

**SOUTH MIAMI DADE WATERSHED STUDY ADVISORY
COMMITTEE
Meeting Twenty-one**

June 3, 2004
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Report of Proceedings

WELCOME/CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS

The meeting was held at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden in Miami, Florida. Roger Carlton, Chair, welcomed everyone. Member Richard Alger, Alger Farms, sponsored morning coffee.

Mr. Carlton made several announcements:

1. The following recently appointed members to the Committee have been confirmed by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners:
 - a. Subrata Basu, Miami Dade County Planning and Zoning (MOU representative)
 - b. Amy Condon, Trust for Public Land (At Large representative)
 - c. Jane Spurling, Florida Nurserymen and Growers Association
 - d. John Fredrick, Dade County Farm Bureau
 - e. Jorge Rodriguez, Miami Dade County Water and Sewer Department
2. Carter McDowell, Esq. has replaced Howard Nelson, Esq. as the representative for the Building Industry. Mr. McDowell's confirmation is pending.
3. We are still awaiting word on the second (and final member) "at large" member. Two organizations have been contacted and asked to name a representative.

Mr. Carlton then commented on the focus of the Committee's important work. He emphasized that getting the study done as quickly and efficiently as possible needs to be a Committee priority. While there may be many issues of interest to the Committee members, this forum may not be the proper place for discussion or debate about them. Committee members are still encouraged to bring up these issues during the Member Forum section of each meeting; then the Organizational Committee will determine the most appropriate course of action in responding to these requests.

Mr. Carlton suggested that it may be necessary for the Committee to meet twice a month near the end of the process to ensure that the Committee's work is done on time. It was suggested by Committee members that in that event, the Organizational Committee should consider allowing alternates for members to assist in attending meetings.

Another suggestion by Committee members was the obtaining of a blanket waiver of the Conflict of Interest requirement as has been done for other committees whose members all have conflicts of one sort or another. Mr. Carlton indicated this, too, would be brought up with the Organizational Committee.

Members Present:

Roger Carlton, Chair
Ivonne Alexander, Miami Dade Agricouncil
Richard Alger, South Florida Potato Growers Exchange
Humberto Alonso, South Florida Water Management District
Daniel Apt, Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Subrata Basu, Miami-Dade DP&Z
Linda Canzanelli, Biscayne National Park
Amy Condon, Trust for Public Land
Carlos Espinosa, Miami Dade DERM
Jeffrey Flanagan, Esq., Chamber South
John Fredrick, Dade County Farm Bureau
Dick Frost, Tropical Audubon Society
April Gromnicki, National Audubon Society
John Hall, Florida Engineering Society
Robert Johnson, Everglades National Park
Louise King, Redland Citizens' Association
William Losner, Greater Homestead/Florida City Chamber of Commerce
Bennie Lovett, Florida City
Blanca Mesa, Sierra Club
Carter McDowell, Esq., Building Industry (prospective member)
Reed Olzack, Miami Dade Agricultural Practices Board
Lawrence Percival, Kendall Federation of Homeowner Associations
Jorge Rodriguez, Miami Dade Water and Sewer Department
Mike Shehadeh, City of Homestead
Jane Spurling, Florida Nurserymen and Grower's Association
Charles Thibos, Tropical Everglades Visitor Association
Julia Trevarthen, South Florida Regional Planning Council

AGENDA REVIEW/GUIDELINES

Janice Fleischer, Facilitator, thanked Fairchild Gardens for the use of their facility and member Richard Alger for sponsoring morning coffee. After reviewing the day's Agenda (**Exhibit A**), she announced that food would be organized differently in the future. Only coffee will be provided in the mornings and box lunches will be offered for a cost per member. Members will need to either bring their own lunches or reserve a box lunch prior to the meeting. Ms. Fleischer's office will handle the arrangements for the food.

As several comments from the public were expected and Committee decisions would be made during this meeting, Ms. Fleischer reviewed the Meeting Guidelines and Consensus Rules (see website).

All Reports of Proceedings of the Committee, Discussion Guidelines and Committee related information, can be found on the SFRPC website at www.sfrpc.com/institute/watershed.htm.

PROJECT MANAGER'S REPORT

John Hulsey, Project Manager, reported on the status of the project, reminded the Committee members to fill out their Financial Disclosure forms and send them in to the County Clerk, distributed a Fact Sheet as a public outreach material and asked for their review and comments before 5:00 p.m. on Monday the seventh of June, and presented the members with a draft Schedule Summary to help them anticipate upcoming meeting topics and follow along with where we are in the schedule. Mr. Hulsey will bring the finished schedule summary to the next meeting.

The Project Manager's Report is included as **Exhibit B**.

TASK 2.1: DRAFT WORK PRODUCT: OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS

Michael Davis, Vice President and Project Manager of the Consultant team for Keith and Schnars, gave a powerpoint presentation on the Draft Work Product of Task 2.1: Opportunities and Constraints (to development) (**Exhibit C**). At the conclusion of his presentation, it was explained that members were to

review this draft and make comments by July 1. All comments were to be forwarded to Project Manager, John Hulsey.

The Facilitator then asked members if they had any clarifying questions or if there was anything they did not understand about their homework assignment.

Members made the following comments subsequent to the Consultant presentation:

1. There are additional wellfields that need to be reflected on opportunities and constraints maps.
2. Homestead may have additional information on wellfields that they will provide to Keith & Schnars.
3. The Water and Sewer Department will bring additional information to Keith & Schnars.
4. Try to track the expansion of the wellfield zone – i.e. tracking changes of data.
5. All CERP projects will be updated on maps
6. Homestead Air Force Base (HAFB) is both a constraint and an opportunity – how will that be considered when Keith & Schnars works it into decision-making?
7. Clarification of what is meant by HAFB (i.e. what is the area covered) (get distinction from Dick Frost)
8. Pollution considerations of HAFB area need to be included.
9. Certain items should be listed as both opportunities and constraints.
10. If something is recognized as a constraint to development; public ownership is not the only solution – there are others.
11. City of Homestead has restrictions of development in flight paths.
12. Maps in packet may be out of date – use current maps and information.
13. For this task it is only opportunities and constraints on development.
14. Some constraints may be so for one kind of development and okay for other types of development.
15. Housing affordability issue is affected in opportunities and constraints.

Several members complimented the Consultant on the work of this Task.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Just before breaking for lunch, public comment was invited.

TASK 1.1, 1.4 AND 1.6: COMMITTEE ACCEPTANCE

Prior to the meeting, Committee members had been sent the final version of Tasks 1.1, 1.4 and 1.6 (see Consultant website at: www.southmiamidadewatershed.com). Mr. Carlton reminded members that as each task was completed the Committee would be asked to accept that task, first by consensus and if consensus could not be reached then by vote according to Committee procedures (see website). Project Manager, John Hulsey, gave members a quick overview of the subject of each of these tasks and reminded them how many times they had been given the opportunity to review and comment on these tasks prior to their finalization. Mr. Carlton told members that Committee acceptance of these tasks will begin the process of laying the foundation for ultimate acceptance of the Study. As each task is finalized and accepted, it adds a level of assurance that the Study itself will be acceptable to the Committee. He also reminded them that once tasks are accepted, the Committee does not go back again to review that task.

At this point, the Facilitator lead the Committee through the acceptance process. She began by asking if all three tasks were acceptable to Committee members. As this consensus ranking did not result in consensus (all members indicating a “3” or above), she went on to ask about each task separately.

Task 1.1:

The following suggestions were made by Committee members prior to ranking Task 1.1:

1. Apostrophe before Everglades
2. "Florida" before Everglades should be replaced with "America's"
3. Use Governor's Commission for a Sustainable South Florida (GCSSF) website
4. Address Recommendation #9 from initial Governor's Commission Report
5. Pages 65-72 should be omitted (Agricultural Study)
6. IFAS study should stay regardless of future Ag. Study
7. There are no acronyms on the subject of transportation – road studies, etc. need to be included and not in there now
8. There should be a Paragraph up front on applicability of use, no hidden incorporation of recommendations or study. Must be referenced throughout the study where it is used.
9. Need more information on Krome Avenue status (update)

Ranking of Task 1.1:

5	4	3	2	1
15	6	5	0	1

The member who indicated he was a "1" indicated he would be willing to move to a "3" if the following statement could be added wherever the Agricultural Retention Study is referenced: "The Agricultural Retention Study Citizens Advisory Committee did not accept this study." Once it was agreed to add this language a second ranking was taken.

Second ranking of Task 1.1:

5	4	3	2	1
18	6	2	0	0

Task 1.1 was accepted by consensus of the Committee.

Task 1.4 was the next to be ranked.

Task 1.4 Ranking

5	4	3	2	1
21	6	0	0	0

Committee acceptance of Task 1.4 by consensus.

Task 1.6 was the next to be ranked.

Task 1.6 Ranking

5	4	3	2	1
21	5	1	0	0

Committee acceptance of Task 1.6 by consensus.

Mr. Carlton congratulated the Consultants and the Committee on completing these tasks.

DRI ISSUE-DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Prior to having the Committee discuss and decide on a course of action regarding the issue of development outside the urban development boundary (UDB) and the urban expansion area (UEA) while the Study is being completed, public comment was invited.

Following public comment, Mr. Carlton reminded Committee members that, at the last meeting, there had been a request by several members for the Committee to take some form of action by expressing its opinion regarding continued development outside the UDB during the course of the Study. The action requested was in the form of a letter or resolution by the Committee expressing its position. Much discussion had ensued at the last meeting and the item was tabled for finalization at this meeting.

The Facilitator explained to the Committee that the threshold question was whether or not the Committee had decided to take any action. Ms. Fleischer asked the following question to the Committee: "Does this Committee get involved in the issue of development outside the UDB/UEA by sending some written expression of its opinion drafted by the Committee and signed by the Chair to the County Commission?"

Prior to asking for member ranking, the Facilitator asked for open discussion. After much discussion, the Facilitator then asked for members to indicate their acceptance of the Committee putting anything in writing on this subject. She explained that if the members decided they would accept this, the next step in the procedure would be for the members to draft the language and accept it by consensus or vote as necessary. If the language drafted could not be accepted (also by consensus or vote), then nothing would be done. Thus the members were given two opportunities to decide whether and how they would proceed.

The initial ranking on whether to take any action was:

5	4	3	2	1
4	3	4	5	11

As consensus was not reached and could not be reached after much discussion, the Chair called for a vote. Twenty (20) members were present; 16 affirmative votes were needed for passage. The vote was 9 votes in favor, 10 opposed and 1 abstaining. Therefore, the vote failed and no action will be taken by the Committee.

MEMBER FORUM

One item in the member forum was an email from member Bonnie Roddenberry who could not be present at the meeting and wanted her comments distributed to the Committee (**Exhibit D**).

It was also suggested that the Committee pursue obtaining a blanket waiver of the Conflict of Interest requirement since many of the members, by representing their stakeholder groups, could be accused of having a conflict of interest and would have to recuse themselves from any vote on a subject or issue they were involved in. By pursuing a waiver for the Committee, which has precedent with other County appointed stakeholder committees; this can be resolved collaboratively. Mr. Carlton indicated the Organizational Committee would discuss this and report to the Committee at the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was invited; none was given.

ADJOURN

The meeting was then adjourned.

OBSERVER COMMENT CARDS

- *Fairchild is a pretty location, but acoustics make it very hard to hear proceedings. Change room next time.
-Truly Burton, Builders Association of South Florida (BASF)*
- *WSAC has no legal standing to take a position on any plan boundary expansion or any related, or pending action in this regard. In fact, any resolution to oppose plan expansion jeopardizes the integrity of this group's work. The organization opposes any resolution for moratorium or prohibition of plan expansion. –
-Truly Burton, Builders Association of South Florida (BASF)*
- *WSAC's recommendation will have serious impact on housing affordability, as or when it reduces amount of land supply in study area, for environmental, preservation, institutional or passive uses. WSAC must balance these competing studies to avoid exacerbating current affordable housing crisis.
– Truly Burton, Builders Association of South Florida (BASF)*