

MEETING BY TELECONFERENCE CALL
Mission, Guiding Principles and Concept Refinement Committee
September 30, 2003
10 a.m. to 11:03 a.m.

PARTICIPANTS - Colleen Castille (co-chair), Chuck Littlejohn (co-chair), Craig Evans, Al Reynolds

UNABLE TO PARTICIPATE - Michael Busha, Rick Drummond, Jonathan Steverson, Peter Spyke

The committee reviewed the "Rural Policy Sub-Committee's Recommendations to the Growth Management Study Commission"

(http://privatelands.org/download/GMSC_RuralPolicyReport_12-2000.pdf) and "Proposed Statement of Purpose for the Rural Lands Stewardship Committee"

(http://privatelands.org/download/RLSC_Purpose.pdf).

DCA Secretary Castille recommended that the teleconference participants focus on key elements of the two documents that could: 1) be used as a succinct statement of mission, and 2) form the basis of a work plan for the Council that could be carried out over the next year without an increase in the Council's current resources.

It was decided that the committee members would work together to draft statements describing –

- 1. Mission** - to guide the actions of the Rural Lands Stewardship Council (draft to be prepared by Craig Evans)
- 2. Vision** - for Florida's rural lands (draft to be prepared by Al Reynolds)
- 3. Principles** - to guide actions that will help private landowners, local stakeholders and other interested parties realize a local version of this vision that will address local needs and opportunities as they plan for the future of their rural lands (draft to be prepared by Al Reynolds and Chuck Littlejohn)
- 4. Process** - to describe the steps that need to be taken to implement a successful rural lands planning/protection/rural economic development program (draft to be prepared by Al Reynolds)
- 5. Tools** - what's available to help local communities, counties and stakeholder groups carry out rural planning efforts, with a recognition that the Rural Lands Stewardship Program is just one tool among many (draft to be prepared by Colleen Castille)
- 6. Examples** - one example is Collier County's Rural Lands Stewardship Overlay, but other examples of successful rural land use planning/protection efforts also exist around the U.S. and should be included in this list (draft to be prepared by Craig Evans and Anita Jenkins in Al Reynold's office)

7. Actions - guidance on procedures that work; on steps that local planners, landowners and other stakeholders can take to move ahead; this was described by Al Reynolds as the "take home value" that can be delivered to local interests through the educational efforts of the Rural Lands Stewardship Council; (this will be discussed and drafted by the entire Council and by representatives of organizations and counties attending the November 10, 2003 meeting).

The Committee agreed that the teleconference participants would share drafts of the first six statements by October 14 and finalize these statements for presentation by email to the full Council by October 30, in advance of the November 10, 2003 Rural Lands Stewardship Council meeting.

The primary business matter before the Council at the November 10, 2003 meeting will be discussion and approval of these statements.

The business items will then be followed by a presentation, to be led by Al Reynolds of WilsonMiller, host of the November 10 meeting. The statements will be used as a structure for the presentation to explain the mission, vision, principles, process and tools that were used to create the Collier County Rural Land Stewardship Overlay and the on-the-ground realization of this overlay through the development of the Ave Maria site plan and the recent transfer of credits to protect over 5,000 acres of environmentally sensitive lands.

Discussion will then follow on what actions can be taken by other counties to implement similar programs -- and how the mission, vision, principles, process and tools can be used to accommodate local needs and opportunities.

Meeting participants will have the opportunity to participate in further discussions, or to take a tour of the Collier County Rural Lands Stewardship Area during the afternoon of November 10.

The actions of the RLSC's other committees -- particularly the Guidelines Committee, Education and Promotion Committee and Agriculture & Rural Landowner Committee -- should be coordinated as closely as possible between now and November 10 with the statements being developed by the Mission, Guiding Principles and Concept Refinement Committee.

It was recommended that, at this point, it may be premature to activate the Pilot Program Committee, and that the individuals who serve on this committee should be asked if they would be willing to serve temporarily on one of the RLSC's other committees until the RLSC can develop a more definitive work plan based on the articulation of its mission, vision, principles, process, tools, examples and actions.

Please see attached revisions to the "Proposed Statement of Purpose."

Respectfully submitted,

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