

**SUNCOAST PARKWAY SCENIC HIGHWAY
CORRIDOR ADVOCACY GROUP MEETING
NOTES –June 17, 2005**

**6638 Suncoast Parkway
Land O'Lakes, FL 34639**

Present: Steve Diez, Tina A. Russo, Diane Jones, Joanne Hurley, Elaine Pittman, Douglas Uden, Rick Buckman, Kathy Dunkley, Evelyn Klopp, Angella Bennett, Cheryl Benton, Steve Luce, Octavio Blanco

Guests: Amy and Robert Seidler

Meeting was called to order by Steve Diez.

Old Business:

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved with one correction--the spelling of Evelyn Klopp's name.

Members of the CAG received the official FDOT Letter of Eligibility, dated May 23, 2005 from Secretary Jose Abreu. The letter must be included in the Designation Application. The CAG congratulates the Courtney Campbell Causeway CAG because their designation application was approved.

The CAG reviewed recent publicity related to scenic highways and tourism. Joanne noted that the LOL Community Plan and the draft of the Suncoast Trail Advisory Group's Community Plan contain statements of support for the Suncoast Scenic Corridor.

Steve Diez brought copies of the proposed Hernando County Comp Plan language regarding Scenic Corridors.

New Business:

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss in detail the work products and requirements for the Designation Application.

1. Application format, design and packaging – Angella Bennett will supervise.
2. Corridor Management Entity – Joanne Hurley will write the draft for CAG review and counties' review.
3. Goals, objectives and Strategies were approved, contingent upon any comments received from the CAG within a two-week period.
4. Action Plan – reviewed and approved.
5. Sample agreements and resolutions were tentatively approved, subject to review by attorneys for each County, SWFWMD, and Florida's Turnpike.

6. CAG representatives will meet with one Commissioner from each County, in anticipation of their required signatures on the Designation Application. We will try to schedule meetings with Comm. Castor in Hillsborough County; Commissioner Mulieri in Pasco County, and Commissioner Rowden in Hernando County.

Robert Seidler, CAG member for the Big Bend Scenic Byway, presented an overview of that corridor. He showed their CAG's video and discussed the similarities of their application's timeline with ours.

Public Comment:

Dr. Octavio Blanco presented four issues of concern to him:

1. Dr. Blanco gave an update on his meetings with scientists at USF and SWFWMD regarding the development of his property. Dr. Blanco is attempting to "save his swamp". He would like adjacent property owners to sign Floodplain Easements, as an alternative to Floodplain Compensation requirements.
2. Tampa Bay Water will connect to the Starkey Wellfield. Permitting, tentatively scheduled for late 2007, could be expedited if there is enough public comment and interest.
3. Dr. Blanco suggested that the CAG may be interested in corridor projects to enhance wetlands, such as an "Adopt-A-Swamp Program".
4. Dr. Blanco mentioned that Elizabeth MacManus, a local resident, historian, and author, would be an excellent guest speaker for the CAG.

Next Meeting: The next CAG meeting is will be held in September 2005, with a date yet to be determined.

The meeting was adjourned.