

## CLASAC MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

**DATE:** June 30, 2010, 3:00PM Caloosahatchee Meeting Room – Terry Park

**PRESENT:** Bill Burdette, Wiley Parker, George Wheaton, Carie Call

### STAFF

**PRESENT:** Cathy Olson, Conservation 2020, Lynda Thompson

**GUESTS:** Barbara Manzo, Director, Dave Harner, Deputy Director of Lee County Parks and Recreation; Lee County Attorney Dawn Lehnert

### PUBLIC

**PRESENT:** None

### APPROVAL

**OF MINUTES:** Wiley Parker moved to approve the March 31, 2010 minutes, seconded by Kirk Beck called and carried.

### NEW

#### BUSINESS:

PORT AUTHORITY PRESENTATION RE: MITIGATION OPTIONS: Via a power point showing, Ken Pasarella, Pasarella & Assoc. and Emily Underhill, Port Authority, reviewed for all present, the RSW I-75 Access Roadway joint project between FDOT, LCPA and Conservation 2020 – Land Stewardship. Highlights included: details of the project, mitigation needed for permitting the access road, analysis of 2020 parcels that could be used for the mitigation concepts, coordination of other agencies involved and the draft MOU (Memorandum of Understanding). Analysis of 90 acres of 2020 wetland will be impacted; as well as panther zones and wood stork habitat. Ken stated that after viewing three mitigation options – land acquisition and restoration was the most expensive, bank credits and the need to partner with Hendry County for the panther zones ran second and the least expensive was to partner with Lee County Conservation 2020 due to timing, the basin requirement and the dollars saved by all.

Using a map(s), Ken pointed out the Conservation 2020 sites of 239 (106 acres), 321 (155 acres), 334 (75 acres) were selected for the project as they met the criteria set forth by the Florida Fish and Wildlife, South Florida Water Management District, Army Corps of Engineers and FDOT as to the (wetlands, panther and wood stork habitat) for mitigation. Restoration of the sites includes exotic removal, backfill of ditches, plantings and farm field restoration. The exact details of the restoration will be worked out with Johnson Engineering.

Moving onward, Ken reviewed the Draft MOU, highlighting areas of responsibilities for the mitigation work as follows: LCPA responsible for all restoration and mitigation (which will adhere to 2020 Land Stewardship plans), monitoring for five years of the mitigation and for perpetual maintenance (in perpetuity); thus a 2.3 million dollars savings to 2020. Ken then reviewed a tentative schedule for the process. Discussion which included legality issues, ownership, the proposed Hanson Street Extension impacts made to parcel 239, and the possibility of omitting parcel 239 (or portions) and using the Beck property or Wild Turkey Strand.

**Bill Burdette moved that we agree in concept with providing mitigation for the airport road project subject to specific parcels to be determined and the MOU to be worked out seconded by George Wheaton. Called and carried.**

GALT PRESERVE PLANS (AMENITIES): via preliminary plans of the area, Cathy pointed out the following: entrance way will be meandering, the canoe launch leading into the pond, a clivis restroom, loop hiking trails and Flexi pave parking surface. Water on each side of the road entrance currently flows backwards which will be corrected. Additionally, there will be a fishing area, ADA compliant walkways, and a sunset swing. It was determined that the item be forwarded to the CLASAC Board.

WILD TURKEY STRAND PLANS (AMENITIES): via plans of the area, Cathy pointed out the area porous parking areas, the ADA trails, interpretive historic Army structures and a wetlands boardwalk. Cathy, continuing said that horse trails are not part of the plans, since the area is primarily for mitigation. It was determined that the item be forwarded to the CLASAC Board

NAMES SUGGESTIONS FOR SITE 249 IN BONITA SPRINGS – HIDDEN CYPRESS PRESERVE AND HUETHER PROPERTY: Deferred to the July 28, 2010 meeting.

BUDGET DISCUSSION:

Barbara Manzo said that the department has been asked to cut its budget to help the County's general fund and has lead to discussions of approximate 5,000 acres -Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve, Hickey's Creek, Cow Slough, Flint Penn Strand, etc. that do not have a dedicated funding source to manage them like that of Conservation 2020. During discussions with Assistant County Manager Holly Schwartz, Roger Clark, Cathy Olson and herself the suggestion of placing these lands under the umbrella of 2020 in order to have them maintained in perpetuity. Issues that need resolving, before this could happen include: East Lee County Water assessments (Hickey's Creek) \$80-90,000 per year (that are paid via separate funding, but is running out very quickly), four employees managing these lands and other sites, but are not 2020 staff. One of the ways to make the plan workable, without encumbering the Conservation 2020 Ordinance, would be to take the funding of the four employees and the assessments (approximate cost of \$500,000 yearly) from 2020's management fund. Continuing, Barbara said her dilemma with the looming budget cuts is: do I cut down the exotics on the undedicated lands, or do I offer summer camp or have the swimming pools remain open since services to the public need to be met. Dialog between the members, Barbara and Dawn ensued and included the Ordinance itself, funding of 90% for acquisition/10% for management under Conservation 2020, and the buildings on the lands are not included. The requested a list of the properties in question and each one's exact acreage and the current associated costs in order to have/make intelligent comments/decisions on the issue.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**OTHER:** None

**NEXT MEETING:** July 28, 2010

**ADJOURNED:** 4:50P.M.

Respectfully submitted  
Linda L. Lullo

