



DRAFT MINUTES

Eagle Sanctuary Steering Committee

March 25, 2010 - 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*

II. Attendees: Doug Young, Chair, Kelly Smith, Trisha Norton, Al Griffin, Ken Schneider (recorder), South Florida Water Management District Lead Intergovernmental Representative: Carole Morris. Absent: Barry Heimlich, Victor Suarez, City of Pembroke Pines Representative: Sharon Williams, Grant Campbell, Diana Guidry, Brian Mealey,.

III. Minutes of February 25, 2010 meeting were **APPROVED**

IV. Business Issues—Action items from prior meeting

1. Camera placement concerns—Trisha reported that she had contacted Doug Macke of FPL in an e-mail that expressed the need for the Steering Committee to decide upon the placement of the planned nest camera before applying for a FWC permit. She asked whether FPL would allow a camera to be placed on a power pole. In reply, Doug reiterated PFL policy “that this would not be allowed because we are limited to what’s permitted on our poles (which is basically phone and cable) and where we have a joint agreement with liability limits.” Brian Mealey has not provided information as to his contacts with FPL, but members opined that the company’s policy appears firm on this subject.

Doug Young said he was still waiting for a reply to his inquiries with FWC on camera placement issues. As appropriate, he will seek consultation with the City of Pembroke Pines to assist him in deciding the most feasible option.

Doug will obtain FWC agency position as to whether camera may be placed in the nest tree.

Doug will include issues about guy wires in his discussion with FWC officials, and provide the Committee with e-mail feedback.

2. Nest Cam sponsorship—Doug reported that FPL may be a promising source for partial funding of the project. So far, he has not reached policy level people at NBC-6 or Comcast. **Doug has scheduled a meeting with Mayor Ortis at 10:00 AM on April 5th, to seek his assistance in identifying and contacting appropriate parties.**

Doug will initiate meetings ASAP with policy level staff of NBC-6, Comcast and other possible sponsors.

3. Nest Cam Project Timeline for FWC Permit—Ken noted that the project is now about 3-4 months behind schedule in accomplishing critical tasks necessary to allow installation of the nest camera before October 1, 2010, when the next breeding season officially begins. Application cannot be made until critical tasks related to sponsorship, electrical and broadband cable service, camera equipment specifications and cost, and camera placement are completed. All of these tasks had start dates



between December, 2009 and February 1, 2010, and latest completion dates of April 1, 2010, and none have yet commenced. The planning window for applying for an FWC permit is between April 1 and May 15, which would assure a final FWC decision by August 15. If the permit is approved, this would allow only 6 weeks for construction, at the height of the rain/hurricane season. Further, if the eagles return to the nest during September, construction could be halted even earlier.

Doug will initiate formal contact and consultation with FWC as to procedures and timing for the permit, as soon as possible, and will seek guidance from F&WS officials.

Doug will contact Mayor Ortis to discuss possible actions by the City in support of the FWC permit, including contact with FWC leadership.

Brian will also make contact with F&WS to obtain specific permitting information.

4. Eagle Naming—Kelly provided Ken with 5 sets of names, and Ken posted a poll on the Internet. Nearly 300 votes were recorded from 34 States. The names “Lucky, Chance & Courage” were selected. Detailed results and a map may be viewed at: <http://www.rosyfinch.com/PollPage.html>.

5. Roadside soft barriers— Trisha and Ken reported that the number of observers at the nest site is considerably less than last year. This is probably due to parking restrictions, improved signage and possibly greater enforcement by police. Also, growth of the melaleucas in front of the nest restricts visibility, less media coverage the fact that the novelty has diminished all appear to discourage the public from visiting and re-visiting the site. The eaglets are now 9 weeks old, and should fledge in another 2-3 weeks, which should eliminate the need for additional barriers.

V. SFWMD C-11 project on-site meeting and status – Carole reported that the Weston C-11 impoundment would be completed before the Pembroke Pines/Miramar C-9 impoundment (which would occupy the southern and western boundaries of the proposed Bald Eagle Sanctuary) and the connecting seepage canal, but unresolved land value and funding issues are holding up action.

VI. Action Items for next meeting (**in bold print, above**)

VII. Other Business- None

VIII. Next Scheduled Eagle Sanctuary Committee Meeting:

Date: (Tentative) Thursday, April 8
Time: 4:00 PM
Location: City of Pembroke Pines City Hall, Meeting
Room: TBD

Adjournment at 5:30 PM