



APPROVED MINUTES

Eagle Sanctuary Steering Committee

December 3, 2009, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

City of Pembroke Pines City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room
10100 Pines Boulevard
Pembroke Pines, FL 33026

- I. Welcome - *Doug Young, Chair, Eagle Sanctuary Steering Committee.* Doug introduced Carole Morris, Lead Intergovernmental Representative, South Florida Water Management District. He also announced that Elaine Kugelman had resigned from the Steering Committee.
- II. Attendees: Doug Young, Chair, Victor Suarez, Kelly Smith, Trisha Norton, Ken Schneider (recorder), Brian Mealey. City of Pembroke Pines Representative: Sharon Williams. Absent: Grant Campbell, Diane Guidry, Barry Heimlich, Al Griffin.
- III. Minutes of October 22, 2009 meeting were **APPROVED** with minor grammatical changes.
- IV. Business Issues
 1. Designation of Eagle Sanctuary – Sharon provided copies of the latest draft of the Conservation Element of the City of Pembroke Pines Comprehensive Plan. She noted changes on pages CE-4 and 8 that add protection of Bald Eagle nesting sites, and set out a basis for a Bald Eagle Sanctuary Protection Ordinance to be adopted by September, 2011. The draft recommends coordinated efforts to explore safe parking and viewing areas during the nesting season, and support for the Steering Committee's efforts to secure funding for sanctuary activities, including installation a nest web cam. **Members will review the draft, and Sharon will accept comments and input before and during the next meeting.**
 2. Eagle Nest Cam - UPDATE - Doug collected information he obtained about nest cameras around the country from other attendees at the USF&W National Conservation Training Center in West Virginia. He described a particular nest cam in Oregon that was sponsored by an NBC affiliate, and plans to set up meetings with FP&L and Comcast/NBC about the possibility of their sponsorship and/or support. Since these entities provide the services that would be essential to the operation of a web cam, Committee members emphasized the importance of their support. **Doug will provide Steering Committee members with technical and cost information he has gathered up to this point, via e-mail.**

Ken provided a draft task list and suggested schedule of sequential actions that must be completed if the nest camera is to be installed on schedule, by October 1, 2010. An important issue to be determined is which party should apply for the FWC permit: the City, or another party such as a non-profit entity. **The Board will consider this issue and assure that the appropriate applicant entity is identified well in advance of submission.**

Brian offered to research the availability and design of artificial nest platforms that might resemble nest trees, to be used in the event that the nest tree were destroyed in a wind storm, and also to possibly attract additional Bald Eagles to nest in areas with stands of relatively mature native pines. **Victor will assist Brian in identifying such candidate areas in Broward County.**



3. Re-establish liaison with Broward School Board – Doug will contact the newly appointed Board member who represents the eagle nest area. Members suggested that the need for parking on weekends might be brought up, and that the Principal of West Broward High School might be the point of first contact. **Doug will report on the results of his efforts at the next meeting.**
4. Signage – The FWC signs have been posted in front of the nest, and “No Parking” signs have been placed by FDOT all along the south side of Pines Boulevard. Viewers will be limited to the north side sidewalk. Local police will provide enforcement. Regular eagle watchers are asked to provide good example to the general public, but are not responsible for law enforcement.
5. Action Items for next meeting are highlighted in **bold face type** in these minutes.

VI. Other Business - Carole Morris briefly reviewed SFWMD policies in regard to the wetlands under that agency's jurisdiction. It was generally agreed that parking on WMD land would not be feasible, but the pros and cons of a safe viewing area just to the west of the City property were discussed. Carole briefly mentioned two CERP (Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Projects) planned for Southwest Broward County. The high priority C-11 impoundment, in Weston, and the C-9 impoundment, which is mostly in Miramar and includes some of Pembroke Pines just south of the proposed eagle sanctuary. These impoundments will treat storm water for safe release into the Everglades sheet flow, and may hold up to four feet of standing water during times of peak runoff. **Carole will provide the Steering Committee with a more detailed presentation at the next meeting.**

VII. Next Scheduled Eagle Sanctuary Committee Meeting:

Date: January 28, 2010 (Tentative)

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: City of Pembroke Pines City Hall

Meeting Room: TBD

VII. Adjournment at 5:29 PM