

MONROE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN LAND AUTHORITY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

February 26, 2020

The Monroe County Comprehensive Plan Land Authority (MCLA) Advisory Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, February 26, 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, Barbara Neal, and Sandi Williams. Susan Matthews was 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 item to the agenda:

- 5b. Approval of a contract to purchase Block 5, Lots 10 and 11, Pine Hammock, Big Pine Key for conservation.

Ms. Cunningham made a motion to approve the agenda with the proposed addition and Ms. Neal seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 4/0.

Mr. Pattison then proposed moving Mr. Garvey's item (Item 7) up on the agenda so it will be heard after the January 29, 2020 minutes (Item 5). Ms. Cunningham made a motion to approve hearing the items in this order and Ms. Neal seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 4/0.

The next item was approval of the minutes for the January 29, 2020 meeting. Ms. Cunningham made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Ms. Neal seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 4/0.

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. Mr. Garvey is requesting the County to abandon the portion of Pine Drive that runs between his properties described as Tract D, Pine Key Acres and Block 1, Lots 5, 6, 7, and 8, Pine Hammock. Mr. Garvey has asked for MCLA's consent because MCLA owns Lots 11 and 12 and is considered an affected property owner. Mr. Rosch then introduced Mr. Garvey who made a presentation to the Committee regarding the history of this site, which is known as Grimal Grove, and his efforts to use the property for community education, food cultivation, and as a community green space. Following discussion, Ms. Cunningham made a motion to approve Mr. Garvey's request and Ms. Neal seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 4/0.

The Committee took a brief recess.

The next item was approval to purchase Block 4, Lot 2, Center Island, Duck Key for conservation (EDS Realty). Mr. Rosch addressed the Committee. The subject property consists of a 7,500 square foot lot on Indies Drive on Duck Key near mile marker 61. The property has a tier designation of Tier 3 – Infill Area, a zoning designation of Improved Subdivision - Masonry, and vegetation consisting of buttonwood and tropical hardwood hammock. The property owner has agreed to sell the property for the price of \$62,500.

Following discussion, Ms. Neal made a motion to approve the item at the purchase price of \$62,500 and Ms. Williams seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 4/0.

The next item was approval to purchase Block 5, Lots 10 and 11, Pine Hammock, Big Pine Key for conservation (War Path Family Farm Inc.). Mr. Rosch addressed the Committee. The subject property consists of two adjoining lots totaling 13,546 square feet at the corner of County Road and Hammock Drive 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 exotic and pineland species. The property owners are considering selling the property for the price of \$40,000 (\$20,000 per lot). Following discussion, Ms. Cunningham made a motion to approve the item at the purchase price of \$40,000 and Ms. Williams seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 4/0.

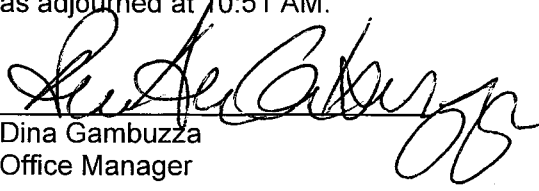
The next item was discussion of the 2020 Acquisition List. Mr. Pattison addressed the Committee and said staff has updated the Acquisition List to remove the properties that have been successfully acquired over the past year. The property at 1116 Truman Avenue in Key West was removed because the City of Key West withdrew its nomination. The Anchor Inn Motel property will be removed from the list since that transaction just closed. Mr. Rosch, and Counsel Stones also addressed the Committee during this discussion. This being a discussion item, the Committee took no action.

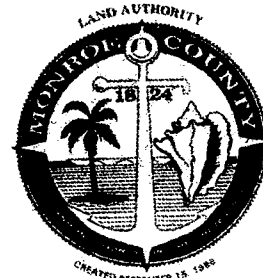
The next item was the Executive Director's report. Mr. Pattison reported on recent events including the following:

- a) MCLA's budget and available funds for fiscal year 2020.
- b) The hurricane evacuation standard in the "50/50" takings bill being considered by the Legislature has been revised back to 24 hours.
- c) The BOCC has voted to accept the 300 affordable housing ROGO allocations offered by the State.
- d) The City of Marathon closed on the purchase of Anchor Inn Motel affordable housing site.
- e) The County's option to purchase the Howard's Haven affordable housing site runs through March 31, 2020, so that transaction will be closing soon.
- f) Restoration Site near Venetian Shores – So far MCLA has been unable to secure access to the site through the neighbor's property.
- g) Recent closings by the MCLA, State and BOCC.
- h) The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 25, 2020 at 9:00 AM. Chairman Cook, Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Neal, and Ms. Williams said they would be available to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:51 AM.

Prepared by:

  
Dina Gambuzza  
Office Manager



Approved by the Advisory Committee on April 29, 2020.