

**ELMS PROPERTY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
10:30 A.M. JULY 14, 2008  
Minutes**

Members present were Denis Canavan, Stephen Riley, Sandi Patty on behalf of Pete Dunbar, Marianne Chapman, Kim Howe on behalf of Brad Clements, David Heilmeier, and Phil Rollins.

Members absent were David Gailey and Dr. Robert Paul.

Others present were Margarita Rochow, Elms Environmental Center; Kurt Reitz, EMCPS Elms; Jim Bennett, DNR; and Gayle Moreland, PPAD.

Mr. Canavan called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m. and asked for additions or amendments to the agenda.

**I. Approval of Minutes – 4/17/08**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of 4/17/08 as presented. The motion passed without opposition.

**II. Unfinished Business**

- a. Update on Signage:** Ms. Patty stated Mr. David Heilmeier is the replacement for Mr. Brian King. Mr. Heilmeier stated he has no update on signage at this time but DNR is willing to work with us for internal signage and perimeter signage. It was requested that Ms. Stuckert forward old meeting minutes to Mr. Heilmeier as to educate him on the Elms property issues that have been discussed over the past year.

Mr. Canavan asked about signage between the Elms Environmental Site and the Parks & Recreation Site. Mr. Reitz stated once the field sites are developed we would like to work together for proper signage.

Ms. Chapman stated maps being given out by the Chamber of Commerce and the Tourism Department are still wrong in directing citizens to St. James Church Road for the Park. Mr. Rollins stated this is a mass printing service therefore the maps probably won't be corrected until they are ready to print again. Ms. Chapman stated the County Commissioners maps are also incorrect. Mr. Canavan stated he would contact DECD and the Chamber of Commerce.

- b. Kiosk Ideas and Information:** Mr. Canavan asked what type of information do we want to have posted at the kiosks. After discussion it was recommended that hunting zones, dates, and times be posted as well as park hours, seasons, and trail maps. Mr. Rollins stated he would work on putting something together for the group to view at the next meeting.

**III. New Business**

- a. Discuss Formation of Board & Members:** Ms. Chapman stated the committee was established in 1975 by PPRP. Ms. Chapman stated the County Commissioners do not have this committee listed as a County committee. Mr. Rollins asked if we have by-laws. Ms. Chapman stated, no. Ms. Patti stated the committee was established by PPRP to make recommendations to PPRP as to the use of the land. Ms. Patti explained the committee reports to the County Commissioners because they are a lease holder.

Mr. Canavan asked if the committee wishes to expand and add new members. Ms. Patti stated she did not believe anything would be gained by adding additional

members. Mr. Riley stated there are only two members that are not on the County's payroll and stated he would like to expand the committee membership to persons other than County employees.

Ms. Chapman made a motion to leave the committee membership with two (2) members as it stands now and Ms. Patty seconded. The motion passed by a 6-1 vote with Mr. Riley opposed.

Mr. Canavan asked if the committee saw a need for a sub-committee to develop by-laws for the Elms Advisory Committee. It was the consensus of the committee to establish a sub-committee and task them with developing by-laws for the Elms Advisory Committee.

Mr. Riley voiced his concern that the meetings are held during the day and many people cannot get out of work to attend. Mr. Canavan asked if the committee members would be willing to hold 1 evening meeting per year for members of the public to attend and voice their concerns. It was the consensus of the committee to hold one evening meeting per year.

- b. **Update on Trails:** Ms. Rochow stated the final citing of the trail will take place once the poison ivy and ticks recede. Mr. Reitz stated the trail around Biscoe Pond and others are being worked on now.
- c. **Update on Park Usage:** Mr. Rollins stated he has noticed increased use of the park on weekends and holidays. Mr. Rollins stated due to the increase we now have a park attendant and are considering limiting the number of people and cars as well as charging a fee for entry. Mr. Rollins asked for the committees support for monies in the CIP budget. Mr. Rollins stated he would also like to see the facility expanded to include restroom facilities.

#### **IV. Next Steps**

Update on Maps  
Update on Signage  
Update on Kiosk Information  
Sub-Committee Formation  
Update on Trail System

- V. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m. the next meeting will be held October 9, 2008 at the park to be hosted by Parks & Recreation.