

**SEMINOLE COUNTY
PARKS & PRESERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
NATURAL LANDS SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING September 16, 2016**

ATTENDANCE:

Members:

Barbara Whittier, David Williamson, Lee Ricci

Staff:

Jim Duby

LOCATION:

Ed Yarborough Nature Center, Geneva Wilderness Area
3485 N. County Rd. 426 Geneva, FL 32732

TIME:

8:00 a.m.

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m.

The minutes from the July 22, 2016 meeting were reviewed with discussion requested by David Williamson to separate and identify items voted on by the committee. There was not a quorum therefore, approval of minutes was not voted on.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Clarification on Native Planting Topic** – David Williamson submitted language (attached) as possible amendment to Ordinance addressing the introduction of plants and animals. The group decided this item should be discussed with each subcommittee to gather input and or consensus on desire to address this issue on all parks, trails and natural lands.
- **Adoption of EYNC Native Plant Garden** – Jim stated that the Native Plant Garden had been officially adopted by the Cuplet Fern Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society. Barbara Whittier expanded on this with information regarding other participating members and monthly visits to maintain and enhance this important teaching tool at the center.
- **Spring Hammock Boardwalks Discussion** – Jim stated that the school board contactor, Wharton Smith, completed repairs to two bridges accessing “Mud Walk” area. Communication is being prepared/drafted to initiate discussion with SCSB regarding the repair, replacement or removal of damaged boardwalks.
- **Bond Referendum Funds for Spring Hammock Boardwalks** - Staff is working on transfer of specific areas of Soldiers Creek Park into the NLP enabling Bond Funds to be used for new boardwalk route to Lake Jesup.
- **Youth Conservation Program at GWA, Structural Design and Cost** – Jim explained that we are not to a point where structural design and cost have been decided. Staff is working on NL Master Plan of which the SCYCC is a significant piece of. The Natural Land Master Plan to address the maturing of the program and expenditure of the remaining NL Bond fund. Early discussions have focused on the SCYCC and SHP boardwalk projects being a large part of this effort. Rick will be possibly be presenting a draft at the next PPAC meeting.
- **Review of NL Projects, Programs and Needs** – Jim proceeded through attached list of projects, programs and issues with the group. On the item of **Chapter 190**

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Code Edit Jim stated he would check to see if any changes had been made referring to “non-natives” being introduced into properties. Jim discussed recent requests regarding equestrian use of boardwalks at Black Hammock Wilderness Area and possible unauthorized trail clearing at Black Bear Wilderness Area. Group consensus was that boardwalks weren’t built or appropriate for equestrian use due to lack of traction (safety) and likely damage (cost to repair).

NEW BUSINESS: Barbara Whittier announced that she and Tom Boyko would be leaving the committee due to term limits and that at the November meeting the election of a new Chair and Vice Chair should take place.

Other Business: The group decided that the next meeting would be held at the Lake Proctor Wilderness Area to view recent habitat restoration activities.

Next Meeting – November 18, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. Lake Proctor Wilderness Area 920 State Rd. 46 Geneva, FL 32732

Meeting adjourned at app. 9:15 a.m.