



## Florida Greenways and Trails Council (FGTC) Public Hearing and Council Meeting



**PUBLIC MEETING:** Thursday, June 23, 2016

**TIME:** 9:00 am

**LOCATION:** Ellie Schiller Homosassa Springs State Park,  
Conference Room  
4150 S Suncoast Blvd, Homosassa Springs, FL 34446

### FGTC Members in Attendance for Thursday Council Meeting:

Brian Smith, (Chair) Appointed by the Governor-Trail User; Sam Carr, Appointed by the Governor-Greenway User; Sarah Glassner, Appointed by the Governor-Greenway User; Dennis Dix, AICP (Substitute Linda Chapin) Appointed by the President of the Senate-Greenway User; Becky Afonso, Appointed by the President of the Senate-Greenway; Ralph Lair, (Vice-Chair) Appointed by the Speaker of the House-Greenway User; Sine Murray, Florida Department of Environmental Protection(FDEP); Jerrie Lindsey, FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; Robin Birdsong, Florida Department of Transportation(FDOT); Colleen Kruk, Water Management District; Shawn Thomas, Federal Land Management Agency (FLMA); Patricia M. Steed, Regional Planning Council.

### OGT Staff in Attendance for Thursday Council Meeting:

Samantha Browne, (Bureau Chief); Britney Moore, Regional Land Trails Coordinator-North

## Announcements

### Approve Agenda

FGTC REMARKS:

**MOTION: Patricia M. Steed**

**SECOND: Sam Carr**

FGTC RECOMMENDATION:

**(X) APPROVE MEETING AGENDA**

**( ) APPROVE WITH MODIFICATIONS:**

- ( ) DEFER
- ( ) WITHDRAW
- ( ) NOT APPROVE
- ( ) OTHER:

## Approve the **March 31, 2016** Meeting Summary

FGTC REMARKS:

**MOTION: Patricia M. Steed**

**SECOND: Sam Carr**

FGTC RECOMMENDATION:

**(X) APPROVE MEETING SUMMARY**

( ) APPROVE WITH MODIFICATIONS:

( ) DEFER

( ) WITHDRAW

( ) NOT APPROVE

( ) OTHER:

## Election of Council: Chair

FGTC Remarks:

**VOLUNTEER/NOMINATION: Nomination**

**NOMINEE: Brian Smith**

**MOTION: Becky Afonso**

FGTC RECOMMENDATION:

**(X) APPROVE**

## ADDING RTP ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Members:

**Jack Terrell**

**Ted Everett**

FGTC RECOMMENDATION:

**(X) APPROVE**

## DESIGNATION REQUEST

### Designation Request: WERNER-BOYCE SALT SPRINGS STATE PARK

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

*In 2003, Florida state parks which were wholly owned by the BTITF were formally designated into the Florida Greenways and Trails System (FGTS). Efforts are underway to designate the remaining state parks, and to update information on those designated in 2003 based on the most recent jurisdiction report.*

#### Public Comments:

None

#### COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

None

#### COUNCIL VOTE: \*ROLL CALL

##### PROJECT LIST

Yes List: Brian Smith, Sam Carr, Sarrah Glassner, Dennis Dix, Becky Afonso, Ralph Lair, Robin Birdsong, Jerrie Lindsey, Colleen Kruk, Patricia Steed, Sine Murray

No List: None

Notes: Abstain-Shawn Thomas

##### VOTES

A: 11

B: 0

NOTES: 1-ABSTAIN

#### FGTC RECOMMENDATION:

**APPROVE**

APPROVE WITH MODIFICATIONS:

DEFER

WITHDRAW

NOT APPROVE

OTHER:

## Designation Request: LAKE JACKSON BLUEWAY

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

*Lake Jackson is located just north of the City of Tallahassee, in Leon County, Florida. Lake Jackson is a scenic prairie lake and excellent destination for outdoor recreation opportunities. The lake watershed encompasses 4,000 acres and is encircled by a mix of public lands, private landowners and residential neighborhoods. In 1974 the Lake Jackson, Carr Lake, and Mallard Pond ecosystem was designated as the Lake Jackson Aquatic Preserve by the Florida Legislature. The Lake Jackson ecosystem is comprised of freshwater marshes and native and exotic submerged vegetation that provides exceptional fish, waterfowl and wading bird habitat. In addition, Lake Jackson is designated as a Surface Water Improvement & Management water body (SWIM) and Outstanding Florida Water.*

### Public Comments:

None

### COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

None

### COUNCIL VOTE: \*ROLL CALL

#### PROJECT LIST

Yes List: Brian Smith, Sam Carr, Sarrah Glassner, Dennis Dix, Becky Afonso, Ralph Lair, Robin Birdsong, Jerrie Lindsey, Colleen Kruk, Patricia Steed, Sine Murray

No List: None

Notes: Abstain-Shawn Thomas

#### VOTES

A: 11

B: 0

NOTES: 1-ABSTAIN

### FGTC RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE

APPROVE WITH MODIFICATIONS:

DEFER

WITHDRAW

( ) NOT APPROVE

( ) OTHER:

## RTP (Recreational Trails Program) 2016 Priority List

### RTP Advisory Committee Members in Attendance for 2016 Priority List

#### Review:

Brian Smith, (Chair) Appointed by the Governor-Trail User; Sam Carr, Appointed by the Governor-Greenway User; Sarrah Glassner, Appointed by the Governor-Greenway User; Dennis Dix, AICP (Substitute Linda Chapin) Appointed by the President of the Senate-Greenway User; Becky Afonso, Appointed by the President of the Senate-Greenway; Ralph Lair, (Vice-Chair) Appointed by the Speaker of the House-Greenway User; Sine Murray, Florida Department of Environmental Protection(FDEP); Jerrie Lindsey, FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; Robin Birdsong, Florida Department of Transportation(FDOT); Colleen Kruk, Water Management District; Shawn Thomas, Federal Land Management Agency (FLMA); Patricia M. Steed, Regional Planning Council; Jack Terrell, National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council- Motorized Trails User; Ted Everett, Trail User- Motorized Trails User.

#### *Pamela Lister-Office of Operations*

*19 Applications received*

*Ineligible: 14*

*1-postmarked after the submission deadline*

*9-did not prove or have Site Control*

*4-project did not meet the intent of the RTP program*

#### **Charlotte County-Harbor Walk Phase 1B:**

Non-motorized Trail Project Amount Requested: \$200,000 Amount Proposed: \$200,000

#### **FGTC RECOMMENDED:**

**(X) APPROVE**

#### **USFS Osceola National Forest-Wiggins Campground OHV Upgrade:**

Motorized Trail Project Amount Requested: \$308,287 Amount Proposed: \$308,287

FGTC RECOMMENDED:

**(X) APPROVE**

New Port Richey, City of-James E. Grey Preserve Urban Trail Connector:

Non-motorized Trail Project Amount Requested: \$200,000 Amount Proposed: \$200,000

FGTC RECOMMENDED:

**(X) APPROVE**

USFS Osceola National Forest-Ocala NF OHV Trail Maintenance:

Motorized Trail Project Amount Requested: \$255,000 Amount Proposed: \$40,000

FGTC RECOMMENDED:

**(X) APPROVE**

North Palm Beach, Village of-Community Center Fitness Trail:

Non-motorized Trail Project Amount Requested: \$200,000 Amount Proposed: \$200,000.

FGTC Remarks:

**MOTION: Sarrah Glassner**

The Council felt it was a good project but not necessarily fit this funding program. Remove from Priority list

FGTC RECOMMENDATION:

**(X) APPROVE**

North Palm Beach, Village of-Community Center Fitness Trail:

FGTC RECOMMENDED:

**(X) NOT APPROVE**

### Office of Greenways & Trails Bylaws:

Benjamin Melnick-Attorney, Department of Environmental Protection

### Florida Greenways and Trails Council Roles:

**Office of Greenways & Trails**

The duties of the council shall include the following:

- (a) Facilitate a statewide system of interconnected landscape linkages, conservation corridors, greenbelts, recreational corridors and trails, scenic corridors, utilitarian corridors, reserves, regional parks and preserves, ecological sites, and cultural/historic/recreational sites using land-

based trails that connect urban, suburban, and rural areas of the state and facilitate expansion of the statewide system of freshwater and saltwater paddling trails.

- Get to know the Opportunity and Priority map – especially in your Area-*Be familiar with the area and people within the area (help facilitate connections)*
  - Attend local and state meetings to educate others about the maps and encourage Inclusion-*Get Involved-Be the ambassador for trails/ Access to PPTS/Information for people (Council Members) to use when going out and speaking/presenting/educating. (Resource Library-Added to the Share Point Page) Hire Someone that can facilitate a strategic plan. Goals & Objectives.*
- (b) Recommend priorities for critical links in the Florida Greenways and Trails System.
- Participate in the public meetings when updating the Opportunity/Priority maps- *Attend meetings/assisting in reaching out to contacts*
  - Review changes to Maps-*Look at areas you are familiar with and help with information gathering*
  - Identify and recommend the priorities
- (c) Review recommendations of the office for acquisition funding under the Florida Greenways and Trails Program and recommend to the Secretary of Environmental Protection which projects should be acquired.
- Educate local governments in your areas -*Resource Library*
  - Encourage acquisition applications that will help complete the FGTS
  - Review the acquisition applications
  - Approve/recommend projects that help complete the Priority System
- (d) Review designation proposals for inclusion in the Florida Greenways and Trails System.
- Be familiar with the Designation program
  - Encourage public/private designations
  - Review/Approve designation applications
- (e) Encourage public-private partnerships to develop and manage greenways and trails.
- Be familiar with the FGTS Opportunity and Priority System
  - Educate local governments, developers, health organizations, hotel/restaurants, TPO/MPO, visitor bureaus, schools, tourist development councils, etc. about the benefits of trails (economy, tourism, health, transportation, recreation and conservation)
  - Facilitate meetings between these groups to establish partnerships
- (f) Review progress toward meeting established benchmarks and recommend appropriate action.
- Develop work plan with measurable goals and objectives-*\$/Assistance Strategic Plan from Foundation*
  - Develop strategy to meet goals
  - Establish working groups to accomplish goals
  - Discuss progress and each quarterly meeting to ensure you are meeting goals
- (g) Make recommendations for updating and revising the implementation plan for the Florida Greenways and Trails System.
- Be familiar with FGTS 5-year Plan – expires December 2017
  - Plan update needs to be complete by January 2018
  - Identify and make recommendations on updated 5-year Plan

- Attend public meetings in your area
- (h) Promote greenways and trails support organizations.
  - Be familiar with organizations in your area that support greenways and trails
  - Participate with the organizations – Become members
  - Educate about the benefits of greenways and trails and encourage participation from these organizations
- (i) Support the Florida Greenways and Trails System through intergovernmental coordination, budget recommendations, advocacy, education, and any other appropriate way.
  - Encourage partnerships and coalitions *-Encourage Cooperation*
  - Participate locally to educate cities and counties about the benefits of greenways and trails
  - Encourage local governments to support projects within the FGTS in their budget
  - Encourage local governments to work with legislative contacts
  - Be familiar with greenways and trails activities and advocate for projects
  - Participate on local boards or groups to educate about the FGTS and the benefits

Shared-Use Non-motorized (SUN) Trail Network Report:

Robin Birdsong-SUN Trail Program Manager, FDOT  
 In the process of reviewing the applications received.

Florida Greenways & Trails Foundation Report:

Brian Smith-Vice-President, Florida Greenways & Trails Foundation

November 2-3, 2016-Scheduling Joint Meeting with Florida Greenways & Trails Council and Florida Greenways & Trails Foundation

FGTC MEMBERS UPDATE

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ NEXT MEETING

Thursday-Friday – September 22-23, 2016 Miami, Florida