# SEMINOLE COUNTY LEISURE SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE/NATURAL LANDS SUBCOMMITEE MINUTES OF MEETING February 24, 2010

## ATTENDANCE:

Board Members in attendance:

Mark Brandenburg Trish Walden Tom Boyko

Staff:

Bryan Nipe, Jim Duby, Jane Millen, Sherry Williams

Guest: Kimberly Wright, SJRWMD

LOCATION:

Lake Jesup Conservation Area (SJRWMD)

TIME: 8:00 a.m.

Mark Brandenburg called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Mark introduced Kimberly Wright with the SJRWMD as our host for today's tour and discussion on the Districts land management activities. Kimberly presented information about the sites geography, history and management activities. She stated that the primary focus for land managers is to implement prescribed fire when and where possible and that most of their efforts involve activities such as fire line installation and maintenance and mechanical treatments. They also use cattle leases as a temporary method of land management until ultimate restoration goals can be met. In lieu of financial exchange these cattle leases provide land management activities such as mowing, fence maintenance and some exotic control. Further discussion focused on budgets, staffing and other resources available through other district regions.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Mark turned things over to Jim Duby who gave an introduction to a recent proposed land swap of 18 acres of the Chuluota Wilderness Area (CWA) for app. 18 acres on Brumley Rd. Mr. Lou Tulp owns 10 acres surrounded by the CWA on three sides and proposed swapping the 18 acres on Brumley Rd. for an equivalent amount of land, predominately pasture, on the CWA. Jim presented the possibility of conducting sites visits to the two areas to rank them per established criteria. The committee reviewed maps and discussed connectedness, diversity and possible benefits or challenges to the proposed swaps. After discussion the committee came to consensus that they did not see the benefit to the Natural Lands Program and would not recommend the County move forward with the proposed swap. The idea of a cattle

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grazing lease was also discussed and the committee reached the same consensus and did not recommend that option either.

Sherry Williams, Biologist with the NLP, presented several upcoming events including a countywide volunteer work day on February 27, 2010, Prescribed Fire Awareness event at the Geneva Wilderness Area on March 6, 2010 and an Earth Day event at the Spring Hammock Preserve on April 17, 2010. She also mentioned the new "Cuplet Fern Chapter" of the Florida Native Plant Society that meets at the Environmental Studies Center on the second Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

Mark led a brief discussion regarding the next meeting of the subcommittee which will be back inside to discuss recent findings of field trips and information gathered from other agencies. Bryan suggested the Seminole County History Museum as a possible location.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:15 a.m.