

# TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES

TOWN HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
155 F. ROAD, LOXAHATCHEE GROVES, FL 33470

## ROADWAY, EQUESTRIAN TRAILS AND GREENWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

OCTOBER 02 , 2025 – 5:00 PM – 6:03 PM



*Meeting Audio Available Upon Request in the Office of the Town Clerk*

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### **CALL TO ORDER**

The Roadway, Equestrian Trails and Greenway Advisory Committee meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by Committee Chairperson Frank Schiola.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Committee began the meeting by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Chairperson Schiola.

**ROLL CALL** *(Please note there is a vacancy in Seat 2)*

#### **Present Members:**

- **Frank Schiola, Chairperson**
- **Katie Lakeman, Committee Member**
- **Ashley Bruce, Committee Member**

#### **Absent Members:**

- **Darcy Dean Murray, Vice Chairperson**

#### **Present Staff:**

- **Craig Lower, Public Works Superintendent**
- **Gabriella Croasdaile, Assistant to the Town Clerk**

**ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, AND/OR MODIFICATION TO THE AGENDA**

There were two additions to the agenda: a presentation on equestrian safety and approval of meeting minutes from July 17, 2025 and August 21, 2025. The agenda was modified to the following;

1. Approval of Minutes
  - a. July 17, 2025 RETGAC Meeting Minutes
  - b. August 21, 2025 RETGAC Meeting Minutes
2. PSA on Equestrian Safety
3. Discussion on Solar Sport Trails
4. Approval of the Multi-purpose Trail Rules Sign
5. Update on the Okeechobee Boulevard Grant

**APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

**MOTION: COMMITTEE MEMBER LAKEMAN/COMMITTEE MEMBER BRUCE MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH MODIFICATIONS. MOTION PASSED (3-0).**

**APPROVAL OF THE MEETING MINUTES**

1. July 17, 2025 RETGAC Meeting Minutes  
August 21, 2025 RETGAC Meeting Minutes

**MOTION: COMMITTEE MEMBER LAKEMAN/COMMITTEE MEMBER BRUCE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES. MOTION PASSED (3-0).**

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**Agenda Item: PSA on Equestrian Safety**

The equestrian PSA was played to the committee members and those in the audience. There was a one-minute-long PSA and a two-minute-long PSA. After reviewing the PSAs the committee agreed that they were well produced and effectively covered the topic of equestrian safety. Committee Member Ashley Bruce commended the emphasis on road and rider safety. The committee decided to keep the videos as they are.

**Agenda Item: Discussion on Solar Sports Trails**

Diane Jenkins, a representative of Solar Sports Trails, led a discussion on possible improvements to Solar Sports Trails with the committee. The discussion included concerns such as sufficient trash receptacles in the area, naming trails, as well as lack of signs. Upon discussion the consensus between members and Jenkins was that the trails needed directional signage, a map, and a trash receptacle at the C Road entrance as well as the Town commons area.

**Agenda Item: Approval of Multi-Purpose Trail Rules Sign**

Public Works Superintendent Craig Lower presented a draft of a multi-purpose trail sign based off discussion from the previous meeting. The sign is meant to be two feet wide and three feet tall. Committee member Ashley Bruce commented that the font and white background made the sign enhanced readability.

Chairperson Frank Schiola noted that there should be a number for people to call for non-emergencies at the bottom of the sign. After deliberation, the committee agreed to list Town Hall's phone number for non-emergencies and 911 for emergencies.

There was a public comment from Mary McNicholas on this agenda item. McNicholas commented that the Florida Statute needs to be on the sign, that there are no hours listed on the signs, and that "multi-purpose" should be "multi-use".

The committee concurred with McNicholas and applied her suggestions to their modifications of the sign.

**MOTION: COMMITTEE MEMBER LAKEMAN/ COMMITTEE MEMBER BRUCE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MULTI-PURPOSE TRAIL SIGNS WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGES:**

- "Multi-Purpose" is changed to "Multi-Use";
- There is a "Dawn to Dusk" statement; and
- The non-emergency Town Hall number is added to bottom as well as 911 as an emergency number.

**Agenda Item: Update on the Okeechobee Blvd Grant**

Mary McNicholas of Geoffrey B. Sluggett & Associates provided an update on the Okeechobee Boulevard Grant. She informed the committee that the Town was not designated as a priority by the Palm Beach Transportation Planning Agency (TPA). However, in 2019, the Town had received a grant from the TPA for the construction of a roundabout at Folsom Road and Okeechobee Boulevard, along with trailheads and a multi-use trail on the south side of Okeechobee Boulevard. One condition of that grant required that the roundabout be expandable to accommodate four lanes.

A subsequent grant request was submitted for the same project, but it was not approved, as Palm Beach County already planned to expand Okeechobee Boulevard to a four-lane roadway. Ms. McNicholas noted that this may have affected the Town's prioritization.

Although this grant was not awarded, Ms. McNicholas noted that the Town continues to pursue additional funding opportunities. One such grant seeks to develop a comprehensive equestrian action plan to assess the economic impact of equestrian activities in the Town.

Another grant proposes collaboration with the Indian Trails Improvement District to enhance trail connectivity and recreational use of Loxahatchee Groves Park.

Next steps include establishing public-private partnerships within the community and identifying potential future crossings to improve connectivity, particularly along F Road and B Road.

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMMENTS

Committee Member Ashley Bruce thanked the Town for submitting these grants and continuing the hard work, but that she would like to see these connectivity issues solved in the future.

Committee Member Katie Lakeman had no report.

Chair Frank Schiola had no report.

### CONFIRMATION OF THE NEXT MEETING DATE

- The next Roadway, Equestrian Trails and Greenway Advisory Committee meeting will be on October 16, 2025 at 5:00 PM. The following date would be November 20, 2025 at 5:00 PM.

### ADJOURNMENT

Committee Member Bruce moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:03 PM. Chair Frank Schiola seconded the motion.



01/15/26

Frank Schiola, Roadway, Equestrian Trails  
and Greenway Advisory Committee  
Chairperson



Gabriella Croasdaile,  
Assistant to the Town Clerk