Present were:
  Bill Webster, Chairman
  Bob Nicholson, Vice-Chairman
  Bradley Hawkins (entered during meeting)
  Debbie Lansing
  Ingrid McClellan
  Scott Tussing
  Patsy Ugarte

Absent was:
  Mike Burton
  Bill Halstead
  Patrick Healy
  John McDonald
  Jim Parks
  Charles Richards

2 Seats are Vacant

Also present was:
  Charlie Hunsicker, Director, Parks and Natural Resources
  Mike Elswick, Sr. Ranger, Parks and Natural Resources
  Keira Reiter, Board Clerk, Clerk of Circuit Court

Chairman Webster called a work session to order at 6:05 p.m.

AGENDA

C. **CITIZEN COMMENTS**
   There being no citizens present, Chairman Webster did not open Citizen’s Comments.

D. **STAFF REPORTS**
   Mike Elswick, Parks and Natural Resources, provided updates on Duette Preserve. The United Way Summer Hog Hunt had 160 participants and raised over $1700. Phase two of timbering project at Duette Preserve is beginning as well as the Department of Transportation (DOT) mitigation project.

   Discussion ensued regarding timbering layers in Duette Preserve, phase two oak tree cutting, and vegetation concerns and maintenance in Duette Preserve.

6:13 PM - A quorum was declared, and Chairman Webster called the meeting to order.

B. **MINUTES**
   A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Nicholson, seconded by Member Tussing, and carried 7 - 0, to approve the minutes of June 08, 2015.
D. **STAFF REPORTS**

Charlie Hunsicker discussed the selection committee for the hiring of Mike Elswick, Senior Range. Mr. Elswick discussed his background and plans for various projects.

Discussion ensued regarding volunteer participation in various projects.

**Duette Preserve**

Mr. Hunsicker utilized a graphic presentation of wetland restoration/wetland creation at Duette Preserve and discussed the mitigation for I-75 interchange work, the Proposed FDOT Mitigation Project at Duette Preserve, and FDOT funding and requirements.

Mr. Elswick continued the graphic presentation of wetland restoration/wetland creation at Duette Preserve, discussing the watershed, mitigation area, habitat plans provided by Stantec, project goals, and funding.

Discussion ensued regarding elevations implemented for flood-proofing, proposed habitat, reservoir watershed design, drinking water supply levels, the lake size, proposed start date for Duette construction, Fall 2015 start of construction and proposed Summer 2023 finish, $2,007,900 value of project, and treatment of invasive plants.

**Perico Preserve**

Mr. Hunsicker displayed a site plan and discussed the Rockery at Perico Preserve, construction updates and time, predicted science dictating the layout of the plans, funding, and habitat preserves for sustainable fisheries.

Discussion ensued regarding the Rockery structure, bird habitat on the property, trapping predators, humpback bridge height, kayak accessibility, proposition of no dogs or bikes being allowed, possibility of purchasing new property joining the two preserves, development, and Perico Homeowner’s Association.

**Robinson Preserve**

Mr. Hunsicker displayed a graphic and discussed the Robinson Preserve Expansion site improvements, funding, fill located on the site, tidal habitats and fisheries, upland restoration, additional recreational activity, walking and running trail plans, location, road improvements, parking lots plans, popularity and attendance in the park, altering habitats, modeling the velocities of waterways, connectivity to Perico Bayou, erosion problems, minimal sea grass impact in Palma Sola Bay, and entrances into Robinson Preserve.

Discussion ensued regarding access to waters, parking lots for Robinson, unofficial boat and kayak launches, access to Rockery pond, concerns regarding access to water, increased interest in outdoor activities, pollution concerns, and Emerson Point access.

**BP Funding Request**

Mr. Hunsicker commented on the civil penalties, settlements for business damages that are unrestricted are still unknown, Robinson Preserve was one of the selections sent before the Gulf Coast Restoration Council, Tampa Bay watershed selected as a recipient, and distribution of funding.
Discussion ensued regarding meeting with County Commissioners to express concerns over funding for the Parks and Natural Resources Department, and setting up a meeting for September 14, 2015 to construct a letter for presentation before the Board for funding.

E. MEMBER FOLLOW-UP AND DISCUSSION
Chairman Webster provided updates on the following projects regarding Cortez Gateway plantings and ELMAC membership renewals and vacancies.

F. NEW BUSINESS
Discussion ensued regarding ELMAC’s stance on Amendment One and language of possible communication from the committee.

G. FUTURE MEETINGS
The next meeting will be Monday, October 5, 2015 at 6:00 p.m., or at a date and location publicly noticed as may be called by the Chair.

Mr. Nicholson requested the inclusion of a list of members on the Agenda and name cards for each member in meetings.

MEETING ADJOURNED
There being no further business, Chairman Webster adjourned the meeting at 9:24 p.m.

Minutes approved: ______________