

Ref: #01-2021

LOXAHATCHEE RIVER ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL DISTRICT
LRD'S ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES
WORKSHOP MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 14, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Boggie called the Workshop Meeting of September 14, 2021 to order at 3:01 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

The following Board Members were in attendance:

Mr. Boggie

Mr. Rockoff

Dr. Rostock

Mr. Snyder arrived at 3:21 PM

Staff Members in attendance were Dr. Arrington, Mr. Dean, Mr. Howard, Ms. Fraraccio, Mr. Pugsley, Ms. O'Neill, Ms. Harris, and Ms. Duggan. Consultants in attendance were Mr. Curtis Shenkman and Mr. Hunter Shenkman

3. SCOPE OF LRD'S ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS

Dr. Arrington reviewed his presentation on the District's environmental education programs and facilities (i.e., River Center, Bureau of Land Management (2 former Coast Guard houses), 2500 Jupiter Park Drive, and 20 acres adjacent to Riverbend Park). The general plan and intent presented included:

- moving forward with site plan improvements and renovation of Houses "H" (Learning Center) and "I" (Welcome Center) at the Bureau of Land Management's Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area,
- allowing the existing River Center lease to expire in 2027,
- allowing Busch Wildlife Sanctuary to complete the term of their license agreement at 2500 Jupiter Park Drive and add passive outdoor recreation to the site while safeguarding utility assets, and
- working to bring our 20 acres adjacent to Riverbend Park to an improved base condition (i.e., recover from prior utility use) and add environmental education elements to this property in a phased approach to make up for lost facilities when River Center lease expires.

4. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Dr. Rostock: Does not see a need to build out 2500 Jupiter Park Drive for environmental education. This property should be managed strictly for utility operations. Strongly support improvements at the Bureau of Land Management site.

Mr. Snyder: We need to educate the public about the magic that takes place here as we convert wastewater to reclaimed water and expressed a desire to implement a boardwalk like seen at Wakodahatchee Wetlands or Green Cay around our reclaimed water lakes at 2500 Jupiter Park Drive. Supports improvements at Bureau of Land Management site. Hopes there will be another workshop for our 20 Acres and 2500 Jupiter Park Drive.

Mr. Boggie: Improvements at the Bureau of Land Management are a no brainer. But additional environmental education facilities and efforts should be based on a needs assessment. We should not assume the River Center will close at the end of the current lease term. We should not be building an environmental education palace at our 20 acres especially at the sole cost of our rate payers. When considering environmental education facilities and programs, we should ask who can we work with to

