



LAND ACQUISITION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LAAC)

Frannie Atchison - Town of Indian River Shores
Sabin Abell - City of Vero Beach
Andrea Coy - City of Sebastian
Sal Neglia – City of Sebastian Alternate
Susan Adams - City of Fellsmere
Cheryl Hampton – City of Fellsmere Alternate
Francis “Bud” Oatway - Town of Orchid
Suzanne Joyce – Town of Orchid Alternate
Lee D. (Toni) Robinson - Indian River Land Trust
Kathleen Schulke - Indian River Land Trust Alternate
Janice Broda – Indian River Mosquito Control Board

Adam Bolinger - Development Community, Vice Chairman
Michael Walther - IRC Chamber of Commerce
Louis Schacht - Agricultural Interest
Kevin Doty - Civic Association
Judy Orcutt - Sierra Club
Denise Waddell - Historical Representative
James Granse - Taxpayer’s Association
Lois Work - Board of Realtors
Bonnie Veron - Member at Large
Talmage Rogers, Jr. - Member at Large
[Vacant] - Member at Large

Dr. Richard H. Baker - Pelican Island Audubon Society, Chairman
Peter O’Bryan, Non-voting Commissioner Liaison

The LAAC will be holding a meeting on **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2008 at 1:30 p.m. in First Floor Conference Room B1-501 of County Administration Building B, 1800 27th Street, Vero Beach.**

AGENDA

1. Call to Order – Chairman Richard Baker
2. Approval of September 24, 2008 Meeting Minutes
3. Overview of New Project Proposals – Roland DeBlois
 - a. (High Pointe Scrub – overview given last meeting)
 - b. Giteles Agricultural Easement
 - c. Hartig Oceanfront Parcel
 - d. Sherman Scrub Lots
 - e. Sebastian Village Scrub
4. Other Business
 - a. Follow-up on Sebastian Harbor Preserve FCT application points criteria
5. Adjournment

cc: Joseph A. Baird
Robert M. Keating
Matt Sexton
Indian River Land Trust

Michael C. Zito
Roland DeBlois
Beth Powell
Scott Johnson

Marian Fell
Jason Brown
Press

Anyone who needs a special accommodation for this meeting may contact the County's ADA Coordinator at 226-1233, at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Anyone who may wish to appeal any decision that may be made at this meeting will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which includes testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based.

LAND ACQUISITION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LAAC)

The Indian River County (IRC) Land Acquisition Advisory Committee (LAAC) held a meeting on Wednesday, September 24, 2008 at 1:30 p.m. in Room "B1-501" of the County Administration Building B, 1800 27th Street, Vero Beach, Florida. You may hear an audio of the meeting; review the agenda and the minutes on the IRC website - www.ircgov.com/Boards/LAAC//2008. Please note the times listed at the end of each agenda item refers to time on the recorded minutes.

Present were members: **Chairman Dr. Richard Baker**, Pelican Island Audubon Society (PIAS); **Jim Granse**, Taxpayers' Association; **Bonnie Veron** and **Talmage Rogers**, Members-at-Large; **Michael Walther**, IRC Chamber of Commerce; **Judy Orcutt**, Sierra Club; **Mayor Andrea Coy**, City of Sebastian; **Janice Broda**, Mosquito Control District; **Kevin Doty**, Civic Association; **Lois Work**, Board of Realtors; **Denise Waddell**, IRC Historical Society; **Councilmember Frannie Atchison**, Town of Indian River Shores; **Councilmember Susan Adams**, City of Fellsmere; **Louis Schacht**, Agriculture Interest; and **Adam Bolinger**, Development Community.

Absent was: **Councilmember Bud Oatway**, Town of Orchid; **Toni Robinson**, Indian River Land Trust (IRLT); and **Councilmember Sabin Abell**, City of Vero Beach (all excused).

Also present were: **Commissioner Peter O'Bryan**, IRC Commissioner Liaison; **Marian Fell**, IRC Senior Assistant County Attorney; **Roland DeBlois**, IRC Chief of Environmental Planning; **Robert Keating**, Community Development Director; and **Terri Collins-Lister**, Commissioner Assistant, District 4. Others present were: **Ralph Monticello**, IRLT; **David Cox**, Cox Consulting; **Henry Stephens**, Press Journal; and **John Baker**, Realtor and Applicant Representative.

Call to Order (00:00:05)

Chairman Baker called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and introductions were made.

Approval of March 12, 2008 Meeting Minutes (00:02:50)

ON MOTION BY Mr. Rogers, SECONDED BY Mr. Walther, the members voted unanimously (15-0) to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 12, 2008 as presented.

For Discussion, Councilmember Atchison asked if staff would update the committee on the assignments of third parties to the North Sebastian Conservation Area and Sand Lake Tract conservation easements

Ms. Marian Fell, IRC Senior Assistant County Attorney, stated that the third party language had been included in the agreement; however the state was disinterested in pursuing the request.

Commissioner Liaison Peter O'Bryan told the committee there had been no assignments of third parties to the North Sebastian Conservation Area and Sand Lake Tract conservation easements.

Staff Report on Status of Funding, Acquisition Closings and Active Projects (00:03:45)

Mr. Roland DeBlois, IRC Chief of Environmental Planning, went over the information contained in his report on the status of funding, recent acquisition closings, active projects and funding opportunities, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office.

A discussion ensued on the grant applications and the Sebastian Harbor Preserve not being selected in the Florida Communities Trust 2008 funding cycle. Ms. Veron questioned if the City of Sebastian would be interested in working with the County in sharing the management and planning of the conservation lands located in the City of Sebastian. Mayor Coy was not opposed to the idea and indicated she would take the topic to the next City of Sebastian Council meeting.

Mr. DeBlois concluded staff would report back at an upcoming LAAC meeting with more details to the specific categories where the County may be able to obtain more points for the Sebastian Harbor Preserve and present the points given by staff on the previous grant application. He also mentioned the Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts Program as another opportunity to obtain funding for the Sebastian Harbor Preserve.

Overview of a New Project Proposal known as High Pointe (00:38:04)

Mr. DeBlois gave a brief overview of an Environmental Lands Program Application for a 161 acre parcel located on the south side of 65th Street known as the High Pointe Property, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office.

Mr. John Baker, applicant for the High Pointe Property, gave a detailed description and handed out a copy of an aerial map of the property, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office. Chairman Baker stated he had already visited the site and suggested LAAC visit the High Pointe Property site in the near future.

Other Business (01:03:59)

a. Updated List of Properties Acquired with LAAC Funds

Mr. DeBlois gave a brief overview of the properties acquired with LAAC Funds, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office.

A discussion ensued on future funding for LAAC projects especially with the state cutbacks. Mr. Doty wondered if LAAC could direct staff to clarify whether the County could sell conservation credits. He felt it was an interesting idea and referred to the Highland County Program to sell gopher tortoise or scrub jay conservation credits. Mr. DeBlois told the committee in order to sell conservation credits and charge fees to received gopher tortoises, the County would be obligated under state permits to make sure those gopher tortoises were managed properly.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.