

**BREVARD COUNTY LANDSCAPING, LAND CLEARING
AND TREE PROTECTION TASK FORCE**

September 28, 2005 Meeting Minutes

Task Force Members Present

Bo Barnavon-Primary Representative, Homebuilders and Contractors Association
Kathleen Burson-Alternate Representative, Florida Native Plant Society
Robert Day-Primary Representative, Brevard Nature Alliance
Jackie Gregory-Primary Representative, Commission District 1
Susan Hall-Alternate Representative, American Society of Landscape Architects
Robert Lee-Primary Representative, American Society of Civil Engineers
Maureen Rupe-Primary Representative, Commission District 5
Thomas Schuller-Primary Representative, Florida Farm Bureau
Lisa Smith-Primary Representative, Florida Native Plant Society
Brad Smith-Primary Representative, American Society of Landscape Architects
Dick Thompson-Primary Representative, Commission District 3
Earl Underhill-Primary Representative, Florida Forestry Association
Facilitator-Marilyn Crotty, Director, Florida Institute of Government

Task Force Members Absent

Steve Brown-Alternate Representative, Florida Nurserymen and Growers Association
Bud Crisafulli-Alternate Representative, Florida Farm Bureau
Lynn Girling-Primary Representative, International Society of Arborists
Don Hawthorne-Primary Representative, Garden Club
Vaughn Holeman-Primary Representative, District 4
Billy Kempfer-Alternate Representative, Florida Forestry Association
Anthony Koromilas-Alternative Representative, District 1
Rochelle Lawandales-Primary Representative, Commission District 2
Charlie Moehle-Alternate Representative, Commission District 2
James Payne-Primary Representative, Cattleman's Association
Jim Spratt-Primary Representative, Florida Nurserymen and Growers Association
Dan Zrallack-Alternate Representative, American Society of Civil Engineers

County Staff Present

Amanda Elmore-Supervisor, NRMO
Sherry Williams-Special Projects Coordinator, NRMO
Liz McDuffee-Secretary I, NRMO

Signed-in Citizens

None

Call to Order

Marilyn Crotty called the meeting to order at 3:06 pm after a quorum arrived.

- The task force approved the August 17th meeting minutes after making changes to the third bullet in the Call to Order section (replacing “landscaping plan” in the third line with “tree survey” and changing the last sentence to “Amanda Elmore stated that it is more beneficial to perform the tree survey before developing the site/landscape plan”).
- Brevard County Natural Resources Management Office staff reported that the Board of County Commissioners approved a 90-day extension for the task force. The extension started on 9/14/05, the date of the last scheduled meeting for the task force. (This meeting was cancelled to allow NRMO staff time to finish developing the regulations draft).

Discussion of the Landscaping, Land Clearing and Tree Protection Regulations

The Task Force decided to review the regulations page by page, raise issues, make decisions, and then move on to the next page.

- Page 1 – accepted as written.
- Page 2 – accepted with the following change:
 - Combine the two sentences in the **Buildable Area** definition.
- Page 3 – accepted with the following change:
 - Show the previous canopy definition as strike-through.
 - Delete the definition of **Crown**. (It is the same as the definition of Canopy.)
- Page 4 – accepted as written.
- Page 5 – accepted with the following change:
 - Change the **Plot Plan** definition from “a plan drawn to an appropriate engineering scale on a signed and sealed boundary survey showing the location of all...” to a plan “drawn to the same” engineering scale and “accompanied by” a signed and sealed boundary survey... (The task force agreed that a surveyor will not sign and seal a survey if items are put on it that are outside of his/her direction.)
- Page 6 – accepted with the following changes:
 - The task force discussed removing “palms having a clear trunk of six feet” from the definition of **Protected Tree**. The results of consensus testing were that six members wanted to remove palms from the definition and four members did not want to remove it. No consensus was reached. Per the task force’s operating agreement when more than 50%, but less than 75% of the members agree, the change will be made, but a note will be appended to the recommendations.
 - The task force discussed changing “five times the projected mature trunk’s dbh” to three or four times the projected mature trunk’s dbh in the

definition of **Root Protection Zone**. The results of consensus testing were that 6 members wanted to change the zone to “three times” (some of these members would also support “four times”) and four members wanted to keep “five times.” No consensus was reached. Per the task force’s operating agreement when more than 50%, but less than 75% of the members agree, the change will be made, but a note will be appended to the recommendations. The Task Force agreed to research and revisit this issue.

- Page 7 – accepted with the following changes:
 - Change “recognizable” to “recognized” in the **Specimen Tree** definition and wherever else it appears throughout the document.
 - Add “or group of trees” to “A tree may be considered a specimen tree...” in the **Specimen Tree** definition.
- Page 8 – accepted as written.
- Page 9, **Section 62-3634, Exemptions** (excluding Section 62-3635, Violations) – accepted with the following changes:
 - Item (2), single-family properties less than 2.5 acres: replace “homestead exemption” with “a single family residence or certificate of occupancy.”
 - The task force discussed replacing “2.5 acres” with “1 acre” in item (2); however, consensus testing resulted in the following results:

5 (Support it wholeheartedly)	2
4 (OK with it)	1
3 (Won’t oppose it)	1
2 (Have problems with it)	0
1 (Oppose it wholeheartedly)	5

Per the task force’s operating agreement when more than 50% but less than 75% of the members present agree, the change to 1 acre will not be made, but a note will be appended to the recommendations.

- Item (3), wetlands invasive plant removal: add, “Other methods will be considered on a case-by-case basis.”
- Item (4), the consensus was to delete the entire Linear Projects item.
- Item (6), add “of Florida” after “state.”
- Page 23, Section 62-3541 should be Section 62-3641.
- Page 25, Section 62-3642 should be Section 62-3643.
- Page 28, Section 62-3643 should be Section 62-3644.

Citizen's Comments

There were no citizen's comments.

Next meeting

Our next scheduled meeting is on Monday, October 10 from 3pm to 5pm at the Brevard County Agriculture Extension Office. The task force will resume its review of the draft regulations on page 9, Section 62-3635, Violations.

Please let staff know if you will be unable to attend any of the task force meetings. Also, your prompt arrival would be appreciated. If a quorum of eight members is not present for the meeting, then no official business can be conducted. Alternative Representatives are encouraged to attend all meetings - not just when the Primary Representative is unable to attend so that they will have an understanding of progress to date. Staff will continue to make reminder calls to task force members the day before meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 5 PM.