

**Green PLACE Ad Hoc Advisory Committee
Minutes of Meeting – February 21, 2007
Environmental Protection Division (EPD)
Panther Training Room 800 Mercy Drive, Suite 4, Orlando, Florida 32808-7896**

Green PLACE Ad Hoc Advisory Committee

Members PRESENT:

Lori Cunniff: Orange County Environmental Protection Division (EPD)
Larry Pearson: South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD)
Keith Schue: The Nature Conservancy
Marge Holt: Citizen Member
Nancy Christman: St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD)
Charles Lee: Citizen Member
Nancy Prine: Citizen Member

Members ABSENT:

Vivian Garfein: Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Vera Carter: Citizen Member
Lindsey Stevens: Trust for Public Lands (TPL)
Jack Stout, PhD: University of Central Florida

Staff PRESENT:

Beth Jackson: Orange County Environmental Protection Division (EPD)
Elizabeth R. Johnson: EPD
Alicia Eidam: Orange County Parks and Recreation Division

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Lori Cunniff called the meeting to order on February 21, 2007, at 3:42 pm.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon motion by Charles Lee, seconded by Larry Pearson, and carried by all members present voting AYE by voice vote; Vivian Garfein, Vera Carter, Lindsay Stevens, and Jack Stout being absent; The Green PLACE Ad Hoc Advisory Committee voted approval of the January 17, 2007, minutes of the Green PLACE Ad Hoc Advisory Committee.

III. EPD REPORT:

Old Business:

Green PLACE Property Uses:

- a) Request from Stormwater-Strite Property

Lori Cunniff asked for clarification from the Green PLACE Ad Hoc Advisory Committee. Specifically, she wishes to make sure that the Green PLACE Ad Hoc Advisory Committee members understood that the Stormwater Management Division is willing to purchase the acreage needed for the Stormwater and Right of Way improvements. The Green PLACE Ad Hoc Advisory Committee confirmed that they understood that fact, but again reiterate that they offered several different options to the Stormwater Management Division that would alleviate the problems being experienced in that area without having to utilize the Strite Property. The Green PLACE Ad Hoc Advisory Committee reconfirmed that the decision made at the January 17, 2007 stands.

New Business:

Acquisition Strategy:

a) Little Econlockhatchee River

Open discussion ensued and it has been determined that there is little opportunity for purchasing property within the Little Econlockhatchee Drainage Basin due to its highly urbanized nature. Lori Cunniff was asked to find out what is under conservation on the Orange County landfill in this area and to check with Orange County Highway Construction Division to see what the effect of the East West Connector road and the bridging of the Little Econ River will have on current Green PLACE purchased properties.

Lori Cunniff asked the Green PLACE Ad Hoc Advisory Committee members if they would like to see if 2 properties (Harrod and Sunshine International, Inc Properties) in this area would be appropriate for Orange County Parks and Recreation. Alicia Eidam was asked to present this item to the Manager of Parks and Recreation for the purpose of a Nature Center.

b) Lake Apopka

There are three properties available for purchase. The total acreage of the three parcels is 56 acres. The Miller Parcel is 13 acres, Hull Island is 33 acres, and the Lutchman Parcel is 10 acres. The committee discussed the potential acquisition at length.

Upon motion by Nancy Prine, seconded by Charles Lee, and carried by all members present voting AYE by voice vote; Vivian Garfein, Vera Carter, Lindsay Stevens, and Jack Stout being absent; The Green PLACE Ad Hoc Advisory Committee voted to evaluate the 3 parcels for purchase and to include Oakland Nature Preserve property use suggestions.

c) Shelby Property

This property is 87 acres and was evaluated along with the other properties within the St. Johns River Hydrologic Basin. EPD staff informed the Green PLACE Ad Hoc Advisory Committee members that the property is available for purchase. Open discussion ensued.

Upon motion by Charles Lee, seconded by Nancy Prine, and carried by all members present voting AYE by voice vote; Vivian Garfein, Vera Carter, Lindsay Stevens, and Jack Stout being absent; The Green PLACE Ad Hoc Advisory Committee voted to evaluate this property for purchase and to evaluate other properties related to this parcel to form a corridor to other properties further west.

d) Tucker Ranch

This property was previously evaluated by the first Green PLACE Ad Hoc Advisory Committee and placed on the A list. The property owner was approached to determine if they were interested in selling the property. The property owner was not interested in selling at that time. At this time, staff has been in discussions with the City of Winter Garden to partner in the purchase of this property and the owner is open to selling the property. The City of Winter Garden is interested in a small portion of the property for active use.

Upon motion by Keith Schue, seconded by Marge Holt, and carried by all members present voting AYE by voice vote; Vivian Garfein, Vera Carter, Lindsay Stevens, and Jack Stout being absent; The Green PLACE Ad Hoc

Advisory Committee voted to move forward with exploring the partnership with the City of Winter Garden with the contingency that insurances are included in any partnership agreement that ensure that the County will only purchased that portion of the property that will support passive uses.

IV. OPEN DISCUSSION:

Lori Cunniff discussed the concept of layering additional protection via Conservation Easements and Transfer of Development Rights on Green PLACE properties by partnering with public and private entities.

V. PUBLIC INPUT:

None

Charles Lee left the meeting at 5:00 pm.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.

a) Scheduling of the next meeting.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 7, 2007.

Chairperson, Green PLACE Ad Hoc Committee

Date

End of Minutes, Prepared by Rochelle Braxton