# Environmentally Endangered Lands Program logo.

# Environmentally Endangered Lands ProgramRecreation and Education Advisory Committee (REAC)

## August 8, 2019 Minutes

## Attendance

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

Rachel Sadoff

Karen MacArthur

Suzanne Valencia

Rick Follet

Doug Sphar

Bob Champaigne

### ENVIRONMENTALLY ENDANGERED LANDS PROGRAM STAFF

* Laura Clark
* Brad Manley
* David DeMeyer

### GUESTS

 Paul Schmalzer

*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 6:02 PM.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None

### MINUTES

The June 13, 2019, Selection and Management Committee, Procedures Committee, and Recreation and Education Advisory Committee minutes from the joint meeting were presented for approval with the revision to page 6.

**Doug Sphar moved to approve the June 13, 2019, joint meeting minutes with revisions.**

**Suzanne Valencia seconded the motion.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

Laura Clark mentioned Murray Hann is not present and she has not heard from him.

### ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

Brad Manley noted trail maintenance has been impacted due to wetness and temperature. The staff is working on keeping the trails in shape, but the focus is on structures. He noted the Fox Lake Trail re-route is stalled because of equipment issues and is expected to be completed this fall. The Barrier Islands is finishing up a successful sea turtle nesting season. The turtle walks are customarily at capacity, the Florida Turtle Auction had approximately 250 attendees and raised funds. Approximately 500 people attended a turtle release. The exhibit and floor refinish is complete.

Brad Manley mentioned Laura Boy accepted the Naturalist position in the Central Region and is expected to begin employment at the end of August. The South Beaches offered a full-time Land Management Tech position to a candidate; however, the they did not accept the position because of salary. Part-time employee, Shelby Wood, will be offered the full-time position and the part-time position can be advertised.

Brad Manley mentioned the County Commission tentatively approved a lowered millage; however, the program will receive more funds which will result in a surplus. Paul Schmalzer mentioned the millage for both debt and operating expenses have been reduced and the program will collect substantially less than the voter approved referendum.

Brad Manley mentioned the citizen proposition regarding a dog beach and noted the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) rejected this idea. Doug Sphar stated this is a non-issue because federal statutes trump county statutes. Brad Manly noted the BOCC wants to reduce the number of appointees and re-structure the advisory committees. One committee member from each the Recreation and Education Advisory Committee and Procedures Committee will be appointed to the Selection and Management Committee. The Procedures Committee will report directly to the Selection and Management Committee. The official directive from the (BOCC) has not been received at this time. Paul Schmalzer mentioned revisions to the Land Acquisition Manual and the Sanctuary Management Manual and stated these revisions will need to go before the BOCC for approval. Brad stated the County Attorney asked if the BOCC would permit staff revisions to these documents as described in the motion. As Brad understands it once the board’s decision is written and approved, the manuals will not need to go back to the BOCC for approval. The committee discussed this change in structure and potential impacts of a sub-committee structure.

David DeMeyer presented the Thousand Island Conservation Area Management Plan. This presentation covered the following:

* Threatened, endangered, protected, and species of special concern in the sanctuary.
* A three-quarter mile kayak trail and small craft landing has been installed.
* Hiking trails in three locations.
* Five kiosks located in the sanctuary.
* These upgrades were mandated at the time of purchase.
* There are no proposed changes or upgrades to the sanctuary.

This presentation is available upon request.

**Doug Sphar moved to approve the proposed plan as presented.**

**Rick Follett seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

### COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

None

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None

### NEXT MEETING

November 14, 2019.

### ADJOURNED

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:40 PM.

### ACTION ITEMS

1. None