

ECCL Report: April 12, 2019

Executive Summary: 182nd meeting of the Estero Council of Community Leaders



Lee County at Risk for Increased Mining: Lee County staff is proposing the deletion of Map 14, the Future Limerock Mining Overlay, along with regulations that govern and direct new mining operations that protect our quality of life. In 2010, Lee County successfully defended Map 14 and its supporting policies in court. The only thing that has changed since then is the leadership. Please let the County Commissioners know that you oppose the deletion of Map 14 by

attending the BOCC meeting on April 17.

Village Report: The Village has been hard at work this year and their 2019 accomplishments so far include purchasing the Estero on the River property, receiving an 87% recovery rate from FEMA on hurricane recovery funds, completing the Stormwater Master Plan, being 90% complete with Estero Parkway renovation design, and working on the Parks and Open Space and Bike-Ped Master Plans.

Education Outreach Council: The “Breaking Par at Grandezza” fundraiser event was a huge success. Since 2013, the event has raised more than \$382,000 for Junior Achievement. The 2-58-Graduate program has completed all JA 2018-2019 classes and all volunteers remain committed to the program. The Institute for Entrepreneurship mentor program is at maximum capacity and Lee County School volunteer recruitment efforts are currently on hold.

ECCL Donation Program: We need your help to protect and enhance an outstanding quality of life in Estero. The donation program is meant to keep ECCL membership fees low and cover increasing expenses for community education, advocacy efforts, administrative costs, and more. Donations help us continue to advocate for and lead initiatives that make positive differences in our community. Please [visit our website](#) to donate to the ECCL.

50th Anniversary Celebration of Moon Landing: ECCL Community Planning Director Jim Tatoes identified the partnership between the Village, ECCL, and Estero Historic Society to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the moon landing on July 20, 2019. We need help making this event happen. Please contact Jim at jetatoes@prodigy.net to help.

Lee Health Coconut Point Update: The ECCL Health Committee is helping LHCP establish a Guest Advisory Committee with Lee Health doctors, nurses, and administrators to improve services and implement new programs.

London Bay / “Weeks Fish Camp” Property: The application review is being held up by an unrelated Bonita Springs Comprehensive Plan amendment. **Sufficiency (application completion) is not expected for 6 to 9 months and CCRC is in the approval process.** The developer has made significant improvements to the proposed marina, including better traffic flow, increased onsite trailer parking, improved kayak launching area, and better-defined offsite parking.

ECCL Board Update: The Board selected the ECCL’s vision statement, strategic pillars, and core values. They also approved exploring the viability of a joint Village/Chamber/ECCL Estero Forever Fund, creating a new website, and continuing audio/video recordings of meetings.

Estero Fire Rescue: EFR has run into some challenges while building Station 5 (East Corkscrew Rd). The location provided is too close to the Lee County Wellfield wells and a new location is required. Approvals and permits are currently working through the system.

The next ECCL meeting will be Friday, May 10, 2019 at 10:00am at Estero Community Park.

ESTERO FIRE RESCUE

- *Jack Lienesch, Estero Fire Rescue Board*
- **Challenges of Building EFR Station 5 (East Corkscrew Rd)**
 - 5 acres provided by the developer are too close to Lee County Wellfield wells.
 - New location is required.
 - Approvals and permits are currently working through the system.
 - In 1 year, there should be a temporary set-up building and then, ultimately, a permanent fire station.

VILLAGE REPORT

- Councilmember *Jon McLain*
- **Village Councilmember Update**
 - 3 current councilmembers will term limit out in 2 years: Nick Batos, Howard Levitan, and Bill Ribble.
 - Please get involved in our local government.
- **Village’s 2018 Accomplishments (Thanks to Village Leadership & Staff)**
 - Lowest tax rate in Southwest Florida
 - Successful government light operations with only 11.5 employees (8 full-time)
 - Highest per capita reserves
- Village tax rate is only 5% of your Lee County property tax bill
- **Village’s 2019 Accomplishments So Far**

- *Purchase of 62.2-acre Estero on the River property* • Total purchase price was \$24.5m or \$394k per acre.
- This compares favorably to local purchases by Lee Health (\$407k/acre) and Hospital Corporation of America (\$525k/acre).
 - *Staff Working with FEMA on Hurricane Recovery Funds*
 - The Village received \$200k of the \$230k submitted for reimbursement.
 - That's an 87% recovery rate, which is the maximum rate available.
 - The Village owes Lee County \$100k for Irma clean-up.
 - *Completed Stormwater Master Plan*
 - Two rain events in August/September 2017 revealed flooding in the streets (as they are designed to flood in a major rain event) and little flooding to homes.
 - Master Plan provides modeling to review changes as a result of development.
 - Sheet flow analyses were considered within and outside the borders of Estero as both affect homeowners.
 - Ongoing maintenance of natural drainage systems & communities continually cleaning their storm sewer pipes will help.
 - The Village met with gated & non-gated communities to review their community stormwater plans.
 - In anticipation of this hurricane season, 3 efforts are ongoing:
 - Village cleaning the ditches on West Broadway.
 - Lee County working with Marsh Landing & Fountain Lakes developments to clear any obstructions within Halfway Creek.
 - SFWMD clearing Mullet Creek west of the Vines Community
 - The Village also replaced the culvert on Broadway.
 - *Estero Parkway Renovation*
 - Renovation design will be 90% complete in a few days and ready to send RFPs to potential bidders.
 - Plans include all aspects of the project: road resurfacing, bike lanes, multi-use path, landscaping, and street lights.
 - Work is expected to begin in July or August.
 - Construction will take 6-9 months, depending on weather.
 - *Village Development*
 - Lee Health Coconut Point, with the potential of an 80-bed hospital; Genova (205 condos); Estero Grande (180 apartments on 41 and Estero Pkwy); Spring Hill Marriott; Primrose Day Care (behind Culvers); Cube Smart (in front of Del Webb community); and retail next to Chase Bank (Miromar).
 - *Parks and Open Space Master Plan & Bike-Ped Master Plan*
 - Thank you to the community for all of the interest in these efforts.
 - Councilman McClain hopes the ECCL continues to be a critical player in these processes.

- **Lee County Board of County Commissioners Meeting: April 17**
 - Please join our Village councilors at the BOCC meeting on April 17.
 - Wear your “Village of Estero” shirt!
- *Learn more about what’s happening with the Village Council on their website:*
<https://estero-fl.gov>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Barry Freedman: Village of Estero T-Shirts for Sale**
 - Village t-shirts and polo shirts are being sold (for today only) after the meeting. - Those attending the BOCC meeting on April 17 should wear their shirts.
- **Bob Lienesch: Don Eslick Retiring**
 - Don Eslick will retire from the ECCL in the fall.
 - A retirement party (November 2019) is being planned.
 - Linda Tecco-Roach is asking for committee members to assist with planning.
- **Don Ratcliff: Participate in 2020 Census**
 - The US Census Bureau is soliciting help for the 2020 Census.
 - Lee County had 70% participation in 2010 and is looking to increase to at least 80% participation in 2020.
 - There is strong financial incentive to increasing resident participation in the census as every person counted equals approx. \$1,700 to help with the funding of roads, schools, and supplemental programs.
 - Specific help is needed to verify addresses in the following Estero communities: Bella Terra, Belle Lago, Breckenridge, Copperleaf, Lighthouse Bay, Pelican Landing, Old Corkscrew, Miromar, Corkscrew Village, Rapallo, Shadow Wood, Spring Run, The Colony, The Vines, Wildcat Run, and Stoneybrook.
 - Any help you can give is appreciated.
 - Don can be reached at donald.l.radcliff@2020census.gov Recruiting Assistant, (678) 793-2676

LEE COUNTY DR/GR

- *Julianne Thomas, Conservancy of Southwest Florida*
- **Potential Elimination of Map 14**
 - Map 14, generally known as the Future Limerock Mining Overlay, was created by balancing the need for mining and compatibility with natural resource protection and residential neighborhoods.
 - Lee County staff now proposes deletion of this map, along with regulations that govern and direct new mining operations that protect quality of life.
 - Map 14 was litigated in 2010, when it was challenged by mining companies.
 - Lee County defended the map at that time and its supporting policies were determined to be clear and unambiguous.
 - Nothing other than leadership in Lee County has changed, but the map and supporting policies are now at risk.

- Please let the County Commissioners know that you oppose the deletion of Map 14 by attending the BOCC meeting on April 17.
- **Impact on Wetlands from Mining & Commercial Uses**
 - The wetlands could suffer consequences from things like the Troyer Brothers mine application, Old Corkscrew Plantation mine application, Old Corkscrew Golf Course commercial rezoning request, and the Small Brothers commercial rezoning request.
- Sign up for Mobile E-News for more information on The Conservancy and issues impacting the area: <https://www.conservancy.org>

ECCL LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP & 2019 LEADERSHIP TRANSITION TASK FORCE

- *Jim Gilmartin*

- **ECCL Leadership Workshop**
 - *ECCL's Vision:* "The ECCL is a community of advocates who volunteer to protect & enhance an outstanding quality of life in Estero."
 - *ECCL's Strategic Pillars:* Compelling Communications, Creating Connections, & Cultivating Change.
 - *ECCL's Core Values:* Responsive Listeners, Community Advocates, Compelling Communicators, Relevant Visionaries, and Influential Problem Solvers.
- **2019 Leadership Transition Task Force, established Mid-March**
 - Drafted an organizational structure with leadership positions and responsibilities designed to support ECCL's vision, strategic pillars, and core values.
 - ECCL BOD, Communications Plan, and Succession Planning with the goal of a new leadership structure in place by early Fall 2019 were also defined.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE

- ECCL Secretary *Mark Novitski*
- ECCL Board approved the following:
 - Exploring viability of the joint Estero Village/Chamber/ECCL Estero Forever Fund.
 - Funding to create a new ECCL website.
 - Funding to continue audio/video recording of member meetings.
 - Agreed member meeting write-up will be an executive summary.
 - Updated meeting seating chart.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

- Membership Director *Barry Freedman*
- **Community Representatives & Alternates**

- All attendees, please ensure that your community representatives and alternates are up-to-date.
- Contact Barry or Linda Tecco-Roach with any updates.
- **New Members Welcome**
 - The following three organizations were invited to become ECCL members:
- Autumn Leaves, America House, and Estero Life Care.
 - Please consider joining the membership committee! Contact Barry at ecclmshp@gmail.com.

ESTERO EDUCATION OUTREACH COUNCIL (EOC)

- Committee Co-Chair *Jim Gilmartin*
- **“Breaking Par at Grandezza” Junior Achievement Fundraiser** - Event was a huge success.
 - Since 2013, the event raised more than \$382,000 net.
 - Thank you to all the volunteers and sponsors for making this a success.
- **2-5-8 Graduate Program**
 - The program completed all JA 2018-2019 classes.
 - Estero High School’s “JA Career Success” classes are scheduled for May.
 - The full contingent of Estero Education Ambassadors (volunteers) remain committed to the program.
 - The pilot program was a success and will continue in school year 2019-2020.
- **Institute for Entrepreneurship**
 - Mentor program for students & veterans is at maximum capacity.
- **Lee County School Volunteer Recruitment**
 - Efforts are currently on hold.
- **EOC Draft Revised Mission Statement:**
 - “Collaborating with the Village of Estero and Estero Area School’s leadership and professionals to support the students, teachers, and administrators to enhance the quality of education and contribute to a better quality of life in Estero.”
- *Learn more about the EOC on the ECCL website:*
<https://esterotoday.com/educationoutreach-council>

COMMUNITY PLANNING REPORT

- Planning Director *Jim Tatooles*
- **50th Anniversary Celebration of Moon Landing**
 - Jim identified the partnership between the Village, ECCL, and Estero Historic Society to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the moon landing on July 20, 2019.
 - We need help making this event happen.
 - Please contact Jim at jetatooles@prodigy.net to help.
- **New Members Welcome**

- Anyone interested in joining the Community Planning Committee should contact Jim at jetatooles@prodigy.net.

FINANCE & FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE REPORT

- Finance Director *Bob Lienesch*

- **Summary Financial Report**
 - March Total Income: \$3,126
 - March Total Expenses: \$3,722
 - March Excess of Expenses Over Income: \$596
 - Year-to-Date Excess of Income Over Expenses: \$8,943
 - March 31 Cash Balance: \$15,818
 - *For more details, you can view the full financial statements at the ECCL website: <http://esterotoday.com/reports/meetings-minutes>*
- **Finance & Fundraising Committee Updates**
 - Committee is finetuning the 2019 operating budget.
 - Papyrus has been selected as the consultant to update the ECCL website.
 - Committee is developing a strategy to solicit new digital marketing clients.

ECCL DONATION PROGRAM

- *Jim Gilmartin*

- **What is the ECCL Donation Program?**
 - Donation Program is focused on keeping membership fees low.
 - Expenses, including community education, communications, administrative costs, and funding resources for advocacy efforts are all increasing.
 - Donations help the ECCL to continue to advocate, communicate, & educate effectively; influence decision makers; and lead initiatives that make positive differences in our community.
 - We need your help to protect and enhance the quality of life in Estero.
- **Donation Updates**
 - First quarter donations equaled \$1,000.
 - Please encourage donations in your communities.
- *Donate to the ECCL: <http://esterotoday.com/contribute>*

HEALTH COMMITTEE REPORT

- *Barbara Drabeck*, Lee Health Committee Member

- **Lee Health Coconut Point (LHCP) Update**
 - LHCP reported 5,000 emergency visits over a 3-month period.
 - The Healthy Life Center had 3,000 visits and 65 community events.
 - Lee Physician Group is open 7 days a week.
- **Guest Advisory Committee**

- ECCL Health Committee is helping LHCP establish a Guest Advisory Committee with Lee Health doctors, nurses, and administrators to improve services and implement new programs.
- Lee Health will investigate the feasibility of a warm water pool, which is useful for rehabilitation.
- *The next Health Committee Meeting is Friday, April 26, 2019 at 2:30pm in the Healthy Life Center Classroom at Lee Health Coconut Point.*
- *Learn more about the ECCL's Health Committee at the ECCL's website:*
<http://esterotoday.com/about-eccl/eccl-hospital-committee>

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT

- Transportation Director *Bob King*
- **Meeting with London Bay on "Weeks Fish Camp" Property: April 11**
 - The application review is being held up by an unrelated Bonita Springs Comprehensive Plan Amendment.
 - Sufficiency is not expected for 6 to 9 months.
 - **CCRC is in the approval process.**
 - The developer was engaged and made significant improvements to the proposed marina, including better traffic flow, increased onsite trailer parking, improved kayak launching area, and better defined offsite parking.
 - Developer needs the ECCL to help sell the plan, which is looking more like the Lovers Key boat ramp every day.
- **CPA2018-10008, Old Corkscrew Commercial**
 - There are inconsistencies with Lee Plan.
 - Are commercial services actually necessary at this location?
 - Spot Zoning – Does the approval of a single 18-acre parcel for a commercial use in the middle of the DR/GR area constitute "spot zoning?"
 - Does this establish a precedent for additional commercial projects in DR/GR?
- *The next Transportation Committee Meeting is Thursday, April 18, 2019 at 9:30am at Fine Mark Bank.*

We hope to see you at our next meeting!

Friday, May 10, 2019

10:00am – 12:00pm

Estero Community Park