



CONSERVATION CHARLOTTE



Environmentally Sensitive Lands Oversight Committee
Conservation Charlotte is a program of Charlotte County Government

Minutes

Septemeber 11, 2023

Community Services/Centennial Park
Large Administration Conference Room
1120 Centennial Boulevard
Port Charlotte, FL 33953

Members Present: Jeff Anlauf
Rocco Pennella
Shaun O'Rourke
Derek Miller

Members Absent: Jack Pryor
Dianne Quilty

County Staff: Tina Powell
Jason Thomason
Jamie Scudera
Jamie Boies
Morgan Cook

Call to Order / Roll Call:

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. A roll call was taken, and a quorum was established.

Approval of Minutes:

The draft minutes from May 18, 2022, were approved as submitted.

Unfinished Business:

1. Virtual tours – Ms. Powell let the group know that virtual tours are almost completed. Those that are complete are on the County Website under Community Services.
2. Annual meeting schedule – Ms. Powell stated that meetings will be held the 3rd Monday of December, February, May, and September. The February meeting will be a field trip at Tippecanoe and will need to be on the 4th Monday due to the holiday.
3. Board workshop – Ms. Powell presented a greenspace presentation to include Conservation Charlotte at the last Board Workshop. It appeared the County Commissioners were in favor for repropoing Conservation Charlotte after it sunsets. There may be a surplus of monies, once that is confirmed we will open the site nominations, but we will not have final number until the end of FY24.

New Business:

1. Rotonda Draft LMP – Review of the land management plan took place. The finalized plan will be presented at the next meeting in December.
2. Capital Maintenance – Ms. Powell gave project updates. Mr. Thompson will be doing a shell construction project at Oyster Creek. Peace River Preserve will go to design and permitting for a shell parking lot. Prairie Creek has monies for design to improve canoe kayak launch. There will be some boardwalk repairs within the next 3 years at Amber Jack, Cedar Point, and Tippecanoe. FY27 design of wildlife observation platform at Charlotte Flatwoods .

Staff Reports:

Jason Thompson – Land Management update: Data has been collected for area scrub jays and there were over 30 family groups with a grand total of over 150 individual scrub jays. There was a drop off in hatchlings this year, however there were more family reported. A breakdown can be provided by request to Mr. Thompson.

It is currently time for our staff to create reports for the Florida Community Trust. Staff is also working on their five-year plans.

There are burns planned for this year. We are hopeful for the first controlled burn to be at Shell Creek and then an additional burn at Prairie Creek later in the year.

Jamie Scudera – Coastal Update:

Sea Turtles

Loggerhead – 1918

Green – 318

Kemps – 1

Shorebirds

1 AMOY, 2 WIPL chicks fledged

34 Least Tern chicks fledged

Palm Island lost entire LETE colony due to predation. WIPL and SNPL didn't nest at all.

Boca Grande had some BLSK nesting, but all nests were lost to predation.

SPSP had some BLSK nesting but nests were lost to predation.

DPKI, LGI, and MK had no nesting

Scrub Jay

17.047 acres acquired in 2023

Managers Comments:

Ms. Powell stated that in the September Board of County Commissioner meeting the board will be adopting the revised designation for environmentally sensitive land.

Minutes for this board will have a new look in our December meeting.

Advisory Board Open Discussion:

None

Meeting Schedule / Items for Next Agenda:

December 18, 2023

February 26, 2024 (Field trip at Tippecanoe)

May 20, 2024

September 16, 2024

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Jamie Boies

Community Services Department