican Senator as a sponsor. Susan thanked Andrew for outlining the issue and said this is not a statewide issue, because there are few areas that are affected by this issue in southeast Florida. Susan thinks it is an appropriate issue for 1000 Friends, but it is varied across the state. Jake questioned the constitutionality of this statute, noting that ownership is vested in the power of the circuit court, and wondered if anyone is challenging the law. Andrew does believe it is a statewide issue, the ability to traverse up and down a beach should be an entitlement. Jake asked what happens when areas that historically have been used by the public disappear due to sea level rise. Susan said there’s longstanding case law that establishes the public’s right to the beach, and she thinks the issue is “on-brand” for 1000 Friends. She suggested finding a Republican Senator to focus on the issue to repeal the 2018 law before considering litigation. Andrew and Jane will work on this issue.

**Budget and Status – Paul Owens**

Paul noted an out-of-date item on page 65 of the board report: The checking account balance is closer to $210,000, with $400,000 in the short-term reserve account. Paul noted that we have exceeded last year’s expenses in operating and personnel costs because of bonuses approved by the board and two months of having a new employee. On other costs and direct project costs, Paul noted we are slightly under our budget. Overall, we are tracking closely to our budget.

The Florida Conservation Coalition began its fiscal year with $9,300 and adopted a transition plan after Haley’s departure as administrator. It has hired an intern who has a maximum of 60 hours per month and will be able to carry on with the intern even if funding hasn’t been identified for the second half of the year. Paul noted that Senator Graham is working on fundraising.

**Board Meeting Schedule for 2020**

Paul noted the intention of meeting in-person in Fort Lauderdale in June but recognized this might not happen and will prepare to host via Zoom conference call. He has accumulated some items for the June agenda and the board will be approving the budget for the next fiscal year.

No further board discussion. Staff was adjourned and executive session began with Paul in attendance.

*Paul departed the executive session which continued until adjournment at 2:00pm.*
1000 Friends of Florida  
Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting  
June 22, 2020  
9:00am – 12:00pm  
Via Zoom videoconference call 

9:00 a.m. Meeting Convened – Roll Call 

On Zoom:  
**Board:** Chair Susan Trevarthen, Vicki Tschinkel, Jake Varn, Courtney Cunningham, Timothee Sallin, Tim Jackson, Andrew Dickman, Lee Constantine, Jim Swann Mark Watts, Greg Barnhart  
**Emeritus:** Lester Abberger  
**Staff:** Paul Owens, Toni Russell, Jane West, Vivian Young, Haley Busch 

Welcome and Introductions; Purpose of Meeting 

9:05 a.m.  
Susan inquired about everyone’s wellbeing. 

Response to current events, including pandemic and protests – Paul, Board, Staff 
Paul noted that this has been an eventful period of time and 1000 Friends has responded in several ways. On Susan’s suggestion, we sent an appeal to our followers, encouraging them to support their neighbors and other nonprofits amid the pandemic. We released a statement about meaningful public participation in hearings during the pandemic. There have been many examples around the state of citizens not getting the type of participation options or input they deserve. Finally, Susan, Courtney, Vivian and Paul consulted, and we released a response to the death of George Floyd and the national protests that followed. We wanted to answer why we felt compelled to make a statement at this time, and also, how this issue has to deal with planning and our mission. Paul noted his participation in regular conference calls convened by Smart Growth America who recently circulated a spreadsheet with organizations and links to their statements on social equity. As of June 11, there were 28 smart growth organizations including us that have weighed in. 

Board action and discussion  
**ACTION: Approve/modify meeting minutes March 26, 2020** 
Vicki Tschinkel moved to approve meeting minutes from the March board meeting, Timothy Sallin seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. 

Advocacy and Activities  
- **Overview: Paul Owens** 
Paul updated the board on our application and approval for a paycheck protection program loan. Toni and Jeannie worked together on the application and we received $62,000 which covered a couple months of payroll. We fulfilled the program requirements of maintaining our
payroll and are eligible to have the full balance forgiven. Paul noted we applied for the program because of our decision to suspend the spring fundraising appeal.

Paul highlighted the recent increased success of our webinars and an increase in attendance; a possible result of the pandemic. Paul credited the success of the webinars to Vivian’s organization, marketing and presentation. In April over 836 people attended a webinar, followed by another highly attended webinar in May, with 760 in attendance.

Paul provided an update on our M-CORES public education campaign and described a set of primers that will come out soon. Paul also updated the board on 1000 Friends’ three task force members’ strategy calls. The Sunshine Law allows coordination among members of different task forces. Paul thanked Vivian for her initiative coordinating the strategy meetings and noted the amount of references to our public information campaign on M-CORES.

Paul shared that we have received about $30,000 in donations from a letter included in the spring newsletter. This was Toni’s idea as an alternative to our spring appeal, which we decided to suspend due to the pandemic. Paul shared that we have received the $1.1 million we were expecting from the Sarah Sinclair Ellenburg Trust and will learn soon if we will be receiving an additional amount. In accordance with our investment policy ratified in March, we have put that money in laddered certificates of deposit, fully insured, in increments of $250,000 or less and ready to be put in higher-yield investments once we work out the details of our investment strategy.

Paul thanked Jane for her efforts putting together a pro bono legal team for the HB 7103 appeal.

Paul shared details about tomorrow night’s St. Johns County 2070 webinar, which will cover policy responses and county-specific growth management topics based on input received from citizens during last November’s two workshops in St. Johns County. Paul noted that there are over 200 people registered, far more than we would have been able to accommodate in-person. He cited this as an example of how adaptation to the pandemic has provided unexpected benefits.

Paul shared news from the Department of Agriculture confirming the $100,000 in funding for the University of Florida to do a Sea Level 2070 study that will examine the impact of sea level rise on agriculture, land use and population migration. This will be another signature report that will go along with the Florida 2070/ Water 2070 project.

Paul and Susan worked on a published op-ed calling for the Governor to veto funding for M-CORES in the next budget. In April, Greg and Paul worked on a published op-ed about Maggy Hurchalla’s appeal being turned down by the Florida Supreme Court. Paul provided brief updates on additional advocacy areas and referenced his report for further details.
Paul worked closely with Jake Varn on submitting a letter commenting on the latest five-year water supply plan update for the Central Florida Water Initiative. Paul also asked Haley to submit a letter to the Governor and Cabinet asking them to support the full Florida Forever acquisitions list on their agenda.

- **Fundraising update – Toni Russell**
  Toni provided an update on our budget: despite not having a spring appeal, we are now at $626,000, which is over our budgeted amount by $93,000. We are $12,824 below what we reached last year in fundraising. The year-end appeal ended up at $327,825; $104,000 of that was the President’s appeal, and $223,000 came from Hobe Sound, our biggest revenue generator. The President’s appeal amount this year was $50,000 more than what we normally receive from the year-end, meaning we are easing our reliance upon Hobe Sound donors. Toni noted this is a good sign of diversifying our funding base.

  Toni explained the decision to postpone the spring appeal and instead inserted an appeal letter into the spring newsletter. This has yielded $32,400, surpassing Toni’s goal of $30,000.

  Toni shared the decision to launch a summer fundraising effort that will also involve surveying donors to learn more about their demographics, what motivates them to give and what other organizations they give to. This survey is slated to go out in July.

  Toni worked on the Payroll Protection Program loan with Jeannie over the past couple of months. Toni is continuing to work on increasing estate giving.

  Toni referenced the fundraising dashboard and called attention to the donor categories. The major donors ($5,000 or more) give us 65% of all our funds. Major donors give the largest portion of our funding, which is typical of most organizations.

  Tim Jackson highlighted the fact that we are $20,000 higher than our expenses for this past fiscal year, thanked the board members and staff for the work that everyone has done.

- **Policy/legal update – Jane West**
  Following the Governor’s emergency order to shut down public meetings due to the pandemic, Jane began tracking how local governments were responding to the pandemic and found many disparities in how citizens were able to participate in public meetings. Jane sent letters to city and county attorneys and commissioners across the state reminding them that the quasi-judicial process and quasi-legislative process for comprehensive plan amendments requires public engagement. Paul and Jane discussed having a general platform position on this because it is difficult to track jurisdictions across the state.

  Jane shared a few legislative wins from the 2020 session, including the Governor’s approval of SB 178 which prohibits any state-financed construction projects in coastal areas without first conducting a sea level rise impact projection study. The Uniform Partition of Heirs Property Act, SB 580, also passed, making it easier for families to keep lands intact, in conservation and less
vulnerable to real estate speculators. Jane spearheaded the defeat of House Bill 519, which would have allowed private property takings claims under the Bert Harris Act to apply to any similarly situated properties. Jane’s contact in the Governor’s Office has advised the Governor to veto SB 410, and Jane noted the significant opposition to this bill thanks to the lobbying efforts of 1000 Friends and allies.

Jane was elected to the board of the Everglades Coalition, a contested race for an organization with many “heavy hitters” involved from environmental organizations across the state. The Coalition had a legal challenge against a road project that would have expanded State Road 836 in Miami Dade County. Jane supported it on behalf of 1000 Friends, since maintaining the urban boundary aligns with our philosophical values on such issues.

Jane weighed in on a proposed wastewater treatment facility in Martin County at the request of the Guardians of Martin County. She is a new board member for the Guardians and has been advocating on growth management topics and met with the incoming Martin County Growth Management Director.

Jane is working with the Free the Ocklawaha River Coalition (FORCE) and University of Florida law professor Joe Little on drafting proposed legislation for the removal of Rodman Dam for the upcoming legislative session.

In St. Johns County, Jane responded to a Board of County Commission decision to waive all public notice requirements for land use changes. Jane met with the chairman of the commission, Jeb Smith, to discuss getting a ten-minute presentation before the commission to share the findings from November’s 2070 workshops. Jane noted that pushback from County Commissioners and local developers has been significant.

Jane briefed the board on a proposal in Sumter County for nearly 60,000 dwelling units by The Villages, a significant population increase in a rural part of the county. The group Jane has been in contact with has retained Robert Hartsell and will be filing a petition for writ of certiorari. Jane provided an update on Maggy Hurchalla’s Supreme Court case. The court upheld the ruling by the fourth District Court of Appeals, meaning the verdict stands.

Jane has been very busy with the HB 7103 litigation. A hearing took place at the Leon County Circuit Court and the judge granted the Secretary of State and DEO’s motion to dismiss with prejudice without need to amend. Jane circulated a synopsis of the hearing to the legal advocacy committee, who unanimously decided that we should appeal. Jane noted this is a strategy decision going into the next legislative session, providing a carrot and stick approach, the litigation being the stick and the carrot being the legislative ask.

Jane participated in many speaking engagements and has been attending many webinars.

Tim Jackson asked if 1000 Friends should be advocating for local governments to include more virtual engagement elements into public meetings, moving away from antiquated procedures.
Jane agreed, noting that there are some jurisdictions getting the virtual engagement process right. Jane thinks these processes still need a little fine tuning to make sure the entire population of a jurisdiction can attend if they want to. Jim Swann asked if we should be creating a model ordinance or best practices guide recommending how to do these meetings rather than reacting to the ones that do it badly. Jane responded that we have a statement coming out that outlines the need for meaningful public participation. She noted that it is broader in nature and is meant to encourage meaningful public participation that might look different in each jurisdiction depending on each local government’s resources.

Board members briefly discussed the prospects for success of the HB 7103 appeal.

Susan commented on the virtual public engagement topic, noting the success of the meetings will depend on the capabilities of the staff. On quasi-judicial hearings, Susan’s firm has worked with a couple interested parties to record videos ahead of time and play them during the hearing. She noted that it’s more preparation, but she is in the camp believing that this should be a permanent feature in our public involvement process, and thinks Jim is right that there is a role for a best practices guide. Haley shared more information on the draft public participation statement, explaining that the first part is a general best practices section. The second part has specific examples of county and city government practices. Jane added that we are also including the Department of Administrative Hearing’s procedures for quasi-judicial hearings.

- **Communications update – Vivian Young**

Vivian updated the board on the success of the six webinars held this year, with more attendees so far than total number last year. We are on a summer hiatus from the regular webinar series and will plan the remainder of the webinars in July. Vivian coordinated the webinar for the Outside Collaborative conference that had to be postponed.

Susan and Paul published an op-ed on M-CORES in the South Florida Sun Sentinel, as did Tim Jackson on M-CORES in the Orlando Sentinel. Vivian chaired strategy calls on M-CORES with the task force members and staff and has been working on position statements on various items related to the project. Most recently, Vivian spent a lot of time on the citizen primers that build on data from the University of Florida study. Vivian has been drafting targeted op-eds based on the citizen primers and submitted one to the Tallahassee Democrat for the Suncoast Corridor.

Vivian has arranged for volunteer planners to analyze the comprehensive plans for counties within the M-CORES projected areas, so far having completed Levy, Dixie and Polk with others working on Citrus and Collier. FDOT appears to be under the impression that after the corridors have been decided, counties can bring comprehensive plans into compliance with M-CORES, which is not the intention for comprehensive plans.

Vivian has been spending a lot of time keeping the website updated, particularly the M-CORES section.
During the legislative session, Vivian’s primary engagement was in grassroots lobbying. We created a petition requesting a veto of SB 410 which currently has 4,509 signatures. Vivian noted this is getting a lot of coverage and we have a little over 12,000 emails to the Governor, most of them in opposition to SB 410. Other partner organizations have shared our petition and sent out alerts at our request.

Vivian continues to handle the Facebook page, with over 7,500 followers.

Vivian shared an update on the Sea Level 2070 project, noting there won’t be much work to show until the end of next year, but work will hopefully begin in July. It will require a lot of GIS analysis work and will be about a year before any outreach begins for it.

- **Outreach update – Haley Busch**

Haley thanked her colleagues for helping her ease into her position over the last six months and said she will continue to educate herself on 1000 Friends’ previous work. As Outreach Director, much of her focus is on expanding and strengthening our connections with organizations and individuals who might not traditionally be within the growth management camp. With the pandemic, her efforts have shifted from in-person tabling events to attending many more virtual webinars, presentations and conferences hosted by organizations she’d like to connect with. In May, Paul joined Haley in St. Petersburg to meet with former Florida House Representative Roger Wilson, sponsor of the first aquatic preserves legislation. He introduced Haley and Paul to members of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council. As an admirer of Nathaniel Reed, Mr. Wilson presented 1000 Friends with a framed newspaper clipping about Nat’s legacy.

Haley explained another focus in her role is to reach out to a younger generation of Floridians and will be presenting to a summer program hosted by Alachua Conservation Trust, the Young Leaders for Wild Florida. Haley also presented to Eckerd College students about environmental advocacy and will continue to pursue similar opportunities via Zoom and virtual conferences.

Haley shared the conclusions from meeting with the messaging committee and explained the shift to testimonial-style videos rather than promotional explainer videos. Haley will work with Toni on this, as there will be overlap between the development side of work, in addition to trying to attract new members. Haley will also be reviewing our pamphlets explaining growth management and the citizen’s participation guide. They need updating to reflect recent legislation. Haley will develop an educational and promotional campaign once they have been updated. Haley also continues to work on the distance learning resources.

Haley and Jane share management of the Instagram account. Haley added two themed posts per week, utilizing hashtags and tagging other organizations in order to spur views and “likes,” noting an increase in followers from 250 to 664 since March. Haley encouraged board members to send photos for the Instagram.
June 23 is the St. Johns County 2070 follow up webinar. This will be Haley’s first time hosting a webinar and she expects to use this format for future 2070 workshops. She noted Brevard County and Volusia County are currently being planned for the fall and is also in discussion with interested parties in Nassau and Marion counties.

Haley supported colleagues on the advocacy front by reaching out to conservation organizations to urge the Governor to veto SB 410. Haley also drafted a letter supporting the Florida Cabinet’s land acquisition projects for Florida Forever.

Haley continues to supervise our UF intern, who has agreed to continue her work for us through the summer. She is creating a literature review and summary report of sea level rise and climate change messaging resources, which will inform our initial work for the Sea Level 2070 project Vivian is leading.

Susan thanked Haley for her contributions to the team.

**Financial report/ Further Board action**

- **Current budget and status – Paul/Tim Jackson**
  - **ACTION: Approve hiring of investment manager**

Tim reminded the board that we adopted a set of investment policies. With the funding from the Ellenburg Trust now in the account, Tim called for a discussion about what we want that money to do for 1000 Friends. Vicki recommended a conversation about our goals, then the investment strategy will follow from whatever those goals are. She asked to hear any potential concerns about where the funds might be invested. She noted there are “green” funds we could consider.

Susan suggested the goal should not be to put the money into an operating account and spend it; other board members agreed. Jim proposed distributing to operations 4% of the average earnings of the trailing eight quarters, to even out returns, and distribute the quarterly performance, in order to balance. He suggested money be distributed toward innovative projects, not to support operating expenses, but would not have to be withdrawn every year. Vicki said she has served as a trustee on another board that has done well with a similar distribution plan; she, Tim Jackson and Lester Abberger concurred with Jim’s suggestion.

Paul suggested a subcommittee convene to put together an investment plan, something the board can review. He suggested presenting this formally to the board at a later date. Susan summarized the discussion thus far, sensing broad agreement on the goal of setting aside the funds but putting the growth to work at an amount of 4% per year and devoting it to nonroutine expenditures and novel programs. Vicki concurred but added that she thinks staff should have some input on the innovative proposal piece. Vicki also reiterated the need for discussion about whether to exclude certain investment options in favor of “green” investment funds. A discussion ensued among board members and staff about how to define those funds, and the merits of limiting investments to them.
Vivian suggested we seek green investment funds and consider using at least part of the Ellenburg trust for an endowment, which could stimulate other estate gifts. Jim clarified that he is suggesting a “board-designated endowment,” which means board has full control on spending. The board would first establish the amount of reserve funds needed to keep the organization “safe” through downturns, etc. Then it would take any additional funds available and put them in a board-designated fund, spending the income as the board determine.

Timothee Sallin, Vicki Tschinkel, Jim Swann, Tim Jackson, and Lester Abberger agreed to form a committee for further discussion. Tim Jackson will lead.

Lester Abberger had to leave the meeting due to a time conflict.

Mike Robinson (investment manager candidate) joined board call

Board members talked to Mike about his experience managing investments for nonprofits, his education and his background. Susan thanked Mike for his time and let him know the board will be forming a committee to discuss further investment steps.

- **ACTION: Approve/modify proposed 2020-21 budget**

  Paul presented our current financial situation and explained how the 2020-2021 budget was configured. Staff went through the budget and went line item by line item to identify recurring costs and costs that we don’t anticipate recurring in the next fiscal year. We received over $100,000 above what we projected for our year-end appeal and will continue doing what worked for this into next fiscal year. Paul noted the “other revenue” line, to close a shortfall between the revenue and expenses we are projecting. The expected revenue is conservative; the total on interest income is low because we don’t want to project until we have the investment strategy sorted out.

  Tim Jackson noted that this budget is for the staff we have today; anticipating cost of living increases and bonuses, its total spending is at $610,000. The revenue forecast that Toni and Paul worked up is right at $530,000.

  In response to a question from Jake about the Florida Conservation Coalition, Paul explained that 1000 Friends is the financial agent for them, but theirs is a separate account and we don’t make up the difference for their budget, so we didn’t work their budget into our total figure as it would distort the picture.

  Vicki moved to approve the budget, Jake seconded, and the budget passed unanimously.

- **ACTION: Approve 990**

  Toni referred the board to the 990 document in the packet. Tim moved to approve the 990, Vicki seconded, and the 990 was unanimously approved.

**Schedule for upcoming board meetings**
Paul proposed having an October and February meeting due to the timing of the way the Legislature meets this year. There was no objection or comments from the board. Toni will begin scheduling for October.

Jake raised concern about a special legislative session to cover the shortfalls in the state’s budget due to the pandemic. Paul suggested having the legislative affairs committee respond as needed.

**Request for Nat Reed tribute award and further board discussion**
Paul referred to the meeting he and Haley had with the founder of the aquatic preserves program, who would like to see 1000 Friends give out an annual award to a conservation leader in honor of Nat Reed. Paul noted there isn’t a need for a decision now, but for further discussion at later date.

Susan agreed it would be a good idea, suggested fleshing out a proposal for further review. She also noted that it would take work, and there would need to be an awards committee to review and decide on the recipient.

**Executive session with President**
**Executive session (Board only)**