

# TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES

TOWN HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

155 F ROAD, LOXAHATCHEE GROVE, FLORIDA. 33470

## ROADWAY, EQUESTRIAN TRAILS AND GREENWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2025 – 6:00 P.M. – 8:15 P.M.



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

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Town Clerk Assistant Sammie Brown called the Roadway, Equestrian Trail, and Greenway Advisory Committee Meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

### **ROLL CALL**

Present: Committee Members Katie Lakeman, Darcy Dean Murray, Frank Schiola, and Ashley Bruce. Town Manager Francine Ramaglia, Town Clerk Assistant Sammie Brown, Public Works Director & Committee Liaison Richard Gallant, Project Coordinator Jeff Kurtz, Mary McNicholas (Geoffrey B. Sluggett & Associates) and Trish Barr (Simmons and White, Traffic Engineer & Equestrian Expert).

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Town Clerk Assistant Sammie Brown led the Committee and staff in the pledge of allegiance.

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Town Clerk Assistant Sammie Brown informed the Committee that staff would be moving Item 2 to Item 1 and adding a new Item 3 regarding the swearing-in of all committee members and the selection of Chair and Vice Chair.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Committee Member Frank Schiola and seconded by Committee Member Katie Lakeman. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Coleman inquired about the percentage of funding allocated to TPA's endeavors and received specific information from consultants regarding the estimated costs of pedestrian crossings. The consultants further explained that the costs have not yet been fully determined; however, crossings are estimated to range

between \$25,000 and \$30,000 each, with seven crossings requested, bringing the total estimated cost to approximately \$250,000 to \$300,000.

Mr. Coleman also asked about ADA compliance, and Consultant Mary McNicholas informed him that they would look into his question and provide further clarification.

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **Item 1. Presentation on Transportation Alternatives with the Palm Beach County Transportation Agency**

A presentation was delivered by Mary McNicholas (Geoffrey B. Sluggett & Associates) and Trish Barr (Simmons and White, Traffic Engineer & Equestrian Expert). The discussion focused on the 2019 Transportation Planning Agency's vision for a multi-use trail along Okeechobee Boulevard, integrating pedestrian, equestrian, and bicycle pathways to enhance accessibility. Key points included proposed crossing improvements at major intersections for safety, federal funding opportunities, and engineering considerations such as trail surfacing, fencing, and curbing. Safety concerns related to flashing beacons, pedestrian awareness signage, and road-sharing guidelines were also addressed. A public engagement session is scheduled for February 11, 2025, to gather further community input. The estimated cost for the initial phase of the project is \$1.39 million, with an \$886,000 federal grant allocated toward funding. Committee members were encouraged to submit final input before the grant deadline on February 14, 2025.

The committee members expressed a consensus to support the Transportation Alternatives project and submit the necessary grant application.

### **Item 2. Discussion on Rural Road Improvement Standards**

Public Works Director Richard Gallant provided an overview of the town's updated Rural Road Improvement Standards, covering road construction, maintenance, drainage management, bikeway and equestrian trail requirements, and compliance with state and federal guidelines. Key discussion points included right-of-way easement consistency for future trail expansion, potential grant funding for improving existing and proposed trail systems, and safety measures for equestrians on paved roads. Committee members raised concerns about the maintenance of equestrian trails, the availability of financial resources, and the need for appropriate signage to educate motorists on equestrian crossings.

### **Item 3. Swearing-In and Election of Officers**

Town Clerk Assistant Sammie Brown officiated the swearing-in ceremony for all committee members.

Following the swearing-in of all Committee Members, the Town Clerk Assistant called for nominations of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Roadway, Equestrian Trails, and Greenway Advisory Committee.

A motion was made by Committee Member Ashley Bruce to appoint Committee Member Frank Schiola as the Committee Chair and seconded by Committee Member Katie Lakeman. That motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

A motion was made by Committee Chair Frank Schiola to appoint Committee Member Darcy Dean Murray as the Committee Vice Chair and seconded by Committee Member Katie Lakeman. That motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

**COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

The committee Members and staff briefly discussed possible changes to the Roadway, Equestrian Trails, and Greenway Advisory Committee and what to anticipate regarding the future of the Transportation Alternatives grant application and future meetings. Staff informed the committee that there would be an additional public outreach event hosted on February 11, 2025.

**CONFIRM NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE:**

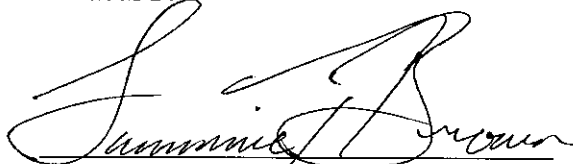
The next Roadway, Equestrian Trails, and Greenway Advisory Committee is scheduled for 5:00 P.M. Thursday, February 27, 2025.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion to Adjourn:**

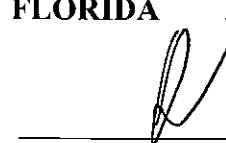
A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Committee Chair Schiola and seconded by Committee Member Bruce. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at **7:45 P.M.**

**ATTEST:**



Sammie T. Brown, FRA-RP, MEDP  
Town Clerk Assistant

**TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES,  
FLORIDA**



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