

MINUTES OF THE CONSERVATION COLLIER LAND ACQUISITION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Naples, Florida, February 7, 2024

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:

CHAIR: Michele Lenhard
VICE CHAIR: Brittany Patterson-Weber
Gary Bromley
Ron Clark
Karyn Allman
Rhys Watkins
John Courtright
Nick Pearson
(Vacancy)

ALSO PRESENT: Summer Araque, Environmental Supervisor, Conservation Collier
Sally Ashkar, Assistant County Attorney
Melissa Hennig, Environmental Specialist I

1. Roll Call

Chair Lenhard called the meeting to order at 1:00P.M. Roll call was taken and a quorum was established with 8 Members present in the Boardroom.

A. Approval of CCLAAC Members attending the meeting remotely

No Members attended remotely.

2. Approval of Agenda

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

3. Approval of January 3, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Patterson-Weber moved to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2024 meeting as presented. Second by Mr. Bromley. Carried unanimously 8 – 0.

4. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Ms. Patterson-Weber nominated Michele Lenhard as Chairman of the Conservation Collier Land Acquisition Advisory Committee.

Ms. Lenhard accepted and being no further nomination Ms. Lenhard was declared Chairman.

Mr. Clark nominated Karyn Allman as Vice Chairman of the Conservation Collier Land Acquisition Advisory Committee. Ms. Allman declined.

Ms. Allman nominated Ron Clark as Vice Chairman of the Conservation Collier Land Acquisition Advisory Committee.

Mr. Clark accepted and being no further nominations Mr. Clark was declared Vice Chairman.

5. Old Business

A. Acquisition Updates - *Current Acquisition Status report updated monthly in advance of CCLAAC meeting provided as part of meeting packet and under Acquisition News at www.conservationcollier.com for information purposes. The report will be updated monthly (last updated January 22, 2024) including parcels the County has acquired to date, offers made by the County, pending acquisitions and those properties where the owner withdrew the application.*

Ms. Araque reported:

- Cycles 10 (48 parcels acquired for 456 acres) and Cycle 11A (16 parcels for 41 acres acquired) are closed.
- There are 2 properties remaining to be acquired for Cycle 11B with 8 properties for 117 acres acquired to date.
- Work continues for acquiring parcels for Cycles 12A and 12B (8 properties for 178 acres).
- The owners of the Relevant Radio and Connection Investors properties withdrew their applications.
- There have been 9 closings since the January 2024 meeting with 1 closing upcoming for February.

B. Purchase Agreements

Ms. Araque provided the following Purchase and Sale agreement for consideration - *(The Committee approved the Purchase and Sale Agreements listed below in one motion but were listed separately for recording purposes).*

1. Panther Walk Preserve

a. **Whitingham Corporation**

Mr. Bromley moved to recommend the Board of County Commissioners approve the Agreement for Sale and Purchase for the Whitingham Corporation property. Second by Mr. Courtright. Carried unanimously 8 – 0.

b. **Rodriguez**

Mr. Bromley moved to recommend the Board of County Commissioners approve the Agreement for Sale and Purchase for the Mario and Gisela Rodriguez property. Second by Mr. Courtright. Carried unanimously 8 – 0.

2. **North Belle Meade Preserve**

a. **Volpe Trust**

b. **Murawski Trust**

Both items were continued to the March 6, 2024 meeting.

5. **New Business**

A. **Committee Member Application(s)**

Ms. Araque reported there are 2 vacancies on the Committee and Austin Howell, Barbara Woodcock, Mary Lane, Oriany Brito and Stephany Carr have applied to fill the seats.

Mr. Howell, Ms. Woodcock, Ms. Brito and Ms. Carr spoke about their desire to be seated on the Committee.

Ms. Araque provided an overview of Ms. Lane’s application.

The Committee conducted a straw poll with those receiving the most votes to be recommended to fill the vacancies.

Round 1: Mr. Howell – 6; Ms. Brito – 4; Ms. Woodcock – 4; Ms. Lane – 0.

Round 2: Ms. Brito – 4; Ms. Woodcock – 4.

Round 3: Ms. Brito – 5; Ms. Woodcock – 4 (it was determined in order to break the tie, a Member could vote for more than 1 applicant).

Ms. Patterson-Weber moved to recommend the Board of County Commissioners appoint Austin Howell and Oriany Brito to the Conservation Collier Land Acquisition Advisory Committee. Second by Ms. Allman. Carried unanimously 8 – 0.

This action was taken near the end of the meeting.

Mr. Courtright moved for Mr. Howell to serve the full term for the vacant position while Ms. Brito to fill the term for the vacancy created by Ms. McCloskey’s resignation. Second by Ms. Allman. Carried unanimously 8 – 0.

B. **Cycle 12B Initial Criteria Screening Report (ICSR)**

Ms. Hennig presented the PowerPoint “Cycle 12B Initial Criteria Screening Reports, Properties for Review, February 7, 20224” for information purposes. The following properties were reviewed:

1. **NGGE Scrub TPMA – McIntosh Family Trust**

Ms. Hennig presented the *Conservation Collier Land Acquisition Program Initial Criteria Screening Report for McIntosh Family Trust*. It is north of 50th Ave. NE, south of Immokalee Rd. and east of Everglades Blvd. N within the NGGE Scrub Target Protection Mailing Area (TPMA), 2.73 acres in size, received a score of 267 out of 400 and has an assessed value of \$85,859. She

noted the site contains scrub flatwoods which is rare in the region. Staff will be reviewing the Protection Area to determine if it is advantageous to continue pursuing acquisitions due to the connectivity of parcels in the area being compromised by homes constructed on individual lots.

4. Marco Island TPMA – Ramoski Trust

Ms. Hennig presented the “*Conservation Collier Land Acquisition Program Initial Criteria Screening Report for Ramoski Trust.*” It is just south 511 S. Barfield Dr., Marco Island in the Marco Island TPMA and 0.40 acres in size, received a score of 167 out of 400 and has an assessed value of \$503,494.

Speaker

Brad Cornell, Audubon of the Western Everglades noted biologists have visited the property and identified 4 Gopher Tortoises on site. The property is contiguous to the WISC Investment property with a residential parcel to the northeast containing native vegetation and undergoing trust activity. These parcels in conjunction with other parcels being acquired in the TPMA are creating corridor for wildlife. He noted Marco Island is home to the 2nd largest population of Burrowing Owls in Florida with Cape Coral being number 1.

3. Dr. Robert H. Gore III Preserve TPMA

Ms. Hennig presented the “*Conservation Collier Land Acquisition Program Initial Criteria Screening Report for the Dr. Robert H. Gore, III Preserve TPMA.*” There are 276 parcels totaling 573.7 acres in the TPMA which received a score of 287 out of 400. Current applications include 5 properties at 9.96 acres.

4. Panther Walk Preserve TPMA

Ms. Hennig presented the “*Conservation Collier Land Acquisition Program Initial Criteria Screening Report for the Panther Walk Preserve TPMA.*” There are 232 parcels totaling 452.5 acres in the TPMA which received a score of 290 out of 400. The current application is for a 1.14 acre parcel between 2 developed lots. Interest letter was sent prior to construction of house to the west of parcel

5. Winchester Head Preserve

Ms. Hennig presented the “*Conservation Collier Land Acquisition Program Initial Criteria Screening Report for Winchester Head Preserve TPMA.*” There are 40 parcels totaling 52.6 acres in the TPMA which received a score of 241 out of 400. Currently there is 1 application in the acquisition process.

Speaker

Brad Cornell, Audubon of the Western Everglades noted the North Golden Gate Scrub TPMA is important for rehydrating opportunities and reducing the risk of wildfires in the area.

6. Subcommittee Reports

A. Lands Evaluation & Management – Chair, Ron Clark – Next Subcommittee meeting will be held in March of 2024.

B. Outreach – Chair, Brittany Patterson-Weber –Last meeting January 20, 2023
No update necessary.

C. Ordinance Policy and Rules – Chair, Michele Lenhard - Last meeting December 18, 2023

No update necessary.

7. Coordinator Communications

A. Miscellaneous

Ms. Araque noted the Committee meeting time and location is changing to the Growth Management Building on North Horseshoe Drive at 9:00am, the first Wednesday of the month. There is a meeting room conflict for the September meeting and she will update the Committee on any changes for the venue.

B. BCC Items Related to Conservation Collier

1. BCC Agenda 1/9/2024

- a. Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission funding assistance for Pepper Ranch and Caracara Prairie Preserve Land Management Plan 10-Year Update. (approved on consent)
- b. Agreement for Sale and Purchase of Kleinberger Revocable Trust 2 parcels totaling 5 acres. (regular agenda item; passed unanimously)

2. BCC Agenda 1/23/2024

- a. Reappointment of 2 CCLAAC members Karyn Allman and Gary Bromley (County Attorney approved on consent)
- b. Camp Keais Strand Preserve Interim Management Plan (GMD approved on consent)
- c. Request to advertise amending Ordinance 2002-63 (County Manager's Report regular agenda item; passed unanimously)

3. BCC Agenda 2/27/24

- a. Purchase Agreement(s) (County Manager's Report)
- b. McIlvane Marsh Preserve Management Plan (GMD consent)

8. Chair/Committee Member Comments

Ms. Lenhard reported the Board of County Commissioner meeting recordings are available for view on the Collier County Government website.

Chair Lenhard and the Committee thanked retiring Member Brittany Patterson-Weber for her service on behalf of the citizens of Collier County.

9. Public General Comments

Brad Cornell, Audubon of Southwest Florida recognized Ms. Patterson-Weber's service and noted very few Florida Panthers have tracking collars with the existing population is estimated at 120 – 230. The telemetry data showing no panther movement in an area may be misleading given the lack of collars and a more beneficial means for activity is examining roadkill data.

10. Staff Comments

None

11. Next Meeting – March 6, 2024

There being no further business for the good of the County, the meeting was adjourned by order of the chair at 2:50P.M.

February 7, 2024

Michele Lenhard, Chair

These minutes approved by the Committee on _____ as presented _____ or as amended _____.