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Indian River Lagoon Scenic Highway Coalition Northern Bus Trip November 8, 2006

Attendees:

Marsha Cantrell, Brevard County Parks Support Services Manager
Sue Eichenlaub, Brevard County Parks & Recreation Administrative Secretary
Charlene Wylie, Citizen
Sean Wylie, Citizen
Garry Balogh, FDOT
Ken Kasweck, MRC
Sueanne Thomaston, City of Melbourne
Sherry Combs Sebastian River Area Chamber
Nicole Capp, Citizen
Fred Burgess, Citizen
Judy Burgess, Citizen
Mariano Berrios, FDOT
Gary Dotson, MRC
Joanne Belmonte, Citizen
Frank Belmonte, Citizen
Patricia Stearns, Citizen
Eugene Stearns, Citizen
Mary Thrasher, Enchanted Forest
Robert Day SJRWMD-IRL
Charles Shannon, Citizen
Koger Gifford, Citizen
Tony Kromlas, Citizen

The Indian River Lagoon Scenic Highway Bus Tour Began at the Rockledge Mall. Everyone introduced themselves and stated who they are and how they heard about the Bus Trip. Gary Balogh also introduced our special guest, Mariano Berrios from FDOT, and briefly explained about the scenic highway program.

9:00 AM – Left parking lot heading toward Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge – On the way Garry Balogh gave an overview of the Scenic Highways and Byways in Florida and the United States. Marsha Cantrell pointed out parks and other attractions along the way. Tony Kromlas gave an overview of the Veteran's Memorial Bridge and other sites along A. Max Brewer Memorial Parkway.

9:35 AM – We arrived at Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge – Nancy welcomed us to the Visitor Center and Caulie Myrich gave a guided tour. We stopped at Manatee Watch to see the Manatees and then to Eddy's Creek and the Beach access across the street.

11:30 AM – We arrived at the Space View Park. There we were greeted by Charlie Mars. Charlie gave an overview of the Park and showed us where the addition to the park is being constructed. He also pointed out where the museum is and invited us all to come back to visit the museum.

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12:10 PM – We arrived at Enchanted Forest – we were greeted by Judy Gregoire, she gave an overview of the Forest and took us on a mini hike through a small part of the Forest.

1:10 PM – Arrived at Dixie Crossroads and had an enjoyable lunch.

2:35 PM - We left Dixie Crossroads and it was discussed that we did not have enough time to complete the entire tour so the group decided to skip some stops and go to the Riverwalk Park in Rockledge. On the way we drove through Manatee Hammock Campground in Titusville.

4:00 PM – Arrived at Riverwalk Park where we were greeted by park Staff. We toured the Nature Center and the Nature Boardwalk.

4:45 – Returned to Rockledge Mall Parking Lot.

Marsha Cantrell thanked everyone for attending and announced that our next meeting will be on January 10, 2007 at 2:00 at the Lagoon House in Palm Bay. Attendees thanked Andrea Chestnut, our bus driver for the trip. Andrea did a great job.

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Indian River Lagoon Scenic Highway Coalition Meeting September 13, 2006 Lagoon House, Palm Bay, FL

Attendees:

Ted Moorhead, Co-Chairman
Garry Balogh, FDOT
Jerry Stansfield, City of Cocoa Beach
Tim Ford, Bayfront CRA
Sue Ann Thomaston, City of Melbourne
Gary Datson
Bob Day, IRL
JoAnna Taylor, Pelican Island
Kerry Stoms, Satellite Beach
Marsha Cantrell, Brevard County Parks Support Services Manager
Sue Eichenlaub, Brevard County Parks & Recreation Administrative Secretary

Ted Moorhead called the meeting to order and welcomed all visitors. Minutes from April's and May's meeting were previously emailed to everyone. A motion was made by Jerry Stanfield to approve the minutes from the April 12th and May 10th meetings as submitted. Seconded by Tim Ford. Motion passed unanimously.

Jim is away in Asia and Beth is in Tallahassee getting information on grants. Dawn had a baby girl and both mother and daughter are doing well.

Baskerville-Donovan was scheduled to do a presentation but there was a mix up on the date. They will attend next month's meeting to give their presentation.

Marsha Cantrell announced Jack Masson's retirement from Brevard County Parks and Recreation Department.

Jerry asked that if anyone is not on his email list to please sign up.

Sue Ann Thomaston stated that the City of Melbourne has gotten more organized and has started their work on the Scenic Corridor. They met with Jim last month to see how they can partner with The Marine Resource Council.

Bob Day, from the Indian River Lagoon Program gave a presentation. Bob discussed the different agencies that make up The Indian River Lagoon Program and the projects they are working on to improve water quality of the Indian River Lagoon. A question and answer session followed. Ted Moorhead then thanked Bob Day for his presentation.

Gary introduced JoAnna Taylor, a Refuge Ranger with the Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge.

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Baskerville Donovan will attend next month's meeting to present the study they completed for the City of Palm Bay.

ACTION: Marsha will check the availability of a bus for the Tour of the north end of the Indian River Lagoon Scenic Highway that is scheduled for the November meeting.

Next meeting will be October 11th.

Meeting adjourned.

DRAFT

Indian River Lagoon Scenic Highway Coalition Meeting May 10, 2006 Lagoon House, Palm Bay, FL

Attendees:

Tim Ford, Bayfront CRA
Sheryl Denan- Baskenville Donovan
George Malanga
Ted Moorhead, Co-Chairman
Dawn Vickers, MRC
Jerry Stansfield, City of Cocoa Beach
Daniel Restis
Joe Bartoszak
Beth McMillen, MCR
Steve Davidson
Stephen E Chalmers, MRC
Marsha Cantrell, Brevard County Parks Support Services Manager
Sue Eichenlaub, Brevard County Parks & Recreation Administrative Secretary

Ted Moorhead called the meeting to order. He welcomed all visitors and had everyone introduce themselves.

Minutes from April's meeting were distributed and will be approved at the next meeting in September.

Reports:

Jim Egan reported on the Shoreline Study that is being conducted for DOT. The study contains information on how the different types of shoreline of the Scenic Highway performed in the recent hurricanes. He stated that Mangrove shorelines did exceptionally well. The study will be completed by next month.

Beth McMillen reported that she will be completing her presentations on Invasive Management Plan in June.

Jim Egan added that there has been a lot of response from local community people about having the invasive species removed.

Beth has also been working on the extension of the Scenic Highway, which will take it down A1A to connect with the Scenic Highway in St Lucie County and would also take it down 512 to Fellsmere where it would intercept with Heritage Corridor along the St. John's River. MRC has purchased 8 acres of land along the south part of the Sebastian River close to 512 and will be connecting up some trails from Sebastian Reserve across the Scenic Highway to this newly purchased area. There are plans for an Environment and Education Welcome Center at the site.

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Ted Moorehead introduced Dr. Grant Gilmore, a Marine Ecologist who has been doing scientific studies on the fishery of the Indian River Lagoon since 1971.

Dr. Gilmore discussed information regarding Florida Waterways and the many species of fish in the waters surrounding the state of Florida.

- Water temperatures surrounding Florida is responsible for bringing all of the 1200 species of fish to our area
- Seagrass is disappearing causing the disappearance of nursery areas for fish
- New reefs being discovered and old reefs that are being destroyed
- How important Mangroves are to the protection of our shorelines

Dr. Gilmore expressed the need for public awareness concerning the negative impact that the growth of Coastal population is having on our water and the fish. The public needs to be educated on issues from yard care to new developments and how all these things affect our waters and the 1200 types of fish that live in these waters. Dr. Gilmore applauded the work that has been done with the Scenic Highway, getting the trail along the lagoon and getting the public educated.

By the end of the summer Dr. Gilmore will have a website available for the public. A question and answer session followed.

Tim Ford Reported that Sheryl Denan had a presentation on the Scenic Highway Study that the redevelopment agency and FDOT partnered together to come up with options on traffic combing, road realignment, parking facilities, etc. She will come to the meeting in September and do the presentation with slide show.

Ted Moorehead thanked Dr. Gilmore and all attendees.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting will be in September

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Indian River Lagoon Scenic Highway Coalition Meeting April 12, 2006 Lagoon House, Palm Bay, FL

Attendees:

Harvey & Diane York
Robert Day, SJRWMD- IRL Program
Dawn Vickers, MRC
Beth McMillen, MCR
Ruth Stanbridge, Co-Chair
SueAnn Thomaston, City of Melbourne
Sheryl Denan- Baskenville Donovan
Ted Moorhead, Co-Chairman
Stephen E Chalmirsk MRC
Jerry Stansfield, City of Cocoa Beach
Sherry Combs, Sebastian Chamber
David Cox, MRC
Marsha Cantrell, Brevard County Parks Support Services Manager
Sue Eichenlaub, Brevard County Parks & Recreation Administrative Secretary

Co-Chair Ruth Stanbridge called the meeting to order at 2:10pm

All attendees introduced themselves.

Motion by Ted Moorhead to approve the March 8, 2006 minutes as submitted. Seconded by Jerry Stansfield. Motion passed unanimously.

Reports:

Dawn Vickers gave Executive report (Jim Egan is in Singapore)

2006 Scenic Highway State Conference is May 11th and 12th. We will be holding a catered reception on May 11th at 6:30 pm at the Lagoon House. Dawn stated that they are looking for a band to play that evening and if any one knows of someone they should contact her.

We have received \$22,000 in funding for pepper removal and Mango plantings at Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge and Sebastian Inlet State Park. We think we should be getting about \$92,000 in funding for work along the Scenic Highway.

We are also looking for personnel who has website experience.

Beth McMillen

Gave an update of the presentation she has completed and hopes to complete all presentations by the end of May.

Ruth introduced Dr. David Cox, Biologist with the Indian River County.

David Cox discussed the History of how the St. Sebastian River Greenway came to be what it is today and where they hope to develop it in the future.

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The next meeting is May 10th at the Lagoon House at 2:00 p.m. Dr Grant Gilmore, a specialist on the Indian River Lagoon Fishery, to come and talk to us about the status of the fishery, what's happening to it, and what we need to do to preserve and enhance it

Meeting adjourned.

DRAFT

Indian River Lagoon Scenic Highway Coalition Meeting April 12, 2006 Lagoon House, Palm Bay, FL

Attendees:

Harvey & Diane York
Robert Day, SJRWMD- IRL Program
Dawn Vickers, MRC
Beth McMillen, MCR
Ruth Stanbridge, Co-Chair
SueAnn Thomaston, City of Melbourne
Sheryl Denan- Baskenville Donovan
Ted Moorhead, Co-Chairman
Stephen E Chalmirsk MRC
Jerry Stansfield, City of Cocoa Beach
Sherry Combs, Sebastian Chamber
David Cox, MRC
Marsha Cantrell, Brevard County Parks Support Services Manager
Sue Eichenlaub, Brevard County Parks & Recreation Administrative Secretary

Co-Chair Ruth Stanbridge called the meeting to order at 2:10pm

All attendees introduced themselves.

Motion by Ted Moorhead to approve the February 8, 2006 minutes as submitted.

Seconded by Jerry Stansfield. Motion passed unanimously.

Reports:

Dawn Vickers gave Executive report (Jim Egan is in Singapore)

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Meeting adjourned.

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Indian River Lagoon Scenic Highway Coalition Meeting March 8, 2006 Lagoon House, Palm Bay, FL

Attendees:

Garry Balogh, FDOT
Tim Ford Bayfront CRA
Sheryl Denan, Baskerville Donovan
Jerry Stansfield, City of Cocoa Beach
Sherry Combs, Sebastian Chamber
Ted Moorhead, Co-Chairman
Dawn Vickers, Marine Resources Council
Beth McMillen, Marine Resources Council
Jim Egan, Marine Resources Council
Rodney Levy, Visit Florida
Marsha Cantrell, Brevard County Parks Support Services Manager
Sue Eichenlaub, Brevard County Parks & Recreation Administrative Secretary

Co-Chair Ted Moorehead called the meeting to order at 2:05pm

Motion by Tim Ford to approve the February 8, 2006 minutes as submitted. Seconded by Jerry Stansfield. Motion passed unanimously.

Ted Moorehead announced next month's meeting will be on April 12th. There will be a presentation by David Cox, of Indian River Land Trust and Audubon society regarding efforts to get the St. Sebastian River designated as a Greenway.

Garry Balough announced the Sea Grant for the Scenic Highway program has been approved for \$25,000.

Reports:

Dawn Vickers

We will be hosting a reception at the Lagoon House on May 11th for The Statewide Scenic Highway Conference. We are looking for sponsors to provide funding for the food. We are expecting between 30-75 people. The reception will include a short presentation by Jim Egan or Ted Moorehead on the Lagoon House and the Scenic Highway.

The Lagoon House is in the process changing the exhibits, the current theme is the history of Florida, we are changing the theme in the main room to Natural Resources and Native animals, plants, and people.

CMP has been submitted and is in review. New Goals and updates are being looked at and can be added at anytime. Dawn will ask SueAnn Thomaston to speak to us next month on Hurricane awareness.

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Beth McMillen

Reported that she has presented the CMP to local governments, she has approximately 6 more presentations to be completed.

Jim Ford

The CMP has been included in the Scenic By-Way report that has been submitted to the state and will be available to members after the state has approved the report.

Jim Egan

We are working on a 10-year plan on future updates for the Lagoon House and an invasive species report. We are looking for suggestions regarding grants and how to better market the Lagoon House and Corridor.

Ted introduced Rodney Levy, a representative of Visit Florida.

Rodney talked about some of the Grants that are available through Visit Florida.

- Who's eligible
- What kind of Grants are available
- How to get high scores on your application
- Deadlines of the Grants (April 17th, 2006)
- What makes a great re-imbusement submission

All grant information is available at www.VisitFlorida.org

The contact person is Sara Patterson, New Product Development Representative. She can be contacted at spatterson@Visitflorida.org , or by calling 850-488-5607 X363.

Ted thanked Rodney for his presentation.

The next meeting is April 12th at the Lagoon House at 2:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned.

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Indian River Lagoon Scenic Highway Coalition Meeting February 8, 2006 Lagoon House, Palm Bay, FL

Attendees:

Ted Moorhead, Co-Chairman
Ruth Stanbridge, Co-Chairman
Garry Balogh, FDOT
Chris Egglesto, FDOT
Jim Egan, Marine Resources Council
Tim Ford Bayfront CRA
Amy Tidd, Adopt-A-Drain
Karol & Bill Roinson
Ron & Jan Nelson
Jennifer Stahl, Hometown News
Sueann Thomaston, City of Melbourne
Jerry Stansfield, City of Cocoa Beach
Stephen E. Chalmers, MRC, Malabar
Sheryl Denan, Baskerville Donovan
Gary Datson, MRC Palm Bay
Silvio Crespo Jr & Helen
Beth McMillen
Dawn Vickers, Marine Resources Council
Marsha Cantrell, Brevard County Parks Support Services Manager
Sue Eichenlaub, Brevard County Parks & Recreation Administrative Secretary

Co-Chair Ted Moorehead welcomed all visitors and called the meeting to order at 2:00pm

Motion by Sue Ann Thomaston to approve the January 11, 2006 minutes as submitted. Seconded by Jerry Stansfield. Motion passed unanimously.

Ted introduced Amy Tidd, who is the representative for a new program "Adopt-A-Drain", a storm water management volunteer program. There are 2000 unfiltered outfalls that go into our rivers. The program is looking to get citizens involved as advocates for each one of these outfalls. Each person who adopts a drain, receives a letter stating who owns the drain (utility company or town, etc.) and the contact information, they will also receive a sample letter to send out stating that they have adopted the drain and would like to know what are the plans for this drain, will they be installing a baffle box or some other form of filtration to stop polluted waters from entering our rivers. Cape Canaveral has put baffle boxes on all of their outfalls that go into the Indian River Lagoon.

Reports:

Jim Egan

- Pointed out some of the new displays at the Lagoon House, and spoke about displays and additions that will be added soon.

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- Beth McMillan gave an update of which towns she had presented the Invasive Management Plan to.
- We had a shoreline restoration event on Pelican Island, where we planted some large mangrove trees, which provide an instant habitat for birds and fish. Congressman Dave Weldon attended the event.
- Jim also gave an update on the extension of the Scenic highway.

Dawn Vickers gave presentation on the 5-year Comprehensive Management Plan Update

- What has been completed the past 5 years
- Goals for the upcoming years
- Before and after pictures have been included in the CMP
- New funding projects – Donation Box – Sale of Pictures

Discussion followed with ideas on how to better promote the Lagoon House and the Scenic highway.

Ted thanked Jim Egan and his staff, and all attendees.

The next meeting is March 8th at the Lagoon House at 2:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 3:20pm.

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Indian River Lagoon Scenic Highway Coalition Meeting February 8, 2006 Lagoon House, Palm Bay, FL Planning Meeting

Ted Moorhead, Co-Chairman
Jim Egan, Marine Resources Council
Ruth Stanbridge, Co-Chairman
Chris Egglesto, FDOT
Marsha Cantrell,
Sue Eichenlaub

Ted called the planning meeting to order at 1:05pm

The purpose of this meeting is to tentatively plan our programs for the remainder of the year. The committee does not meet in June, July, August, and December.

March 8th meeting – A representative, Rodney Levy from Visit Florida will attend our meeting to talk to us about the Visit Florida Reimbursement Grant Program – which is for the purpose of any marketing for tourism for your scenic highway corridor. The representative will discuss the several tourism/marketing grants and will have applications available.

April 12th meeting– Ruth will set up a presentation by Indian River Land Trust/Audubon Society regarding the effort to get the St. Sebastian River designated as a greenway, which would be done by local government and then recognized by Florida Communities Trust, David Cox will be the presenter.

Discussion concerning the need to focus more on the importance of the promotion of the Indian Lagoon Fishery.

May 10 meeting – Jim will contact Dr Grant Gilmore, a specialist on the Indian River Lagoon Fishery, to come and talk to us about the status of the fishery, what's happening to it, and what we need to do to preserve and enhance it.

Jim suggested another possible topic would be update on how things are going in terms of collecting resources on the extension of the Scenic highway, which could be done by Beth McMillan – we will hold her as a substitute if Grant is not available.

There are no meetings for the months of June, July and August.

September 13th meeting – Dawn suggested showing the Creole Nature Trail National Scenic Highway video – Garry Balough will set this up.

October 11th meeting- Ruth suggested having Marty Smithson, Executive Director of the Sebastian Inlet taxing district: give us an update, as there has been quite a bit of

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activity in the area and on Pelican Island. Ruth will contact Marty Smithson – to do a presentation of the Sebastian Inlet Taxing district plans for the channel between the inlet and the ICW to see if he will be available.

November 8th meeting – Bus Tour of North Route of the Indian River Scenic Highway
Marsha will schedule a yellow bus with Terry Lane and handle reservations and food arrangements. Beth will handle the itinerary and guest speakers for the tour.

There will be no meeting in December.

Ted asked if anyone had any more suggestions in case of cancellations or suggestions for 2007 meetings.

Ruth suggested having Joel Tyson and Korky Korker, who are Fellsmere City Council members, could speak to us regarding the Fellsmere area. The Highway expansion will be going into this area. Ruth will set this up tentatively for January 2007 or as a fill in case of a cancellation.

Discussion followed concerning setting up a website. Gary handed out Florida Historic A1A Scenic Byway. At this time we do not have the staff to keep a website updated.

February 14, 2007 – Tim Ford – Palm Bay Redevelopment District

March 14, 2007 - Ruth suggested we do a South Area Tour Bus – Marsha and Beth will handle arrangements.

April 11, 2007 - Marsha suggested we have FIND come and do a presentation. Ted will contact FIND.

May 2007 – Ruth suggested Sebastian re-development District – Al Minner, City Manager– working on land acquisition for a working Fish House. Ruth will contact Al. Ted thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. 1:53PM

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Indian River Lagoon Scenic Highway Coalition Meeting January 11, 2006 Lagoon House, Palm Bay, FL

Attendees:

Ted Moorhead, Co-Chairman
Jim Egan, Marine Resources Council
Pat Phalon
Garry Balogh, FDOT-EMO MS-4501
Danny Bererberg, GiftCounsel.com
Bob Kovacevich, Avatar Company
Sherry Combs, Sebastian Chamber of Commerce
Jerry Stansfield, City of Cocoa Beach
Tim Ford, Bayfront Comm. Redevelopment Agency
Gary Datson
Stephen E. Chalmers, MRC, Malabar
Richard Stillwagon, City of Titusville
Sueann Thomaston, City of Melbourne
Dawn Vickers, Marine Resources Council
Marsha Cantrell, Brevard County Parks Support Services Manager
Sue Eichenlaub, Brevard County Parks & Recreation Administrative Secretary

Co-Chair Ted Moorehead called the meeting to order at 2:08pm

Motion by Tim Ford to approve the November 9, 2005 minutes as submitted. Seconded by Jerry Stansfield. Motion passed unanimously.

Reports

Jim Egan

- Shore line has been restored and we are currently doing a study on the shoreline – looking at multiple different slopes – making documentation –we also have engineers looking at the studies – these should be completed within 2-3 months
- Deck outside Lagoon House has been installed – we will be planting plants along the deck.
- Staff personnel working on cleaning up invasive species along the Scenic Highway
- We are working on a lot of new displays for the Lagoon House – among them will be Natural Resource displays and a Cypress Tree, which will look like it is growing through the building

Dawn Vickers

- Handed out copies of the revised CMP (Corridor Management Plan) Update
- We will be having new displays at the Lagoon House- a Whale will soon be hanging and we are also are working on new murals, which will display the species of the Lagoon

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Ted Moorehead

- Introduced Bob Kovacevich and Danny Bererberg.

Bob Kovacevich distributed copies of "Philanthropy in the Sunshine State Report" and discussed how Avatar Company helps organizations obtain grants. They have a database, which provides the organization with a report of Grantors that will be specifically interested in their organization's needs. It takes approximately 3 months for them to configure the report. The charge for this report is \$10,000.00, which does not include writing any grants. Fees for writing the grants would depend on the complexity of the grant. Organizations can normally fill out most Grant applications themselves. The larger grants, such as the Kresge Foundation Grant usually cost between \$12,000 and \$15,000 to write.

Danny Bererberg spoke briefly on the services his company, GiftCounsel.com, provide regarding fund raisers, supporters, etc.

Ted Moorehead asked if there were any other announcements, questions, etc.

Marsha Cantrell announced that Jack Masson, Parks & Recreation Deputy Director, will be retiring on January 31st and there will be a retirement party held on February 4th, the tickets are available through Marsha and are \$12.00 per person. Marsha also stated that FIND grant applications are out, which can be pulled up on their website www.aicw.org and will be due on March 31, 2006.

ACTION ITEM: Review the Indian River Lagoon Scenic Highway 5 Year CMP update and make suggestions or comments.

The next meeting is February 8th at the Lagoon House at 2:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 3:35pm.