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# Environmentally Endangered Lands Program

# RECREATION AND EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (REAC)

# June 20, 2019 MINUTES

## ATTENDANCE

### RECREATION AND EDUCATION ADVISORY (REAC) COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Rachel Sadoff

Karen MacArthur

Suzanne Valencia

Rick Follet

Doug Sphar

### ENVIRONMENTALLY ENDANGERED LANDS PROGRAM STAFF

* Laura Clark
* Brad Manley
* David DeMeyer

### GUESTS

None

*Protecting and Preserving Biological Diversity*

*Through Responsible Stewardship of Brevard County’s Natural Resources*

## MEETING MINUTES

### CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Doug Sphar called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

### MINUTES

The January 10, 2019 draft minutes were presented for approval with a revision to page two.

**MOTION ONE**

**Suzanne Valencia moved to approve the January 10, 2019, minutes as revised.**

**Karen MacArthur seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

### ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

Brad Manley provided an update on the trails at Scottsmoor Flatwoods Sanctuary, Malabar Scrub Sanctuary, Grant Flatwoods, and Fox Lake Sanctuary. He mentioned parking on the road at Scottsmoor Flatwoods and noted all-terrain vehicles (ATV) are excluded. He noted the plank walk repairs and economic, fire resistant t-posts.

Brad Manley provided information regarding staff. Martha Pessaro’s retirement is on hold and Donna Lee Crawford is retiring. There are openings at the South Beaches, Central Region, and the North Region. There are four staff certified to operate drones.

Brad Manley mentioned there was a joint advisory meeting of the Procedures Committee, Selection and Management Committee, and Recreation and Education Advisory Committee regarding reducing the number of advisory committees.

Suzanne Valencia noted Leesa wrote a good talking page. Doug Sphar mentioned co-editing a letter signed by the three committees. Brad stated this is a possibility but the timing is bad. Doug mentioned the commissioners are on vacation returning July 1 and agreed the timing is bad and referenced the article published in the Sentinel.

Brad clarified the county attorney’s opinion. According to the county attorney out of an abundance of caution, it is not be advisable to schedule a meeting with a commissioner and more than one committee members and referenced the Sunshine State Law. Brad mentioned individual committee members may meet with a commissioner one on one. Doug Sphar’s concern is the message becomes fragmented in individual meetings.

Doug Sphar mentioned perceptions and noted the committee are not able to speak outside of a public meeting. Laura Clark referred Doug to Mike Knight and Brad stated he will follow up with Mike also.

Suzanne Valencia asked if this document can be read into the Board of County Commissioners meeting. Doug Sphar stated there is a history of sending a recommendation to the commissioners. Rachel Sadoff inquired if this conversation is referring to sending a recommendation or speaking with the commissioners. Doug Sphar stated the general consensus of the three committees is they prefer to retain three committees. Doug Sphar stated the ideal situation is to have a letter signed by all three committees that a volunteer could read during the public comment section slot at the pubic commission meeting.

David DeMeyer facilitated a presentation titled Proposed Conceptual Public Access Plan Summary for Sykes Creek Management Area Plan.

* Central Region 3,530 acres including Johnson Property, Kabboord Wildlife and Ulumay Sanctuaries
* Protected species
* Level of use
* Proposed conceptual public access summary
* Proposed changes
  + Remove hiking trail in the southeast portion of Kabboord Wildlife Sanctuary
  + Re-designating the site from Category 3 to a Category 2 site

This presentation is available upon request.

Rachel Sadoff asked if dogs are allowed on Environmentally Endangered Lands property. Brad Manley confirmed dogs are not permitted. The committee discussed service dogs, friendly dogs, and waste. Doug Sphar stated this issue was taken to the Selection and Management Committee in the past for consideration.

Doug Sphar asked who would review the management plan. David DeMeyer responded Johnson, Ulumay and Kabboord are all county. The management plan will go to the state and to the commissioners for approval.

Karen MacArthur asked about flooding. In particular, the impacts from changing from a Category 3 to a Category 2 site and if the county has a plan. Brad Manley added he is not aware of a plan but based on his experience we have to go higher as water rises. Doug Sphar stated trails will be wet depending on the season and users can expect to encounter water during wet seasons.

### COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

None

**Motion to approve the plan**

**Suzanne Valencia moved to move the plan forward to the Selection and Management Committee.**

**Karen MacArthur seconded the motion.**

**Motion approved unanimously.**

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None

### NEXT MEETING

August 8, 2019.

### ADJOURNED

The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 PM.

### ACTION ITEMS

1. None