

Mayor David Browning, Seat 4
Vice Mayor Ronald D. Jarriel, Seat 1
Councilman Tom Goltzené, Seat 5
Councilman Ryan Liang, Seat 3
Councilman Jim Rockett, Seat 2



Town of Loxahatchee Groves
Roadway, Equestrian Trails & Greenway
Advisory Committee Meeting
Wednesday, June 25, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

At

Central Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce
13901 Southern Boulevard, Loxahatchee Groves

Chair Keith Harris
Vice-Chair Jo Siciliano
Committee Member Nina Corning
Committee Member Kathy Strehlow
Town Council Liaison Tom Goltzené

Town Manager Mark Kutney
Town Clerk Janet K. Whipple
Town Attorney Michael D. Cirullo, Jr.

TENTATIVE
SUBJECT TO
REVISION

PUBLIC NOTICE/AGENDA

*Vision: To Develop a Recreational Greenways and Equestrian
Trail Network for the Rural Town of Loxahatchee Groves.*

1. OPENING

- a. Call to Order & Roll Call
- b. Approval of Agenda

2. MINUTES – Approval of Minutes:

- a. **March 26, 2014**
- b. **May 15, 2014 – RETGAC portion of Joint Meeting with P&Z**

3. PRESENTATIONS - None

4. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Discussion of B Road and F Road crossings at Okeechobee Boulevard. (*Chair Harris*)
- b. Discussion of Equestrian signs.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion of Trails - Site Overview. (*Chair Harris*)(*email included*)
- b. Discussion for notification of monthly Committee Reports to Town Council. (*Chair Harris*)
- c. Update on Minto/Okeechobee Boulevard Joint Workshop between RETGAC and P&Z. Need to develop recommendations to Council. (*Chair Harris*)

6. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE - Town Manager Kutney

7. CLOSING COMMENTS

- a. Public
- b. Committee Members
- c. Concluding Administrative Remarks

8. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 23, 2014.

Comments Cards: Anyone from the public wishing to address this Committee must complete a Comment Card before speaking. This must be filled out completely with your full name and address and given to the Town Clerk. During the meeting, before public comments, you may only address the item on the agenda in which is being discussed at the time of your comment. During public comments, you may address any item you desire. Please remember that there is a three (3) minute time limit on all public comment. Any person who decides to appeal any decision of this Committee with respect to any matter considered at this meeting will need a record of the proceedings and for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made which included testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Persons with disabilities requiring accommodations in order to participate should contact the Town Clerk's Office (561-793-2418), at least 48 hours in advance to request such accommodation.

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MINUTES

*Vision: To Develop a Recreational Greenways and Equestrian
Trail Network for the Rural Town of Loxahatchee Groves.*

1. OPENING

a. Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Nina Corning called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. Present were Chair Corning, Vice-Chair Kathy Strehlow, Committee Members Keith Harris, and Jo Siciliano. Also present was Councilman Jim Rockett, Town Manager Mark Kutney, and Town Clerk Janet K. Whipple.

b. Approval of Agenda

Vice-Chair Strehlow asked if the Board had to discuss 5.a. *FAAC PowerPoint*. Town Manager Kutney replied that it was just informational, and was considered a “*receive and file*”.

Vice-Chair Strehlow then asked about 5.c. *Discussion of Two Humans to One Horse Regulations*, this had nothing to do with Roadway, Greenway, and Equestrian Trials.

Chair Corning noted that she had passed the gavel at the last meeting and asked for this topic to be on the next agenda.

Discussion ensued on which Board should do the review.

Motion: Vice-Chair Strehlow made a motion to strike 5.c. *Discussion of Two Humans to One Horse Regulations*; Board Member Siciliano seconded the motion. Upon vote, the motion passed 4/0. (This approved the agenda as amended.)

2. MINUTES – Approval of Minutes: February 26, 2014

Amendments were made to strike the mention of Chair Corning reading the bullet points, culverts, the gas tax matter, clarity concerning comments made by Phyllis Maniglia, 359 West D Road, on signage in the Palms West Plaza, Board Member Harris’s comment on breakfast at McDonalds, and the number of times Chair Corning had reviewed the MREG.

Motion: Board Member Harris made a motion to accept the Minutes, as amended. Board Member Siciliano seconded the motion. Upon vote, the motion passed 4/0.

3. PRESENTATIONS - *None*

4. OLD BUSINESS - *None*

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. FAAC PowerPoint (*Review and File*)

Board Member Harris made a motion to accept the FAAC PowerPoint “*Receive and File*”. Vice-Chair Strehlow seconded the motion. Upon vote, the motion passed 4/0.

b. Controlled Equestrian Crossings - Prove Numbers Are There

Board Member Harris reported that through a discussion with Dan Weisberg, Director, Traffic Analysis, Palm Beach County Traffic Division, this was a project discussion to work on the controlled equestrian crossings along Okeechobee Boulevard. Mr. Weisberg requested a master plan of all the equestrian trail systems in the area; and as a result, he volunteered to authorize traffic counters at designated locations. Mr. Harris advised Mr. Weisberg that this would not be feasible at this time, as there are no official designated trails along Okeechobee Boulevard. Mr. Weisberg had stated if “we build them they will come”. FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation) has also agreed to install controlled equestrian crossings along Southern Boulevard during the widening process. Mr. Harris has collected various local community road maps in order to draw in equestrian trails, which he can create to scale, and present to Mr. Weisberg.

The Board discussed logistics of the maps and trails.

Board Member Siciliano, as an equestrian, motorist and motorist of a horse trailer, personally felt roundabouts should be considered at the crossings on Okeechobee Boulevard. This is a great safety factor, and will lend with the rural community concept.

Mr. Kutney likes the roundabout concept, and he addressed the study done by Calvin, Giordano and Associates, Inc. He will provide a copy to the Board for the next meeting.

Virginia Standish, 15410 North Road, requested feedback concerning the future and Okeechobee Boulevard. She wanted to know, when the Town does Right-of Ways will there be pedestrian paths on both sides of Okeechobee Boulevard, as this could enhance the trail system, as well as, establish a safety factor.

Board Member Harris stated if the Board is reassessing its presentation to Palm Beach County in how the changes would supplement and compliment the crossings, does the Board also need to make the presentation to Town Council.

Town Manager Kutney felt the Board needed to do more research before presenting any ideas to Town Council.

- c. Discussion of Two Humans to One Horse Regulations – *(Removed from the Agenda 03/26/2014.)*

6. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE - Town Manager Kutney

Town Manager Kutney had no report items for the Committee.

Councilman Jim Rockett, 14155 43rd Road North, asked about the transfer of the \$40,000 grant funds to the Town.

Town Manager Kutney reported the discussion would be on the Town Council Agenda for Tuesday, April 1, 2014, as well as sign matters. (*Clerk Note: Item was moved to the May 6, 2014 Agenda due to large agenda in April.*)

7. CLOSING COMMENTS

a. Public

Virginia Standish, 15410 North Road, likes the fact that the Board is taking it slow in their planning. She asked for the Board to bear in mind in addition to \$40,000, what is available, and possible have Town Manager Kutney review the agreement with the Title Insurance Company for the culvert on North Road. There were one or two sentences the Attorney insisted on including - something regarding trials (a couple of years ago) as there may be an additional commitment the Town has coming. She was not sure if it was financial or not.

b. Committee Members

The Board discussed grant writing and the availability of the grant writer.

Board Member Siciliano had no further comments.

Vice-Chair Strehlow made a comment concerning grant presentations.

Board Member Harris had no further comments.

Chair Corning brought multiple hand-outs to the table, which she will send to Town Manager Kutney for him to email to all Board Members.

c. Concluding Administrative Remarks - *None*

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, Chair Corning adjourned the meeting at 8:52 p.m.

Janet K. Whipple, Town Clerk

Nina Corning, Chair

**These minutes were approved during the June 25, 2014 RETGAC Meeting.
(Postponed from the April 23, 2014 Meeting)**

Motion: Board Member Guillaume moved to approve Ordinance No 2014-05 by modifying as directed amending the section on page three (3) of six (6) (15 of 126 of the Agenda Packet) where *shooting range indoor* is stricken it is now going to read shooting range with *indoor* stricken; the read will be shooting range, archery range. Vice-Mayor Crawford seconded the motion. Upon vote the motion passed 5/0.

New Business - None

6. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

7. ADJOURNMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONING MEETING

There being no further business to come before the Planning and Zoning Board, Chair Lipp adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

CONVENE JOINT MEETING:

Planning and Zoning Chair Lipp called the Joint Meeting with the Roadway, Equestrian Trails and Greenway Advisory Board to order at 7:33 p.m.

Attendance was taken for a second time for each Board. The only deviation from the first roll call was the addition of Planning and Zoning Board Member Guillaume who had arrived once the meeting convened; and Planning and Zoning Board Member Keith Harris left the P&Z Board assumed his position as Chair for the Roadway, Equestrian Trails, and Greenway Advisory Committee (RETGAC).

1. Joint Workshop to discuss road issues particularly Okeechobee Boulevard and the use of roundabouts.

Town Manager Kutney explained why he felt the Joint Meeting should be convened to discuss the possibility of roundabouts on Okeechobee Boulevard.

Vice-Chair Jo Siciliano had brought up the roundabouts during the last RETGAC meeting and felt it was a better alternative than traffic lights. The roundabouts were a better way to organize traffic, keep it quieter, and possibly request from Palm Beach County that a small portion of Okeechobee Boulevard be dedicated to the Town and build a roundabout.

The Boards discussed the feasibility of the Town taking control, the width of the road and roundabouts, the design of the roundabouts to accommodate farm equipment, equestrians, and pedestrians and still keep the traffic flowing smoothly.

Town Manager Kutney reported the strain traffic signal would cost approximately \$290,000, and the only one approve at this time is at Okeechobee Boulevard and D Road.

Planning and Zoning Chair Lipp suggested Town Manager Kutney speak with Paul Schofield, Village Manager, in Wellington for the feasibility taking control of the roads. He also questioned whether the Town could go to Palm Beach County to see if Gas Tax money could be provided.

Motion: Planning and Zoning Board Member Lawrence Corning made a motion, which was the consensus of both Boards that the joint committees recommend to the Town Council to seek to take over ownership and maintenance of Okeechobee Boulevard with the goal of using roundabouts as a traffic calming and traffic management system in the character of the Town of Loxahatchee Groves. Roadway, Equestrian Trails, and Greenway Advisory Committee Chair Keith Harris seconded the motion.

The Boards discussed the pros and cons of the roundabouts, and the fact Town Council has already approved equestrian crossings, and drainage canal ownership.

Upon roll call vote, the motion passed 8/0. With the Planning and Zoning Board voting 4/0 and the Roadway Equestrian Trails, Advisory Committee voting 4/0.

RETGAC Chair Harris provided a report for alternatives to the OGEM road resurfacing product.

RETGAC Board Member Nina Corning reported that on Monday, May 12, 2014, Governor Scott signed the Trails Bill, and Town has site control to now ask for grants.

ADJOURNMENT OF JOINT MEETING

There being no further business to come before the Planning and Zoning / Roadway, Equestrian Trails, and Greenway Advisory Board, Chair Lipp adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Janet K. Whipple, Town Clerk

Dennis Lipp, Chair P & Z

Keith Harris, Chair RETGAC

These minutes were approved during the _____ Planning and Zoning Meeting.
Joint Session of Meeting was approved during the _____ RETGAC Meeting.

From: Alan Harris [<mailto:qwikfix78@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Sunday, June 8, 2014 7:56 PM
To: Mark Kutney
Subject: request of correspondence

Good Morning Mark,

A great day to be alive! I have mentioned to you on several occasions that I wished to prepare an as-built overview of the trail routes. The purpose and intent of this citizens assessment is perform a simple visual inspection of the canal easements to obtain a perspective on what scopes of work may be required to provide the best trail system that can be prepared on the existing trail sites. Then the RETGAC can become a think tank and formulate a recommendation to provide judicious advice, from a citizens prospective, to town council.

As Chair of RETGAC, I respectfully request all town files as they are a matter of public record to include but not limited to all town correspondence to the water district, all town and district correspondence, to state level agencies and legislative representatives concerning the recent legislative bill for the town's proposed trails on water district easements.

Advisory committee activities may include the study of critical issues, hearing public testimony, independent research, and reviewing staff reports and recommendations all of which are intended so that the committee is prepared to discuss, formulate and forward well-developed, thoughtful recommendations to the council. The purpose for the request is simply that an architect is required to know all conditions before one designs the trails.

By designing the details of the proposed trail routes a schedule of values may be developed thereby providing town council a citizens assessment of design prospective and related costs for the use of council to proceed with the development of the town's trails systems.

Is that not RETGAC's job to comply with Town Resolution 2011-005?

Hope to here from you soon.

Keith Harris