

**ENVIRONMENTALLY ENDANGERED LANDS (EEL) PROGRAM  
RECREATION AND EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
May 29, 2008  
Attendance List**

**RECREATION AND EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Bob Champaigne  
Jim Durocher  
Murray Hann  
Karen Hill  
Mark Nathan  
Eve Owens  
Beverly Pinyerd  
Doug Sphar

**SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Barbara Meyer, Brevard County, Bicycle/Pedestrian Trail Program Coordinator  
Paul Schmalzer, Selection and Management Committee

**EEL PROGRAM STAFF**

Laura Clark  
Brad Manley  
Xavier DeSeguin

**GUESTS**

Dan Gallagher, Citizen  
Keith Winston, Brevard Zoo

**ENVIRONMENTALLY ENDANGERED LANDS PROGRAM  
RECREATION AND EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**May 29, 2008  
Meeting Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Murray Hann called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM.

**MINUTES:**

The August 9, 2007, November 8, 2008, and February 10, 2008 minutes were presented for approval.

Murray asked for comments to the August 9, 2007 minutes.

Karen Hill asked for clarification of the information on page 4 related to REAC approval of the Malabar Scrub Sanctuary Public Access Plan.

Laura Clark confirmed the wording was confusing and suggested the information be reworded as "On Feb. 9, 2006, the REAC committee voted to support the proposed Public Access Plan as presented by staff.....". The group agreed with this suggestion.

Paul Schmalzer suggested a rewording of the sentence on page 2 regarding interpretation.

The sentence will be reworded as "A communication process that forges emotional *and* intellectual connections between the interests of the audience and the meanings inherent in the resource.

**MOTION ONE:**

**Doug Sphar moved to approve the August 9, 2008 minutes as amended.**

**Eve Owens seconded the motion.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

Murray asked for comments to the November 8, 2007 minutes.

Paul Schmalzer suggested removal of the word "Advisory" on the SMC line of the attendee's page.

Doug Sphar commented that his name had been spelled incorrectly.

The group agreed with these revisions.

**MOTION TWO**

**Eve Owens moved to approve the November 8, 2008 minutes, as amended.**

**Karen Hill seconded the motion.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

Comments regarding the February 10, 2008 minutes regarding the REAC Field trip to the Malabar Scrub Sanctuary were postponed as Brad Manley had to step away from the meeting to pick up equipment.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW:**

Paul Schmalzer provided a brief update on EEL Program property acquisitions.

### **MINUTES – Additional Discussion**

Discussion ensued regarding the February 10, 2008 minutes for the Field Trip to the Malabar Scrub Sanctuary. The following was noted:

- Paul Schmalzer said that the wording on page 1, paragraph 2, lines 3 and 4 was confusing. Brad commented that he would like to change the wording as follows: “The tour began with a discussion of the history of the *paved trail project*, and the issues considered in regard to alignment. Committee members voiced their support for this change.
- Paul Schmalzer stated that he felt the history had been abbreviated, or condensed.
- Murray Hann stated that he felt there had been a 30 – 40 minute conversation regarding the history. He also felt the minutes did not reflect that there had been a thorough discussion and he had a different opinion of what had been left out.
- A suggestion was made to indicate that there had been a thorough discussion in the minutes, but to provide no specific additional information.
- Eve Owens said she felt that it was important information and was not supportive of seeing it condensed down to one sentence.
- Clarification was provided that there had been no recording of the conversations, the site visit was held to better inform REAC members on the site conditions, and no decisions were made by the Committee during the field trip.
- The Committee agreed that the minutes should be resubmitted showing that there was approximately 30-40 minutes of discussion with a bulleted list that indicated some of what was discussed.
- It was suggested that staff would prepare revised, draft minutes, and submit them for approval at the meeting.

### **MOTION THREE**

**Eve Owens made a motion for staff to prepare revised, draft minutes for the February 10, 2008 REAC Field trip to the Malabar Scrub Sanctuary and submit them for approval at the next meeting.**

**Bob Champaigne seconded the motion.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

Brad provided an update on recent EEL Program activities:

- Enchanted Forest Sanctuary
  - Earth Day
  - Workshop Construction
  - Office Renovation
- Indian Mound Station Volunteer Workdays
- South Lake conservation Area

*EEL Program Recreation and Education Advisory Committee Meeting*

*May 29, 2008*

*Page 2 of 5*

*Approved August 14, 2008*

- Trail Development
- Parking Soon
- Cruickshank Sanctuary
  - Parking Area
  - Timbering / Restoration
- Thousand Islands
  - Acquisition
  - Exotics plan development
- Pine Island Conservation Area
  - Scout Troop Camping / Service Projects
- Malabar Scrub Sanctuary (West)
  - DOF Wildfire mitigation
- Wildfires
  - Jordan Scrub Sanctuary
  - Micco Scrub Sanctuary
  - Grant Flatwoods Sanctuary
  - Grant/Valkaria Conservation Area

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

### **Lagoon Adventures “No Child Left Inside Campaign”**

Keith Winsten, Executive Director of Brevard Zoo, provided an overview of an exciting project to encourage families to get out and enjoy nature together. The campaign is based, to a large degree, on the ideas put forth in Richard Louv’s book, “The Last Child in the Woods”. In it, Louv lays out the concept of nature deficit-disorder – the growing disconnect between children and nature, and the detrimental individual, societal, and environmental consequences that result. The EEL Program and Brevard Parks & Recreation are participating in the project. Members of the REA Committee thanked Keith for the presentation and voiced their support of these plans.

### **North Buck Lake Sanctuary – Revision to proposed Public Access Plan**

On May 10, 2007 the REAC Committee reviewed and supported the proposed Public Access Plan for the North Buck Lake Sanctuary. During the public review process, staff became aware of an opportunity to link the sanctuary to a planned Welcome Center at the I-95 rest stop.

Xavier DeSeguin, North Region Land Manager provided information on conceptual plans to include a trail connection from the Welcome Center to the North Buck Lake Sanctuary, which will require a change to the Proposed Public Access Plan.

- The North Buck Lake Scrub Sanctuary is approximately 174 acres located in north Brevard County, adjacent to the northern boundary of the Buck Lake Conservation Area.
- The property was acquired by the Program in 2001.
- Identified Resources include:
  - Protected Species
  - Gopher tortoise
  - Indigo Snake

*EEL Program Recreation and Education Advisory Committee Meeting*

*May 29, 2008*

*Page 3 of 5*

*Approved August 14, 2008*

- Florida Scrub-Jays
  - Bald eagle
- Ecosystems
  - Scrub
  - Scrubby Flatwoods
  - Depression March
  - Floodplain Swamp
- Existing Trails
- Adjacent parking facilities at Buck Lake Conservation Area
- The revised plan calls for rearranging the Core Conservation Area on the east side to accommodate a new trail which would lead from the Welcome Center to an existing trail inside the Sanctuary.
- Pros
  - Improved public access to the sanctuary
  - Easy access to imperiled Scrub Habitat
  - Promote EEL Program
- Cons
  - Site security issues
  - Neighbor concerns
  - Potential impacts to natural area

Discussion ensued: The following was noted:

- Plans are very preliminary.
- A short loop trail was suggested, instead of one long trail that leads to the interior of the sanctuary.
- A short loop trail that connects to a trail leading to the interior of the sanctuary was also suggested.
- Vandalism to EEL Program fences in the area continues to be a concern.
- The connection could provide an increased awareness of the EEL Program.
- Clarification was requested regarding the possible ecological impacts.
- It is important to clarify security issues and arrangements.
- Would be a good place to provide information on other EEL Program Sanctuaries.
- Arrangements would need to be made to ensure people didn't use the trail for dogs.

#### **MOTION FOUR**

**Eve Owens moved to support the proposed revisions to the North Buck Lake Sanctuary Proposed Public Access Plan as presented by staff.**

**Mark Nation seconded the motion.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

:

#### **NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting will be held on August 14, 2008.

#### **ADJOURNED:**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

*EEL Program Recreation and Education Advisory Committee Meeting*

*May 29, 2008*

*Page 4 of 5*

*Approved August 14, 2008*

**SUMMARY OF MEETING MOTIONS:**

- Motion to approve the August 9, 2007 minutes as amended.
- Motion to approve the November 8, 2007 minutes as amended.
- Motion for staff to prepare revised, draft minutes for the February 10, 2008 REAC Field Trip to the Malabar Scrub Sanctuary and submit them for approval at the next meeting.
- Motion to support the proposed revisions to the North Buck Lake Sanctuary Proposed Access Plan as presented by staff.