

## Riverwood Environmental Committee

### Minutes from January 3, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lancette at 9AM.

Members present: Bob Walker, Larry Lancette, Ron Sienkowski, Jill Rowan, and Lee Freeman

RCDD Board liaison present: Mike Spillane; RCDD ecologist Tim Hall joined by speaker phone

The minutes from November 8, 2018 were unanimously approved.

#### **New Business:**

- There was discussion about the bulleted yearend report that will be used for the town hall community meeting late in January. Some suggestions were incorporated and it was approved unanimously by the committee.

#### **Preserve Maintenance:**

- Aquatic Weed Control is scheduled to remove exotics from Preserve N starting next week. O1 and O2 have very little to be removed and will follow N. S is scheduled for this year but will be on hold until knee deep water in the middle dries.
- Tim Hall is slated to work with Brad McKnight on a removal and replanting plan for W1 and W2 that is slated for April exotic removal. Brad is to contact southeast neighbors to check on a removal plan.
- Tim Hall is waiting for follow up from the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) on permitting for vendors to be allowed to remove dead vegetation that represents a true fire hazard. J. Rowan will write an article for the Heron when details are available.
- AA5c – the downed Ficus tree is still laying across the golf course and into this preserve. Mike Spillane will discuss removal options with Mike Burton from the golf club.

#### **Lake/Pond erosion:**

- Ponds 17 and 55 stabilization with dredgesox is underway.
- The RCDD received a request from Grand Vista to install dredgesox along Rivermarsh Dr. on pond 19 and on pond 22. This request is on hold. No action required from the committee at this time.

#### **New business:**

- A resident has requested permission to contract for the installation and maintenance of a floating littoral island for pond 37. Discussion outcomes included: general support for the project pending response to a request by the committee for a plan from the resident's contractor that would include any necessary permitting from SWFWMD, also a plan for the continued maintenance or removal of the island if this resident sells his property.
- Committee members expressed a need for regular education for residents, especially residents new to the community, related to safe practices near alligator populated areas. B. Walker will pen an article for the Heron and suggested having copies of Florida Fish and Wildlife's *A Guide to Living with Alligators* available at all times in the office.
- Tim Hall will be contacted about submitting an updated exotic density map for the preserves.

**Meeting adjourned at 10:45.**

**Next meeting: February 7, 2019 at 10AM**