

**Lake Ola Advisory Board
Regular Meeting
Tangerine Improvement Society
7101 Wright Ave. Tangerine, FL 32757
March 19, 2019**

Board Members Present: David McDonald (Chairman), Henry Land (Vice Chair), Harrison Bucklew, Steve Mellich, Sharlee Hollingsworth

Board Members Absent: None

Staff and Guests: Orange County District 2 Commissioner Christine Moore, Kathy Marsh (Commissioner's Aide), Liz Johnson, Tim Hull, Melissa Lavigne, Gary Jacobs, and Nick Cooper, Orange County Environmental Protection Division (EPD)

Residents: Charlie Beall, Margie Grunill, Derek Ryan, Syd & Christel Chase, Linda Bramer, Tom Hurlburt, Ned Bowers, Jacob Snavely, Gary James, Kitty Breed, Steve Blawton, Cindy Sonne, Harry Oshman, Henry Baker, Francoise Cardinell, Laurie Hathaway, Ron & Lisa Britzius, Philip Rapalje, Dorlinda House, Jeffrey House, Kenny Harris, Ted Wolff, Kevin Harbin, Giles Paget-Wilkes, Sandy Wand, Charlie Murray, Don Moors, Kathy & Chuck Kohl, Dean Sasek, Kathy MacPherson, Nancy McDonald, James King, Natalie Perche, Sylvie Stammel, Jeffrey Casey, George Wiggins

I. Call to Order

With a quorum present, Chairman McDonald called the meeting of the Lake Ola Advisory Board (Advisory Board) to order at 6:07 p.m.

II. Approval of the Meeting Minutes

Upon motion by Steve Mellich, seconded by Henry Land, and carried with all present members voting AYE by voice vote; the Advisory Board approved the March 21, 2018 meeting minutes.

III. Public Comment

None

IV. EPD Report

1. Melissa Lavigne introduced Orange County District 2 Commissioner Christine Moore and Aide Kathy Marsh, as well as all of the EPD staff present. Mrs. Lavigne also introduced Nick Cooper as the new EPD Lake Liaison for the Lake Ola Advisory Board.

2. Mrs. Lavigne encouraged all of the Advisory Board members to consider nominations for officer elections for both Chairman and Vice Chair. Elections will take place at a future meeting.
3. Nick Cooper updated the Advisory Board on the latest aquatic plant survey, stating that the last survey was performed on January 8, 2019 by Gary Jacobs and himself. Mr. Cooper informed the Advisory Board that the dominant aquatic plants present during the survey were eelgrass (*Vallisneria americana*) and pondweed (*Potamogeton illinoensis*), with most of the vegetation present near shore. Other native plants observed included southern naiad (*Najas guadalupensis*), bladderwort (*Utricularia sp.*), small and large nitella (*Nitella sp.*) and coontail (*Ceratophyllum demersum*). No hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) or water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) were observed to be in need of treatment at the time of the survey. Mr. Cooper stated that the next survey would be taking place in April of 2019. Mr. Cooper also updated the Advisory Board in regards to the grass carp barrier that was removed by Orange County Public Works (OCPW) on January 2, 2018. The barrier was removed due to internal concerns within OCPW. Reinstallation is to be done within the next month, at no charge to the Lake Ola MSTU. Billing will resume for regular cleaning and maintenance of the barrier. Harrison Bucklew requested the price breakdown for the cleaning and maintenance of the barrier. Mr. Cooper informed the Advisory Board of the agreed upon location for the new barrier. The location was approved by EPD, OCPW, as well as both residents adjacent to the canal where the barrier will be installed. Discussion ensued about the reinstallation of the grass carp barrier. Harrison Bucklew asked if the old barrier would be returned to the Advisory Board since the Lake Ola MSTU purchased the barrier. Mr. Bucklew also requested pictures of the new barrier within the next month. There was an overall concern that many of the grass carp have left Lake Ola during the time the barrier was removed. The Advisory Board inquired about the grass carp permit and how quickly fish could be added. Mr. Cooper informed the Advisory Board that the Lake Ola grass carp permit currently has around 400 fish remaining. Mr. Cooper then explained the process of obtaining fish. Discussion ensued regarding the addition and timing of more grass carp.
4. Mrs. Lavigne presented the Advisory Board with the current MSTU Budget Report. Mrs. Lavigne reported the MSTU balance of a little over \$270,000. The projected revenue for County Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 is just under \$69,000 with a little less than \$50,000 received to date. Funds expended in FY2018 for aquatic plant management services totaled a little under \$8,000. Funds expended to date in FY2019 are just under \$1,500. Mrs. Lavigne also informed the Advisory Board that a full lake treatment would cost anywhere between \$230,000 and \$400,000 depending on the chemical use. Discussion ensued.
5. Mrs. Lavigne updated the Advisory Board about the Orange County stormwater pond maintenance that took place at Sloewood Ct. Mrs. Lavigne discussed the project's purpose and that the Orange County National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) section staff has performed routine inspections to ensure the project was in compliance. The project has been completed with no issues. Mrs. Lavigne asked if there were any questions regarding this topic. The neighbor adjacent to the pond

stated that OCPW had done a really nice job. With no further responses, the meeting moved forward.

6. Mrs. Lavigne presented information regarding the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) US SR 441 project. FDOT declined to attend the meeting, but submitted an email response to the County that was distributed to all Advisory Board members as well as the public in attendance. Mrs. Lavigne detailed the NPDES involvement with the project, mentioning all inspections of the project found no violations, with minimal recommendations for improvement. Discussion between the Advisory Board, EPD, and the general public ensued. There was a general consensus of frustration with the project from the Advisory Board and the meeting attendees. The overwhelming frustration was with the assumed lack of communication from and between governmental entities as well as dissatisfaction that the project was deemed as “maintenance”. One member of the public, George Wiggins, did encourage everyone to contact their state legislative representatives to voice their displeasure with the project. It was suggested to obtain FDOT and OCPW’s 5-year CIP budgets as a way to track projects. Discussion ensued including possible stormwater filtration/water quality projects for the FDOT outfall into Lake Ola.
7. Mrs. Lavigne briefly discussed the Sunshine Laws and asked that everyone refer to the handout they received upon entering the meeting. The handout outlined the Sunshine Laws and was passed out as a friendly reminder to the Advisory Board members.

V. Meeting Schedule

The next meeting date is scheduled for Tuesday, August 20, 2019 starting at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Tangerine Improvement Society, located at 7101 Wright Ave, Tangerine, FL 32757.

VI. Member Reports

None

VII. Non-Agenda Items

A resident discussed concerns with Orange County and why the “Cooper drain” has remained “intentionally plugged”. Commissioner Moore also took this time to address the Advisory Board and general public. She will be speaking with Representative Jennifer Sullivan in the coming weeks and will bring up the FDOT project for discussion. Commissioner Moore also spoke on the topic of septic tanks and announced a grant program for replacing failed tanks.

VIII. Adjourn

The Advisory Board adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Lake Ola Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
March 19, 2019

David McDonald, Chairman

Date

Minutes prepared by Nick Cooper

Date

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