NATURE CENTERS COMMISSION

Thomas Center Bldg A, Room 204
302 NE 6th Avenue

February 13, 2014
Thursday – 6:30PM

Minutes

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff Present
David Miller, Chair	Pearse Hayes	Linda Demetropoulos
Rupa Lloyd	Jon Reiskind	Steve Phillips
Taylor Stein		Sally Wazny
Leslie Straub		
Amy Carpus		
Charles Pedersen, V. Chair		
Kate Preston, Sec/Treasurer		
Suzanne Skadowski		
Penny Weber (FONP rep)		

I. Call to Order – at 6:40pm

II. Agenda Approval

Motion By: Charles Pederson	Seconded By: Rupa Lloyd
Moved To: Adopt the agenda as submitted	Upon Vote: passed 8-0

III. Approval of Minutes

Motion By: Amy Carpus	Seconded By: Charlie Pedersen
Moved To: Adopt the January minutes as submitted	Upon Vote: passed 8-0

IV. Chair Report – David Miller brought up the proposal to rename Possum Creek Park to Jack Hughes Park. It was stated that the proposal was initiated by Commissioner Chase. Steve Phillips advised that since the City Commission initiated the request that the normal three meeting process could be waived by the City Commission. Board comments included: Naming an active recreation park for a person is okay but nature parks should reflect the natural environment and attributes such as a natural feature or natural history. This may set a bad precedent. It was also discussed that a one-year waiting period would be advisable, similar to the memorial policy. The board expressed interested in amending the parks naming policy to require a one year waiting period. After one year and emotions calm down a better way to honor someone may be determined. After discussion it was concluded that the NCC board would like to have Commissioner Chase attend the next advisory board meeting so comments/concerns may be expressed directly to him. Steve P. will work on having Commissioner Chase at the next meeting.

Treasurer's Report – Kate Preston presented the Treasurer's Report stating expenditures of $231.00 and there is $7,318 available.

V. Committee Reports

- **Policy** – Appropriate Use Committee will meet on 3/13/14 @ 6:00pm
- **PR & Awards** –
  - **PR Committee Report** – Leslie Straub asked for Chair approval to reappoint Penny Weber to the PR Committee. Chair approved the request.

- **Storyboard update** – Leslie Straub showed the Board several permutations of the storyboard. Comments and suggestions were heard from the board and staff. Board and staff agree that there is need to clarify the "story" of the display and to change some design elements.
- Leslie plans to meet with graphic designer Julie, gather suggestions from staff, and show another draft at a future meeting.

- **Nominations** - No report

VI. PRCA Staff Report –

- Charlie Pedersen and Taylor Stein we reappointed to the Nature Center Commission. Pearse Hayes term has expired.
- Linda Demetropoulos reports that "Water and Land Legacy" has made it to the ballot
- Linda D. reports that at the Friends of Glen Springs (FROGS) meeting on January 8, 2014, Commissioner Hutchison suggested a "land swap" to relocate the Elks Lodge. Focus was on moving it to Hogtowne Creek Headwaters Nature Park.
- Linda D. reported that Stefanie Nagid has resigned from City of Gainesville at the beginning of February and that Linda D. will be temporarily filling in her place.
- Linda D. reported that projected budgets show that staff will need to prepare to find a way to cut 3.5% from their budgets in the 2015 fiscal year. Also, that there will be a hiring freeze.
- Linda D. clarifies a question that Leslie Straub posed regarding Environmental Education (EE) Staff, budget and staffing cuts. Linda D. advises that there is only one full time EE staff member now. Leslie S. expressed that it would be a good idea to look into grants and other ways to fund this program as it has a direct effect on nature parks.

VII. Friends of Nature Parks Report – Penny Weber reported that their annual meeting would be on February 15, 2014 at Morningside and all NCC Board members are invited to attend.

VIII. Liaison Reports

- **Bicycle & Pedestrian Board (Suzanne Skadowski)** – No report
- **Recreation & Open Space Advisory Board (Taylor Stein)**- No report
- **Recreation, Cultural Affairs, and Public Works Committee (David Miller)** – No report

IX. Old Business –

- **Star Awards**
  - Linda Demetropoulos informed the board that at this year's Star Awards ceremony the nominators have been asked to hand out the awards to the winners.
  - Linda D. provided the board with a copy of the revised Star Awards form and asked for approval.

Motion By: Leslie Straub	Seconded By: Kate Preston
Moved To: Approve revised Star Awards Form as submitted	Upon Vote: passed 8-0

- **Boulware update and comments**
  - Linda Demetropoulos thanked the board for comments she received in regards to the Boulware Springs Nature Park Sandhill Resoration Project. Linda will compile comments and return with revisions.

X. **New Business**- No new business

XI. **Board or Citizen Comments** – No comments

XII. **Next Meeting** – March 13, 2014, Thomas Center A, Room 204, 6:30pm

XIII. **Adjournment** – 8:04 pm

Chair

3/13/14
Date