

**SEMINOLE COUNTY
PARKS & PRESERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
NATURAL LANDS SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING May 29, 2013**

ATTENDANCE:

Members:

Tom Boyko, Barbara Whittier
Ed Ghiglieri

Staff:

Jim Duby,

LOCATION:

Geneva Wilderness Area

TIME:

8:30 a.m.

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. and the minutes for the February and March meetings were approved with the following corrections. The proper spelling is Ed "Ghiglieri". Guests for the March meeting included Alex Ghiglieri and Max Ortiz.

OLD BUSINESS:

ERWA Trail Blazing Update – Installation of new blazes was performed on May 5th with Barbara Whittier, Ed Ghiglieri, Alex Ghiglieri and Max Ortiz attending. Two additional locations for post installation were identified and will be installed by NL staff. Discussed using a different style of trail marker/blaze. Ed Ghiglieri stated he had a sample and we all agreed to look into alternatives and discuss at the next meeting.

Library Displays – Displays are currently set up at Oviedo, Casselberry and Lake Mary libraries. Tom Boyko noted that the posters were buckling and should probably be laminated in the future. Barbara said she would like Lori Hartsock to contact her to discuss what the schedule was for the next poster to be displayed.

Youth Conservation Center – Jim said that the County Attorney's Office "Request for Opinion" stated that a Resolution could be executed to transfer a portion of the Boar's Nest Site into the Natural Lands Program. Jim Duby, Rick Durr and Joe Abel have a meeting scheduled to visit the Boar's Nest site to ground-truth the area prior to processing a Resolution. Leisure Services staff will also need to meet further with Environmental Services to coordinate details of Resolution and interdepartmental agreement for the use of the remainder of the site.

Natural Lands Enhancement Projects Update – Jim updated the group on the projects planned for Lake Harney, Black Bear and Geneva Wilderness Areas. He stated that the consultant, Miller Legg and Associates, had completed the 100% plans and technical specifications and secured SJRWMD and ACOE permits as well as County Small Site Plan approval. Plans are currently under review with the County Building Dept. Staff is meeting with the Purchasing Division next week to discuss the bid process for these projects. Tom Boyko asked whether they would be bid separately or together and Jim stated the plan is to secure one contractor to complete all of the projects. Tom also asked if they would all be built at once and Jim clarified that weather (seasonal flooding) and eagle nesting season may impact construction scheduling and sequence.

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EYNC Wetlands Room Project – Jim stated that an RFP had been done and Axios Construction was selected as the contractor to install the exhibits. They are scheduled to start August 3, 2013. The room will be made to look like a cypress swamp with faux trees, a turtle pond area and the two large existing tanks will be incorporated into the design.

Senator Update – There are still approximately 30 pieces of the Senator unclaimed however, appointments are now being set for pick up at the Geneva Wilderness Area. Jim is also working on a documentary on the Senator with SGTV. All currently planned improvements to Big Tree Park are complete.

NEW BUSINESS:

Spring Hammock Recreational Plan – Barbara inquired about developing a list of projects for the Foundation group of which she thought Spring Hammock would be a great choice. Group discussed need for a plan with an estimated cost so group could solicit donations and or sponsors. Jim stated that a Recreation Plan for SHP is on the list! and staff agreed that something like this would be needed to try to “sell the project”.

Lake Proctor Trail Blazing project – Group will plan to address LPWA once we have decided on a new/alternative marker/blaze.

Trails/Natural Lands Use for Races – Barbara asked whether it would be appropriate for Natural Lands to be used for a 5k or other race. Jim stated that it was his understanding that a competitive event is not considered passive recreation and would not be appropriate for an NL site. There are also site restrictions to try to accommodate parking for such a large event.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:35 a.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for March 27, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. at the Nature Center