



Friends of Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge

APPROVED MINUTES For Online Google Meet Meeting April 7, 2026

AGENDA:

Meeting Etiquette: To keep our meetings as productive as possible and to encourage a welcoming and respectful atmosphere for all participants, please:

- Be on time and come prepared
- Listen to others without interrupting
- Keep comments brief and on-point (refrain from personal stories)
- Respect each other's thinking and value everyone's contributions
- Follow-through on action items in minutes
 - Introductions
 - Outdoor Education project at Pickerel Cove (Sarah Thornbrugh, Conchitas Outdoor Learning & Play)
 - Updates
 - AmeriCorps (Lucinda & Alayna)
 - April 18 2-3pm Falmouth Reads Together - Native Pollinators registration <https://falmouthpubliclibrary.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/falmouth-reads-together-native-pollinators/>
 - Visitor Center
 - AmeriCorps next year
 - Other Business
 - On March 6, 2026, the Board voted 6-0 (via email and text) to contribute \$250 to be a sponsor of the screening of the sustainability film "Cresta Alta" at WBNERR as an Earth Day event. The event will be held on Thursday April 23 6-8pm. Register here.
 - Purchase budget for native plants (POH, FR&GC, Trailheads)(MK)
 - WBNERR pollinator plant giveaway June13th (Ryan)
 - Membership report
 - Approve March 3 minutes (please review prior to meeting)
 - Adjourn

Meeting called to order at 5:04

Board Members Attending:

Co-President/Co Treasurer: Glenn Davis, Co-President/Co Treasurer: MaryKay Fox, Historian: F Tom Fudala, Clerk: Lucinda Keith, Tania Lewandowski

Others in attendance:

Ryan Clark (WBNERR), Lynne Barbee (Mashpee Resident), Christine Jacobi (Falmouth Resident), Sarah Thornbrugh (Conchitas Outdoor Learning and Play)

Meeting Minutes

- Introductions
 - Everyone introduced themselves to our guest Sarah Thornbrugh
- Outdoor Education project at Pickerel Cove (Sarah Thornbrugh, Conchitas Outdoor Learning & Play)
 - Gave an overview of Conchitas as a local community based non-profit organization founded in 2025
 - Sarah is educator, founder, developed programs
 - offers year-round nature play and outdoor education
 - Childcare 2 days a week in English and Spanish
 - Family and community outdoor education
 - Self guided nature access programs for children and families
 - Proposal of Pickerel Cove Story Walk
 - Selected this site with wide, flat trail that leads to open mowed field with bat and birdhouses, pollinator garden at the trailhead
 - Story walk would have 19-25 frames for pages
 - Attach to trees with zip ties
 - Light weight to not hinder trail maintenance, fire vehicles access
 - Accessible to change story with seasons
 - Aluminum frames
 - Also have activities for pausing/questions/movement
 - Conchitas would maintain/repair
 - Opportunities to expand in future with support from Friends suggestion from Grace (USFWS)
 - Bench (possibly on loan from town)
 - Stumps for seating
 - Informational panels with support of USFWS

- Proposal of 2 days a week
 - More opportunities to go into schools, work with volunteers, expand Gilbert Goldfinch lessons/activities, trail walks, community outreach
 - Schools are very interested in expanding
 - Increase for another day would cost \$74.00 a month at CapeSpace
 - We do not have a contract so can end with 30 day notice
 - Will need to know prior to writing application for next year
 - Once application sent, will contact board for a decision
- Other Business
 - On March 6, 2026, the Board voted 6-0 (via email and text) to contribute \$250 to be a sponsor of the screening of the sustainability film "Cresta Alta" at WBNERR as an Earth Day event.
The event will be held on Thursday April 23 6-8pm. [Register here.](#)
 - We will have a table at the event
- Purchase budget for native plants (POH, FR&GC, Trailheads)(MK)
 - We did not get the Retired USFWS grant this year
 - Cultural and medicinal plants
 - Groundnuts and PawPaw trees
 - Estimated cost \$1,000-\$1,200
 - Will discuss at May meeting
- WBNERR pollinator plant giveaway June13th (Ryan)
- Cape Coastal Conference next week
- White trailer
 - Concern from Ryan over moving materials to it
 - Tonna-Marie should have been asked
- Honor the Earth Fair: April 18th 11-3 MaryKay/Lucinda
 - MaryKay made baskets all Native American products
 - Set up at 9:30
 - Volunteer times

- 9:30-12:30 or 12:30-3:30
- Membership report
 - 5 renewals
- Approve March 3 minutes (please review prior to meeting)
 - **Unanimously voted to approve March 3, 2026 Minutes**
- Adjourn
 - **Unanimously voted to adjourn at 6:52pm.**