

**ENVIRONMENTALLY ENDANGERED LANDS (EEL) PROGRAM
SELECTION & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (SMC)**

**May 6, 2005
Attendance List**

SELECTION & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dave Breininger
Mark Bush
Ron Hight
Paul Schmalzer

EEL PROGRAM STAFF

Jenny Ashbury
Mike Knight

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

Lisa Allowitz-Thompson
Anne Birch
Keith Fountain

GUESTS

Liz Alward, Parks and Recreation
Brandon Percy, Environmental Services, Inc.

*May 6, 2005
Approved September 16, 2005*

**ENVIRONMENTALLY ENDANGERED LANDS PROGRAM
SELECTION AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**May 6, 2005
Meeting Minutes**

CALL TO ORDER:

Paul Schmalzer called the meeting to order at 1:04 PM. Ross Hinkle, Randy Parkinson, and Kim Zarillo provided advanced notice they were not able to attend.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No one provided comment at that time.

MINUTES:

The February 8, March 24, and April 11, 2005 minutes were presented for approval.

February Minutes

Paul asked for comments on the February minutes. He noted that on page 2, the phrase "EEL Program application for amendment to North Indian River Lagoon (NIRL) Project" should be changed to "EEL Program application for amendment to the North Indian River Lagoon Blueway Project".

MOTION ONE

Mark Bush moved to approve the February 8, 2005 minutes as amended.
Ron Hight seconded the motion.
The motion carried unanimously.

March Minutes

Paul asked for comments to the March minutes.
Mark noted the last word on page 2 should be changed from "cost" to "coast".

MOTION TWO

Ron moved to approve the March 24, 2005 minutes as amended.
Mark seconded the motion.
The motion carried unanimously.

April Minutes

Paul asked for comments to the April minutes.

MOTION THREE

Ron moved to approve the April 24, 2005 minutes as presented.
Mark seconded the motion.
The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE SUMMARY:

The Administrative Summary was reviewed.

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY:

Keith Fountain reviewed the Acquisition and Reimbursement Summary.

OLD BUSINESS:

Laney/Barnes Conservation Easement Request

Mike Knight, Paul, and Ron provided additional information on the request from David Laney and Cheryl Barnes to donate a conservation easement to the EEL Program on their 40 ± acre property in north Brevard County. The owners will accept financial responsibility for management of the property and working with the Committee regarding terms of the easement agreement as well as having the area serve as a student research site on restoration efforts.

Acceptance of this donation includes due diligence and monitoring the terms of the agreement.

MOTION FOUR

Mark made a motion to move forward with the acceptance of the donation of the conservation easement on the Laney/Barnes property.

Ron seconded the motion.

Paul asked if there was additional discussion.

General discussion ensued regarding the preparation and requirements of the easement agreement. Approval of this motion allows staff to begin due diligence on the donation and a draft of the conservation easement agreement would be presented to the SMC for approval before being presented to the owners for BOCC approval.

Paul asked if there was additional discussion.

The motion passed unanimously.

EEL Facility

Mike informed the group that efforts have continued in the search for a new site for the EEL administrative facility, but a site has not yet been located. He asked the Committee for their input on placing an administrative facility in a disturbed area of an existing sanctuary.

Paul reminded the group that rare plants have been found in disturbed sites on some sanctuaries.

Members of the SMC expressed concern regarding new construction on EEL land, but felt that that it might be feasible if an administrative facility could be built in conjunction with one of the Management and Education Centers that was part of the original plan for each region.

May 6, 2005

Page 2 of 4

Approved September 16, 2005

Efforts to locate a site will continue. Additional information will be provided as it is received.

NEW BUSINESS:

Pine Island Property - Bowman Application

A parcel on north Merritt Island, located on Pine Island Road, has been offered for sale to the EEL Program. Preliminary research indicates the property may not have high environmental value, but it was suggested the area, which includes a house and barn, might be appropriate for an EEL administrative facility. It is on Pine Island Road and directly adjacent to the Pine Island Conservation Area. Logistical concerns from operating from the north end of the county were expressed. Additional information will be provided.

Scrub Mitigation Bank

This topic will be addressed at the next meeting.

Species Relocation Program for EEL Program

Mike requested input from the SMC regarding a formal policy for animal relocation to EEL properties. The SMC preferred a policy that prohibits relocation of any animal species to any EEL site, unless there was a scientific basis for the introduction of a particular animal at that particular site.

Paul suggested consideration of a policy regarding plants as well.

Staff will work on a policy to incorporate relocation of animals and plant, and provide a draft to the SMC for review.

Mitigation donation request – Di Christopher Property

Mike provided information on a 25 ± acre site on Merritt Island that has been offered to the EEL Program as mitigation. This parcel, which is within the Phase 1 Blueway Project, is a mosquito impoundment.

Mike stated there are plans to prepare a mosquito control management plan for EEL properties for the SMC to review.

MOTION FIVE

Mark moved for a first majority vote to accept the Di Christopher mitigation property donation.

Dave Breininger seconded the motion.

Paul asked for additional discussion.

The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No one provided comment at that time.

May 6, 2005

Page 3 of 4

Approved September 16, 2005

NEXT MEETING:

The date of the meeting will be determined in the near future.

ADJOURNED:

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.

SUMMARY OF MEETING MOTIONS:

- Motion to approve the February 8, 2005 minutes as amended.
- Motion to approve the March 24, 2005 minutes as amended.
- Motion to approve the April 11, 2005 minutes as presented.
- Motion to move forward with the acceptance of the donation of the conservation easement on the Laney/Barnes property.
- Motion to move forward with a first majority vote for the acceptance of the Di Christopher mitigation property donation.

May 6, 2005

Page 4 of 4

Approved September 16, 2005