

**SEMINOLE COUNTY
PARKS & PRESERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
NATURAL LANDS SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING August 28, 2013**

ATTENDANCE:

Members:

Tom Boyko, Barbara Whittier

Staff:

Jim Duby, Lori Hartsock

LOCATION:

Geneva Wilderness Area

TIME:

8:00 a.m.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. and the minutes for the June meeting were approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Youth Conservation Center – Jim said Rick Durr, Division Manager has drafted a conceptual map of approximately 400 acres within the Boar's Nest site that Leisure Services will propose for transfer into the Natural Lands Program through a Resolution to the BCC. This would allow for the expenditure of the Natural Land Bond funds for the development of a site plan and construction of related facilities. County staff will be meeting with FWC staff on 8-29-13 to review the map and further discuss the development of a business plan to identify the roles of each agency. The next step will be to meet with staff from the Environmental Services Department to discuss the specifics of the Resolution and use of the site. The eventual plan is to bring a Resolution to the BCC for the transfer and interdepartmental use of the site.

Natural Lands Enhancement Projects Update – Jim stated that the pre-bid meeting for these projects was held last Friday and approximately five contractors were present. They toured each of the sites and the final bids are due to Purchasing on September 18, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.

Eco Camp Update – Lori gave a short presentation on the huge success of this year's Eco Adventure Camp at the Ed Yarborough Nature Center. She described the activities the children participated in and the wonderful camp instructors that really made the difference. There was concern that moving the camp back out to Geneva after one year at the Env. Studies Center might hurt attendance but that wasn't the case. Many parents stated the quality of the camp made the drive to Geneva worthwhile! Tom inquired whether the revenue generated went back to Natural Lands. Jim confirmed that any revenues from Natural Lands programs went into the Natural Lands donation fund and was available for use through the normal County budget process.

Foundation Status Update – Barbara stated that they are very close to completing their plan. They hope to have it completed by the end of September and will then send it off to the Internal Revenue Service for review. She also stated that the IRS review could take as much as 4 months however, they would start working immediately with department staff on the development of a possible projects list to consider once the plan is approved.

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Library Displays – Lori presented and delivered the new fall activities poster and pointed out that Graphics used better paper to avoid buckling and warping. Barbara will coordinate the distribution to the libraries. Lori also stated that in the future Graphics could send the posters directly to the libraries through the County interoffice mail system.

Future Agenda Items - Exotic species control update by Sherry Williams, Natural Lands Biologist. Update on the FYCCN and draft business plan if available. Update on the selection of a contractor for the Natural Lands Enhancement Projects.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:25 a.m.

The next meeting will be held September 25, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. at the Nature Center