

April 6, 2022

MINUTES OF THE CONSERVATION COLLIER LAND ACQUISITION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Naples, Florida, April 6, 2022

LET IT BE REMEMBERED, the Conservation Collier Land Acquisition Advisory Committee in and for the County of Collier, having conducted business herein, met on this date at 1:00 P.M. in REGULAR SESSION at Administrative Building “F”, 3rd Floor, Collier County Government Complex Naples, Florida with the following members present:

CHAIRMAN: Bill Poteet
VICE CHAIRMAN: Michele Lenhard
Michael Seef
Gary Bromley
Brittany Patterson-Weber
David Corban (via Zoom)
Karyn Allman
Ron Clark
(Vacancy)

ALSO PRESENT: Summer Araque, Conservation Collier Program Coordinator
Jennifer Belpedio, Real Property Management
Molly DuVall, Environmental Specialist
Kathlene Drew, Administrative Assistant
Sally Ashkar, Assistant County Attorney

1. Roll Call

Chairman Poteet called the meeting to order at 1:00P.M. Roll call was taken and a quorum was established with 7 Members present in the Boardroom.

A. Approval of CCLAAC Members attending the meeting remotely

Ms. Lenhard moved to allow Mr. Corban to participate in the meeting via Zoom due to an extraordinary circumstance. Second by Ms. Patterson-Weber. Carried unanimously 7 – 0.

2. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Patterson-Weber moved to approve the Agenda. Second by Mr. Seef. Carried unanimously 8 – 0.

Ms. Belpedio addressed the Committee reporting she is now a Staff Member of Real Property Management and Sally Ashkar will be the County Attorney's representative for the Committee.

3. Approval of February March 2, 2022 minutes

Mr. Seef moved to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2022 as presented. Second by Ms. Lenhard. Carried unanimously 8 – 0.

4. Old Business

A. Acquisition Cycle 10 Update Status of Active Acquisition List

Ms. Araque provided the "Cycle 10 Active Acquisition List approved by BCC January 25, 2022 - updated 3-29-22" noting Staff continues to process the applications including addressing any potential issues with the acquisitions and obtaining property appraisals. A few owners have withdrawn their applications.

Discussion occurred on whether the owner provides a rationale for their decision to withdraw application for consideration.

Staff noted the policy is not to inquire as to the reason for the withdrawal. A consistent message is outlined by Staff including the County will pay fair market value for the property.

Committee Members noted, reasons may include an owners concern they may get more money on the private market or the timeline for the process is too long given the active real estate market in the region. It may be beneficial to send a letter to the applicant who withdrew and request voluntary feedback on their decision.

Ms. Araque noted Staff will develop a survey for applicants which may help provide feedback on the rationale for their decision. She will report back on their findings at a future meeting.

Multi parcel project update

Ms. Araque reported 23.5 acres of property in Red Maple Swamp and Winchester Head over the last year.

5. New Business

A. 2021 Conservation Collier Annual Report

Ms. Araque presented the "Conservation Collier Annual Report 2021-April 6, 2022" for consideration. She provided an overview of the Report which included land management

activities, financial status of the program, information on mitigation, updates on volunteer participation, identifying Eagle Scout projects, objectives for 2022, etc.

Chairman Poteet recommended where possible, the blank spaces on pages be filled with photographs related to the program.

Mr. Seef moved to recommend the Board of County Commissioners approve the Conservation Collier 2021 Annual Report as presented by Staff. Second by Ms. Lenhard. Carried unanimously 8 – 0.

Ms. Araque reported the item will be heard by the Board of County Commissioners at their April 26th meeting and Members may attend but should not discuss any business between themselves related to the Conservation Collier.

B. Acquisition Cycle 11 Updates

Ms. Araque reported 62 properties were nominated around the Robert H. Gore, III Preserve and 3 individual applications have been submitted by owners. The deadline for applications is July 31, 2022 and Initial Screening Reports will be presented to the Committee beginning in May or June.

6. Coordinator Communications

A. BCC Items

Ms. Araque reported the contract for acquisition of the Rudnick Parcel being donated to the County in the Gore expanded preserve area and a 1.50-acre lot in Winchester Head was heard by the BCC on March 23rd.

On April 26th, the 2022 Annual Report will be presented to the BCC for consideration.

B. Miscellaneous Items

Ms. Araque presented the following updates:

Pepper Ranch Preserve

- A family campout was held with 11 families and 44 individuals participating in the event which consisted of camping, hiking, games, outdoor movies, etc.
- Students from Palmetto Ridge High School held a class tour and hike on the property.

Red Maple Swamp and Winchester Head

Invasive plants were treated on the sites.

Sunshine Law

An online presentation of the Sunshine Law prepared by the County Attorney's office is available for Members. If they have any questions on the requirements of the law, they should contact Staff.

7. Subcommittee Reports

A. Lands Evaluation & Management – Chair, Bill Poteet – Next Meeting April 21, 2022

Chairman Poteet reported the meeting will be held to review drafts of Preserve Management Plans.

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B. Outreach – Chair, Brittany Patterson-Weber – Last Meeting February 15, 2022

None

C. Ordinance Policy and Rules - chair vacant- Last meeting March 2, 2022

None

8. Chair Committee Member Comments

Chairman Potect announced he will not be physically present for the May meeting, however may attend via Zoom.

Mr. Bromley queried on Earth Day activities – *Ms. Araque reported Conservation Collier participating in events at Cambier Park on April 23rd.*

Mr. Seef noted an article on Conservation Collier was published in the Florida Wildlife Federation's Winter 2022 Edition of the "*Florida Fish and Wildlife News.*"

9. Public General Comments

None

10. Staff Comments

None

11. Next Meeting Date

May 4, 2022

There being no further business for the good of the County, the meeting was adjourned by order of the chair at 2:00P.M.

Conservation Collier Land Acquisition Advisory Committee



Bill Potect, Chairman
Michelle Lenhard

These minutes approved by the Board/Committee on 4-6-22 as presented or as amended _____.