

**SEMINOLE COUNTY
PARKS & PRESERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
NATURAL LANDS SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING October 29, 2014**

ATTENDANCE:

Members:

Barbara Whittier, Lee Ricci
David Williamson, Ed Ghiglieri

Staff:

Jim Duby

LOCATION:

Geneva Wilderness Area

TIME:

8:00 a.m.

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 a.m. at the Ed Yarborough Nature Center. The minutes for the Sept. 2014 meeting were approved as amended with the proper spelling of "Ed Ghiglieri".

Old Business:

Youth Conservation Center - Jim gave the group a brief overview of the status of the Seminole County Youth Conservation Center. He stated that staff presented several options to the BCC at the Oct. 28, 2014 BCC work session. Consensus from the BCC seem to be to further investigate the possible transfer of Florida Communities Trust obligations from Jetta Point to the purchase and development of the Bell parcel adjacent to the Boar's Nest/Land fill lands. If this was not possible then further consideration would be given to development on the Boar's Nest/Land Fill land and/or the use of the Geneva Wilderness Area as a "Hub" with satellite locations for other activities.

Natural Lands Enhancement Projects – Jim provided information on the current status of these three projects. He explained that the Lake Harney Wilderness Area observation tower was on hold due to high water levels and that staff was working to extend the construction contract with Shoemaker Const. for 180 days in hopes water levels will have receded. Jim explained that the first section of boardwalk and breaches 12, 11 and 4 were either complete or nearly so at the Black Bear Wilderness Area. The fishing pier at Geneva is complete and the Pavilion has a slab, block walls, plumbing and electrical installed.

Wetlands Room Update – Jim Duby explained that a PO was expected any day for artisan Eric McCarty to start on the aquatic turtle exhibit.

Future meetings and agenda items – The group discussed and agreed to move the November and December meeting up a week and to conduct site visits. The meeting dates will be November 19th and December 17th. Time will be 8:00 a.m. with sites to be determined and addresses to be emailed via an invite.

Ideas for future agenda items include; Natural Lands 25th anniversary and web site announcement of 2015 Natural Lands 25th anniversary calendar of events, strategy session for Natural Lands 5-10 year plan, and Natural Lands Annual Report review.

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NEW BUSINESS:

Project Tours – The group ended the meeting with a visit to the Lake Proctor Wilderness Area. The group discussed land management techniques such as roller chopping, mowing and prescribed fire. A future site assessment by the subcommittee for all properties was also proposed as a method to better educate administration on program needs.

Meeting adjourned at app. 10:00 a.m.

The next meeting will be held on **November 19, 2014 at the Chuluota Wilderness Area** at 8:00 a.m. address: **3895 Curryville Rd. Chuluota FL, 32766**