SEMINOLE COUNTY LEISURE SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE/NATURAL LANDS SUBCOMMITEE MINUTES OF MEETING May 26, 2010

ATTENDANCE:

Members in attendance:

Mark Brandenburg Barbara Whittier Trish Walden Tom Boyko Wes Borgman, DVM Robert Goff

Staff:

Jim Duby, Bryan Nipe, Sherry Williams, Jane Millen

LOCATION:

Sylvan Lake Park

TIME: 7:30 a.m.

Mark Brandenburg called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

The committee approved minutes from the April 28, 2010 meeting.

Mark re-opened the topic of a possible grazing lease on the pasture at the Chuluota Wilderness Area. The group discussed the sample lease agreement, potential revenue and or benefits to the County and other possible locations this may be appropriate. The committee came to a consensus that due to the limited benefit to the County it was not in the best interest of the Natural Lands Program to proceed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jim presented the request from Florida Trail Association to locate a portion of the Florida Trail/FNST through the Chuluota Wilderness Area (CWA) on a previously uncleared section of the property. Jim explained that per a grant received when the CWA was purchased we are obligated to do so but we have the ability to approve the trail location. After discussion of the nature of the Florida Trail, possible impacts and trail use, the group agreed that the proposed route was acceptable.

Mark opened a discussion on possible ways to spend the remaining Bond fund on site improvements to our existing Natural Lands. The committee's consensus was as follows.

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Chuluota Wilderness Area – No improvements suggested.

Econ River Wilderness Area – Possible installation of mulching, solar or some other "GREEN" restroom.

Geneva Wilderness Area – Florida Cracker style pavilion for educational activities. Possible connection for the Flagler Trail along CR 426. We will need to check with Bond Council as to whether Bond funds can be used for this.

Lake Proctor Wilderness Area – No improvements suggested

Lake Harney Wilderness Area – Boardwalk and or Overlook along Floodplain. Fishing pier/boat dock at terminus of Flagler Trail at the St. Johns River.

Black Hammock Wilderness Area – No improvements suggested.

Lake Jesup Wilderness Area – Possible boardwalk and observation tower.

Black Bear Wilderness Area – Boardwalk from parking area to levee trail.

Boardwalks/catwalks across several breaches in the trail along the St. Johns River, boater access from river via a tie up, small shelters for inclement weather. We will need to verify with Bond Council whether funds can be used on this property since it was not an official purchase using NL Bond funds. Look into option of connection with Lower Wekiva River State Preserve.

Mr. Goff suggested we work towards placing additional photos on Google Earth. Sherry Williams suggested a current intern could assist with this effort and Mark stated he could add some as well.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00 a.m.