

CITRUS COUNTY COUNCIL

PO BOX 925 Lecanto, FL 34460

www.citruscountycouncil.org

“Working together to preserve quality of life in Citrus County”

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES CMTE.

DECEMBER 9, 2009

STATUS

- ENR Cmte. comprises 11 individuals, about seven of whom usually attend monthly meetings at Krayers’ home on the last Friday of each month;
- Several attendees have shared their expertise on topics of interest to ENR Cmte. members
- Broad range of interests of groups on Cmte. brought wide range of issues for consideration, study, & action.
- CCC membership in GRN has yet to pay significant dividends – contacts are ongoing, & developing;
- Contacts with Withlacoochee River Alliance (WRA) groups, which share our interests, are developing.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- GULF RESTORATION NETWORK (GRN)
 - Attended GRN meeting in Gainesville;
 - Reviewed of topics of interest to GRN;
 - Met with Joe Murphy, Fla Dir. of GRN Activities;
 - Recommended CCC join GRN – approved;
- FLORIDA PROGRESS NUCLEAR POWER PLANT PROJECT
 - Obtained detailed input re potential risks of damage to local environment (Emily Casey)
 - Obtained detailed information re Project’s status & review process by State & Federal agencies (Dan Hilliard);
- PARTICPATED IN/SPONSORED TALK/BOOK SIGNING EVENT
 - **“Mirage – Florida and the Vanishing Water of the Eastern U. S.”** by Cynthia Barnett
 - CCC supported the Book Signing Project financially;
 - Attendance was excellent - ~175 – including County Commissioners, County Staff, wide range of interested citizens;
- NATURE PHOTOGRAPHER ERIC ZAMORA’S PRESENTATION
 - Educated CCC members re the nature of The Nature Coast via pictorial essay showing the natural wonders of our vanishing heritage;
 - Made contacts via Zamora with other naturalists;
- DCA CONTACTED wrt PORT DISTRICT ZONING, RV RESORT DEVELOPMENT
 - Helen Spivey, former State Representative, provided much background;
 - Met with DCA personnel re State objections to approving Zoning change request;
 - Developed two CCC resolutions opposing creation of a Port Zone & opposing development of a large RV Resort on the Withlacoochee River to help house workers expected for construction of the Fla. Progress Nuclear Power Plant;
 - Damage to environment could occur from the Power Plant being located in a sensitive wetland region of the coastal plain in Levy County;

- Damage to Manatee birthing area and habitat would occur from creation of a Port Zone, including a marina, from increased boat traffic;
- MINING ORDINANCE
 - Major issues exist from the proposed ordinance reducing the set-backs required for mining activities from residential property;
 - Opposition to changes was voiced at BOCC;
- THREE SISTERS SPRINGS ACQUISITION
 - CCC adopted the recommended position supporting local purchase (by City of Crystal River) of Three Sisters Springs Property to remove it from potential damage by developers;
 - CCC committed to financial support of the Project via a donation;

ISSUES

- MEETING ATTENDANCE
 - Efforts are made by Cmte members to attend various governmental, advisory board & other meetings to learn what issues are being considered and what proposals are being considered for dealing with them, including:
 - BOCC
 - SWFWMD, BASIN BOARDS
 - WRWSA
 - PDRB
 - Citrus 20/20 Board of Directors & Save Our Waters Week
 - Crystal River Waterfront Advisory Board
 - Kings Bay Working Group
 - Academy of Environmental Science Board of Directors
 - Membership on Citizens Advisory Group(s);
 - County Long Range Transportation Plan Development;
 - Active participation in Member Organization activities, meetings.
- CMTE MEMBER IDENTIFICATION OF ISSUES TO STUDY
 - Members organizations deal with issues that concern them, & others;
 - Expertise developed by Cmte members is an important source of info.

PROBLEMS

- More Cmte members are needed to consistently attend various meetings to track the wide range of issues with which these entities (above) deal;
- Need more Cmte member involvement in projects that are selected for action;
- We need to identify more individuals with expertise in topics of interest to come to meetings to inform our people.

PLANS

- We need to identify CCC delegates with interests useful to ENR; &
- Persuade CCC delegates to join and participate actively in ENR meetings, activities.

Gus Kraye, Chairman