

MONROE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN LAND AUTHORITY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

December 17, 2014

The Monroe County Comprehensive Plan Land Authority (MCLA) Advisory Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, December 17, 2014, in Suite 104 of the Monroe Regional Service Center (State building) located at 2796 Overseas Highway, Marathon, Florida. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Susan Sprunt at 9:04 AM. Present and answering roll call in addition to Chairman Sprunt were Bryan Green, Mitchell Cook, Susan Matthews and Barbara Neal. Also present were Executive Director Mark Rosch, Counsel Ginny Stones and Office Manager Kimberly Nystrom.

The first item was additions and deletions to the agenda. Staff distributed information to the Committee. Mr. Rosch addressed the Committee and proposed adding the following conservation purchases: 1) Lot 36, Perez, Sugarloaf Key (Hernandez); and 2) Lots 9, 22, 23, 24 and 25, Sugarloaf Townsite, Sugarloaf Key (Nock). Given that the Marathon City Council had not nominated the property, Mr. Rosch proposed deleting item 5: Consideration of a resolution authorizing funding toward the purchase of the SeaGrass Village affordable housing site on 64th Street Ocean in Marathon (RE #00338720-000000). Ms. Neal made a motion to approve the agenda with these changes and Ms. Matthews seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 5/0.

The next item was approval of the November 21, 2014 meeting minutes. Mr. Green made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Mr. Cook seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 5/0.

The next item was approval to purchase property for conservation. Mr. Rosch addressed the Committee regarding the following proposed acquisitions:

- a) Block 5, Lots 5 and 6, Palma Sola, Key Largo (Maloney). The subject property is 10,000 square feet and consists of tropical hardwood hammock and buttonwood vegetation. The site is zoned Improved Subdivision (IS) and is designated Tier 1 – Natural Area. The owner has agreed to sell the property for \$45,400 (2014 TAV). Ms. Matthews made a motion to approve purchasing the property for the \$45,400 price and Ms. Neal seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 5/0.
- b) Lot 36, Perez, Sugarloaf Key (Hernandez). The subject property is 15,000 square feet and consists of freshwater wetland and exotic vegetation. The site is zoned Improved Subdivision (IS) and is designated Tier 3 – Infill Area. The owners are considering selling the property for \$8,823 (115% of 1986 TAV). Mr. Green made a motion to approve purchasing the property for the price of \$8,823 and Mr. Cook seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 5/0.
- c) Lots 9, 22, 23, 24 and 25, Sugarloaf Townsite, Sugarloaf Key (Nock). The subject property totals 33,500 square feet. Lot 9, on the bay side, consists of mangrove vegetation above the mean high water line and the four remaining lots, on the ocean side, consist of tropical hardwood hammock, salt marsh/buttonwood, and mangrove vegetation. Lot 9 is zoned Native Area (NA) and Lots 22 – 25 are zoned Recreational Vehicle (RV). All of the lots are designated Tier 1 - Natural Area. The owners are considering selling the property for \$67,400. Ms. Matthews made a motion to approve purchasing the property for the price of \$67,400 and Mr. Cook seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion carried 5/0.

The next item was an update on draft Florida Keys Environmental Stewardship Act. Mr. Rosch reviewed with the Committee the draft legislation presented to the BOCC on December 10, 2014 to secure Amendment 1 funds for land acquisition and also water quality improvement projects such as wastewater, stormwater, and canal restoration. The language in the final bill will be determined by Representative Holly Raschein and the bill's sponsor in the Senate. Included in the draft bill are a proposed reservation of State funds toward the purchase of conservation land in the Florida Keys Area of Critical State Concern and a proposed amendment to the Land Authority statute that would authorize MCLA to contribute funds toward the State's purchase of property without receiving an interest in the land.

The next item was the Executive Director's report. Mr. Rosch distributed information and reported on recent events including the following:

- a) Recent closings - MCLA closed four transactions involving the purchase of 5 conservation parcels since last meeting: two parcels on Key Largo, one lot on Big Pine Key, one lot on Cudjoe Key, and one lot on Sugarloaf Key. The Committee viewed aerial photos of the sites.
- b) The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday January 28, 2015 at 9:00 AM at the Monroe Regional Service Center (State building) in Suite 104 located at 2796 Overseas Highway. All members said they would be available to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 AM.

Prepared by: Kimberly Nystrom
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Office Manager



Approved by the Advisory Committee on January 28, 2015.