

## **Minutes of meeting of Natural Area Advisory Committee: 6 October 2009**

Tuesday 4-5 PM, NATL pavilion. Members present were Doug Levey (chair), Tom Walker (administrative assistant), Francis Putz (incoming chair), Natalie Hooton (Graduate Assistant), Elizabeth Wells (Undergraduate Assistant), Susan Jacobson, Dan Fitzpatrick, Beverly Sensbach, Bret Pasch, Erick Smith, Eric Lewis, and Alex Cheesman

### **1. Introductions**

The newest member of the NAAC, Dan Fitzpatrick (Entomology and Nematology Student Organization) was welcomed, as was Elizabeth Wells, the newly hired undergraduate assistant.

### **2. TA Report (Natalie Hooton)**

Natalie reviewed the appended list of her activities over the summer of which the highlights (which engendered some discussion) were

- Developed and posted NATL dog policy
- General trail maintenance- trimming, mowing, trash pick-up, etc.
- Attended prescribed burn
- Helped finalize 9 fields in NATL master list of vascular plants
- Helped to plant 250 plugs of lopsided Indian grass in public area pine
- The development and placement of movable information signs along the trails that are intended to replace the printed trail guides (and have already done so along the SEEP trail). Remarkably, 22% of the plant species are illustrated and described on these signs (all accessible on the NATL website as well).
- She is working with owners of neighboring properties to urge them to control their invasive exotics.
- Worked with Dr. Weaver to identify plants new to NATL
- Organized small volunteer event to plant almost 350 plugs of wiregrass in south restricted area pine
- Carried out entire hiring process for undergraduate assistant

### **3. Actions Undertaken by the NATL Operations Committee (=TA + chair + administrative assistant)**

- Simplified rules for using NATL: pre-approval needed by NAAC for “activities in restricted areas that last longer than one semester and that are evident in the absence of the user (e.g., flags and stakes marking plots or transects).”
- Posted additional NATL map that more clearly delineates Public and Restricted areas
- Purchased TrailMaster camera for recording usage of NATL

- Working to enhance the entrance to NATL from Cultural Plaza
- Updated and enhanced vascular plant list: <http://natl.ifas.ufl.edu/plants.htm>
- Completed controlled burns of upland pine (except part of south Restricted Area), planted plugs of wiregrass and lopsided Indian grass
- Academic guide to upland pine nature trail (to replace basic and advanced guides)
- Mapped and measured original pines in NATL-east

#### **4. One Minigrant Discussed**

A minigrant proposal on Cuban tree frogs was discussed and it was decided that while this version of the proposal should be rejected on scientific grounds (unanimous vote), the applicant will receive from the NATL Board a summary of the comments on the proposal so that it can be improved.

The committee agreed that there are advantages to “rolling deadlines” for Minigrant Proposals and will follow this procedure until it becomes problematic. For now the problem is too few applicants.

#### **5. Soil Pit Update**

Proponents of the plan to install one or more soil pits in the NATL were not represented at the meeting but have agreed that because of safety issues they only need to excavate down 4 feet. NATL has allocated \$500 for this project, but final plans for the pilot soil pit must be approved by the end of the Fall Semester 2009 or the funds will go back into the general NATL coffers. Faculty in the Soil and Water Science Department will be so notified.

#### **6. Fiscal Affairs Discussed (Appendix A and B)**

The fiscal results for 2008-2009 were reviewed and the proposed plan for 2009-2010 was discussed and approved unanimously.

#### **7. Renaming the NATL Conservation Area**

Doug reviewed the campaign that he has mounted to have the NATL Conservation Area named in honor of Tom Walker. He circulated a draft letter to the UF Administration, and will review the topic when he presents the NATL budget to the LVL Committee on Monday, 12 October. He also solicited letters of support from faculty; details will follow. The measure received unanimous and enthusiastic support.

#### **8. Welcome to New NAAC Chair**

Jack Putz was welcomed as the new NAAC Chair and a discussion ensued about the appointment of a vice chair. The general concerns are with continuity and sustainability of NATL leadership. One particular concern is that Jack plans to be off campus for 8 months next year, which makes the selection of a vice chair imperative.

## Appendix A: Fiscal Report

### NATL Fiscal Plan for FY 2008-09

(approved by LVL, 20 Oct 2008)

#### INCOME

Provost	2000	
NATL endowment	5400	
	Sum	7400

#### EXPENSES

Routine expenses	2000	
Undergraduate assistant	3600	
Minigrant program	1000	
Paint pavilion?	500	
Materials for NATL-east walkway?	300	
	Sum	7400

### NAAC Fiscal Report for FY 2008-09

#### INCOME

Brought forward	391	
Provost	2100	
NATL endowment	4930	
	Sum	7421

#### EXPENSES

Routine expenses	2183	
Undergraduate assistant	2936	
Minigrant program	1000	
Materials for NATL-east walkway	992	
	Sum	7112

On hand 30 June 2009 309

NATURAL AREA ADVISORY COMMITTEE EXPENSE ACCOUNT (Acct. 1071 of EYN department)						
Date	Item	Vender	Credits	Debits	Balance	
1-Jul-08	Brought forward				391.21	
3-Jul-08	2000 wiregrass plugs	Andrews Nursery, Fla Div Forestry		420.00	-28.79	
8-Jul-08	aluminum angle for SEEP panels	Lowe's		12.24	-41.03	
11-Jul-08	aluminum angle for SEEP panels; 2-cycle oil	Lowe's		14.52	-55.55	
11-Jul-08	aluminum angle for SEEP panels (special order)	Lowe's		99.20	-154.75	
15-Jul-08	mileage to pick up wiregrass plugs (68@\$.445)	Ken Prestwich		30.26	-185.01	
15-Jul-08	5 gal gasoline for utility vehicle	Newberry Road Citgo		20.55	-205.56	
5-Aug-08	color laser printing of trail signs n=50	Target Copy		29.50	-235.06	
8-Aug-08	chain and bar for chainsaw	Lowe's		32.98	-268.04	
11-Aug-08	fire rake, handle, flagging	Forestry Suppliers		71.19	-339.23	
15-Aug-08	14th SEEP boardwalk panel	Color Reflections		113.00	-452.23	
2-Sep-08	steel wedges, bar oil (\$39.21-10.98 return)	Lowe's		28.23	-480.46	
4-Sep-08	screws, aluminum for SEEP (\$26.11-2.83 return)	Lowe's		23.28	-503.74	
4-Sep-08	stainless screws, aluminum angle for SEEP	13th Street Lowe's		62.65	-566.39	
6-Sep-08	aluminum angle for SEEP (\$62.95-15.98 return)	Lowe's		46.97	-613.36	
8-Sep-08	screws, pruners, DEET	Lowe's		40.65	-654.01	
11-Sep-08	waterproof paper, flagging	Forestry Suppliers		67.22	-721.23	
15-Sep-08	watering supplies, stainless screws, wasp killer	Lowe's		31.44	-752.67	
15-Sep-08	5 gal gasoline for utility vehicle	Shell on Newberry Road		20.01	-772.68	
16-Sep-08	2008-09 expense money from Provost		2100.00		1327.32	
18-Sep-08	two 16ft poles for bridge supports	Alachua Farm and Lumber Center		61.98	1265.34	
20-Sep-08	watering supplies	Lowe's		44.40	1220.94	
20-Sep-08	watering supplies	Home Depot		50.75	1170.19	
22-Sep-08	concrete and rebar for bridge	Lowe's		34.42	1135.77	
23-Sep-08	screws for bridge and screws for stake signs	Lowe's		25.40	1110.37	walkway
29-Sep-08	material to make floating platform for walkway work	Lowe's		27.50	1082.87	27.50
2-Oct-08	watering supplies (splitters)	Home Depot		42.29	1040.58	
6-Oct-08	watering supplies and 2x10's for walkway	Lowe's		79.28	961.30	71.86
6-Oct-08	fabricate cap for driving 4x4 piles	Roger's Welding		37.50	923.80	37.50
14-Oct-08	bait for mammal traps	Publix (Marissa)		8.35	915.45	
14-Oct-08	8ft 4x4s for pilings	Lowe's		34.85	880.60	34.85
15-Oct-08	stainless bolts for walkway	Contractors Depot		327.30	553.30	327.30
15-Oct-08	pilings for walkway	Lowe's		111.67	441.63	111.67
17-Oct-08	2x10 for walkway ledgers	Lowe's		17.97	423.66	17.97
22-Oct-08	file, trowel, screws, polyurethane adhesive	Lowe's		23.59	400.07	4.58
30-Oct-08	battery pack for drill; screws for stringers	Lowe's		95.97	304.10	95.97
30-Oct-08	500 nature trail fliers	FedEx Kinko's		111.60	192.50	
1-Nov-08	screws for walkway; alum. extrus.for bdwlk sign	Lowe's		45.51	146.99	36.97
7-Nov-08	4x4s for pilings; glue for stringers	Lowe's		45.07	101.92	45.07
10-Nov-08	approved for walkway by NAAC	transfer from NATL endowment	700.00		801.92	
11-Nov-08	4x4s for pilings	Lowe's		23.94	777.98	23.94
19-Nov-08	2x10 for walkway ledgers	Lowe's		7.97	770.01	7.97
4-Dec-08	screws for walkway	Lowe's		45.58	724.43	45.58
12-Jan-09	loppers and hatchet	Lowe's		36.96	687.47	
18-Jan-09	screws for walkway planks	Lowe's		36.97	650.50	36.97
23-Jan-09	adhesive and screws for walkway	Lowe's		18.15	632.35	
24-Jan-09	paper for NATL brochures	Mr. Paper (Pam)		20.78	611.57	20.78
28-Jan-09	screws for walkway planks	Lowe's		45.96	565.61	45.96
29-Jan-09	paper for nature trail guides (returned)	Mr. Paper (Pam)		4.95	560.66	
2-Feb-09	2000 nature trail fliers	Uprinting.com		216.94	343.72	992.44
6-Feb-09	5.4 gal gas for Gator	Newberry Road Shell		10.73	332.99	
6-Feb-09	5 gal water cooler	Big Lots (Bret)		30.96	302.03	
17-Feb-09	chainsaw chains and bar oil	Lowe's		37.03	265.00	
26-Feb-09	to 171 to correct accounting mistake	Linda Pedersen		8.14	256.86	
11-Mar-09	wiregrass plugs (for June delivery)	Mike Campbell		150.00	106.86	
20-Mar-09	gasoline for mower & utility vehicle	Kangaroo		9.95	96.91	
17-Apr-09	chain saw repair (\$63.60 total)	GreenSouth		50.00	46.91	
8-May-09	belt for mower	Carquest		18.98	27.93	
22-May-09	gasoline for mower & utility vehicle	Newberry Shell		12.41	15.52	
		<b>Total expenditures</b>		<b>3175.69</b>		
		less walkway expenditures		992.44		
		<b>Routine expenditures</b>		<b>2183.25</b>		

## Appendix B: Fiscal Plan

### NATL Fiscal Plan for FY 2009-10

#### Funds available for 2009-10 (excluding stipend for TA\*)

Brought forward from 2008-09		309	
Projected income for 2009-10			
Provost	2100		
NATL endowment	4800		
	Sum	6900	
	<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$7,209</b>

#### Spending plan for 2009-10

Budgeted			
Routine expenses	1000		
Undergraduate assistant	3952		
Minigrant program	1000		
Soil pit	500		[Requires NAAC approval of site and detailed plan]
	Sum	6452	
Reserved		757	
	<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$7,209</b>

\* The CALS dean will pay the stipend of the NATL Graduate Teaching Assistant (ca. \$20,100)

NAAC Minutes Addendum  
Record of actions proposed via email and how they were disposed

May 2009

Vote to approve preliminary budget for 2009-2010 (9 Yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain)