

MONROE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN LAND AUTHORITY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 29, 2020

The Monroe County Comprehensive Plan Land Authority (MCLA) Advisory Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, January 29, 2020 in the first floor Media Room of the Marathon Government Center located at 2798 Overseas Highway, Marathon, Florida. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mitchell Cook at 9:00 AM. Present and answering roll call in addition to Chairman Cook were Linda Cunningham and Susan Matthews. Barbara Neal and Sandi Williams were absent. Also present were Executive Director Charles Pattison, Senior Property Acquisition Specialist Mark Rosch, Counsel Ginny Stones, and Office Manager Dina Gambuzza.

The first item was additions and deletions to the agenda. Mr. Pattison proposed adding the following items to the agenda:

- 6c. Approval of a contract to purchase Block 15, Lot 5, Eden Pines Colony, Big Pine Key for conservation.
- 8. Consideration of a request by Patrick Garvey to consent to the abandonment of a portion of Pine Drive on Big Pine Key.

Ms. Cunningham made a motion to approve the agenda with the proposed additions and Ms. Matthews seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 3/0.

The next item was Selection of a Chairman and Vice Chairman for 2020. Ms. Cunningham nominated Mr. Cook to serve as Chairman and Mr. Cook nominated Ms. Cunningham to serve as Vice Chairman. There being no other nominations, the nominations were closed and Mr. Cook was selected as Chairman and Ms. Cunningham was selected as Vice Chairman.

The next item was approval of the minutes for the December 18, 2019 meeting. Ms. Cunningham made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Ms. Matthews seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 3/0.

The next item was approval to purchase Block 2, Lots 1 and 2, Doctors Arm, Big Pine Key for conservation (Miller). Mr. Rosch addressed the Committee. The subject property consists of two adjoining canal lots totaling 11,477 square feet at the corner of Baileys Lane and Matthews Road on the bay side of Big Pine Key near mile marker 30. The property has a tier designation of Tier 2 – Transition and Sprawl Area, a zoning designation of Improved Subdivision, and disturbed vegetation. The property owner has agreed to sell the property for the price of \$60,000 (\$30,000 per lot). Following discussion, Ms. Matthews made a motion to approve the item at the purchase price of \$60,000 and Ms. Cunningham seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 3/0.

The next item was approval to purchase Lot 3, Caribbean Heights, Key Largo for conservation (Leibman). Mr. Rosch addressed the Committee. The subject property consists of a 7,700 square foot lot fronting US 1 on the bay side of Key Largo near mile marker 98. The property has a tier designation of Tier 1 – Natural Area, a zoning designation of Improved Subdivision, and vegetation consisting of tropical hardwood hammock. The heirs of the property have agreed to sell the property for the price of \$25,000. Following discussion, Ms. Cunningham

made a motion to approve the item at the purchase price of \$25,000 and Ms. Matthews seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 3/0.

The next item was approval to purchase Block 15, Lot 5, Eden Pines Colony, Big Pine Key for conservation (Marin). Mr. Rosch addressed the Committee. The subject property consists of a 5,000 square foot lot on Orchid Lane on the bay side of Big Pine Key near mile marker 30. The property has a tier designation of Tier 1 – Natural Area, a zoning designation of Improved Subdivision, and vegetation consisting of pineland transitioning to tropical hardwood hammock. The heirs to the property are considering selling the property for the price of \$20,000. Following discussion, Ms. Matthews made a motion to approve the item at the purchase price of \$20,000 and Ms. Cunningham seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 3/0.

The next item was review of the 2019 Acquisition List and discussion of directions for 2020. Mr. Pattison, Mr. Rosch, and Counsel Stones addressed the Committee regarding affordable housing issues, ROGO exempt lots, and the Florida Forever program. This being a discussion item, the Committee took no action.

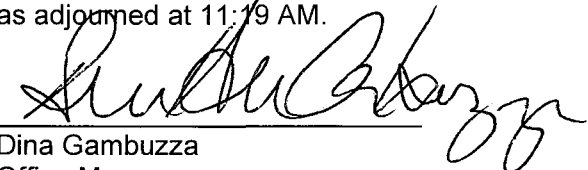
The next item was consideration of a request by Patrick Garvey to consent to the abandonment of a portion of Pine Drive on Big Pine Key. Mr. Rosch addressed the Committee. The property owner is requesting the County to abandon the portion of Pine Drive that runs between Tract D of Pine Key Acres and Lots 5, 6, 7, and 8 of Block 1 in Pine Hammock. Following Board discussion, Ms. Matthews made a motion to table this item until next month's meeting so that Mr. Garvey may be present to provide more information to the Committee. Ms. Cunningham seconded her motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 3/0.

The next item was the Executive Director's report. Mr. Pattison reported on recent events including the following:

- a) MCLA's budget and available funds for fiscal year 2020.
- b) DEP wishes to coordinate with MCLA regarding how State Park entrance fees and the MCLA surcharge are handled for disabled veterans.
- c) House Bill 587 – proposes to require the State to cost-share 50/50 with the County on takings cases.
- d) House Bill 519 – proposes to change the process of takings claims.
- e) Restoration Site in Venetian Shores – MCLA is in the process of securing access from a neighbor and will be obtaining quotes for the restoration work.
- f) MCLA is evaluating a proposal from a private owner who wishes to donate a parcel of land on Big Pine Key for conservation.
- g) Recent closings by the BOCC and State.
- h) The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 26, 2020 at 9:00 AM. Chairman Cook and Ms. Cunningham said they would be available to attend. Ms. Matthews said she would not be able to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:19 AM.

Prepared by:

  
Dina Gambuzza  
Office Manager

Approved by the Advisory Committee on February 26, 2020.

