

**SEMINOLE COUNTY
PARKS & PRESERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
NATURAL LANDS SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING September 25, 2013**

ATTENDANCE:

Members:

Tom Boyko, Barbara Whittier
Ed Ghiglieri

Staff:

Jim Duby, Sherry Williams

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 August meeting were approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Exotic Species Update – Sherry Williams gave an update on recent exotic species treatments. She explained that the County applies for grants from the State every year to treat exotic plants on our natural lands and has been awarded funds every year for approximately 10 years. Last year the County was awarded app. 40k to treat exotics such as Air Potato, Coral Ardisia and Skunk Vine at the Spring Hammock Preserve. This year we were awarded an additional 23k for a follow up treatment. The County also received and released app. 1,000 Air Potato Beetles, a biological control, to help in the fight against this fast growing invasive exotic. Sherry explained that we also use unpaid interns from UCF to assist with exotic control efforts.

Youth Conservation Center – Jim Duby stated that he, Rick Durr Joe Abel had met with staff from the Environmental Services Dept. regarding the draft map and conceptual layout for app. 400 acres to be transferred into the Natural Lands Program. Jim has a follow up meeting with Env. Services staff and the County Attorney's Office to discuss the development of the necessary document to transfer land into the NLP. Jim also stated the County had received a copy of a sample business plan and would be using that to develop a draft business plan for the Seminole County Youth Center. Jim is also developing a "Stakeholders List" of businesses and organizations to reach out to and gauge interest for sponsorships and or partnerships. Meeting/s will be held with this group as well as the public to gather the communities input for the future Youth Center.

Natural Lands Enhancement Projects Update – Jim stated three bids were received with Shoemaker Construction being the lowest at 1,194,330.00. He stated that a meeting was scheduled with Purchasing and the Contractor to go over the "Schedule of Values" and possibly finalize the selection after which a contract would be written by the County Attorney's Office.

Future Agenda Items - The next meeting will be held November 20, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. at the Nature Center. Jim will provide updates on the FYCCN and NL Enhancement projects under old business and new business will focus on the NL web page and any edits that are in order.

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