

ECCL Report: May 10, 2019

Executive Summary: *183rd meeting of the Estero Council of Community Leaders*



- **Estero Forever Foundation:** The Village of Estero, working with the ECCL and Estero Chamber of Commerce, established the Estero Forever Foundation. Their goal is to have resources to support the needs of the Estero community and not have to rely on others to fund projects.
- **ECCL Estero Advocacy Foundation (EAF) is a Field of Interest Fund and a component fund of the Southwest Florida Community Foundation (SWFCF):** purpose is to secure private funding and government and private grants to support ECCL advocacy activities and operating needs that contribute to increasing the quality of life in Estero. Donations to the EAF provide ECCL the opportunity to target our support for policies, programs and projects most important to the community.
- **Connecting Preserve and Mitigation areas:** The Preserve at Corkscrew is willing to work with the Village of Estero to include their mitigation land into the Village's Edison Farms project. This is a win-win for the Estero community and our environment.
- **Estero Fire Rescue:** Governor DeSantis signed the Florida Firefighter Cancer Bill. It provides new benefits to firefighters who are diagnosed with cancer. The bill treats cancer and cancer deaths like on-the-job injuries and deaths. 1 in 5 firefighters get cancer, far exceeding the national average. This is good news for firefighters.

The next ECCL meeting will be **Friday, Jun 14, 2019** at 10:00am at Estero Community Park.

ESTERO FIRE RESCUE

- *Chief Vanderbrook, Estero Fire Rescue*

- **EFR Pension Board** - Mark Novitski and Bob Lienesch were approved for another 4-year term.

- **Challenges of Building EFR Station 45** (East Corkscrew Rd)
 - Approvals and permits are currently working through the system for new location
 - In 1 year, there should be a temporary set-up building and then, by October 2022 a permanent fire station.
 - The station is located 3.5 miles east of Alico Rd and Corkscrew Rd intersection and 1.3 miles east of the main entrance to the Place.
- Governor DeSantis signed the Florida Firefighter Cancer Bill
- Prepare for hurricane season
 - Contact EFR to set up community presentations
 - Susan Lindenmuth has already been out briefing communities

VILLAGE REPORT

- Councilmember *Jim Boesch*

- **Perspective on Lee County Board of Commissioners**
 - Due to the Village's strong financial standing, County Commissioners seem to think Estero should incur all cost for improvements in the Village even those that are the responsibility of the County.
- **We need a County Commissioner who is interested in South Lee County**
 - Several candidates are interested in filling the seat left vacant by the untimely death of Commissioner Larry Kiker, including the Commissioner's widow, Paula Kiker and Estero Village Councilmember Nick Batos.
 - Estero Village Council endorses fellow Councilmember and long-time Estero resident Nick Batos for this position. The Council shared this endorsement with Governor Rick DeSantis
 - Councilman Boesch asked all attendees to write Governor DeSantis supporting Nick Batos for the position of Lee County Commissioner. Councilman Boesch also asked attendees to speak with neighbors and their community HOA Boards asking that they support Nick and write letters to the Governor.
 - Letters should be individualize and to assist in that effort highlights of Nick's qualifications can be found on the ECCL website at <http://esterotoday.com/support-nick-batos/>
 - Mail letters to Governor DeSantis at 400 S. Monroe St, Tallahassee FL 32399-0001
- **The Village was nationally recognized for their fiscal and financial policies**
 - Thanks to the hard work of Lisa Griggs Roberson, CPA Finance Director, and her staff
- **Village is developing a 10-year plan to make Estero even better with focus on 8 broad areas:**
 - Access for enjoyment of the Lee County 2020 property Edison Farms
 - Expanding use of Koreshan State Park recreation and enjoyment
 - Teaming with Corkscrew Sanctuary on maintaining the natural beauty, wildlife habitat, and groundwater filtering
 - Developing an education complex with all K-12 schools

- Working to develop youth athletics for local youth in our community so they don't have to travel outside Estero
- Build a local theater for local and outside shows
- Find a way to provide a boat/ferry to bring residents and guests from Koreshan State park to Lovers Key State park
- Build and operate an Arts and Cultural center
- **Estero Roads construction**
 - Estero Parkway Renovation has started with construction taking 6-9 months, depending on weather
 - I75 and Corkscrew Rd interchange construction to start in October
- **Town Center Property**
 - New hospital maybe in the works
 - Workforce housing for hospital employees will be needed
 - Plans for the property include businesses on the ground floor and housing on the 2nd and 3rd floors
- **SFWMD may help remove the silt in the Estero river**
- **Design Review Board vacancies**
 - The Village Council is accepting applications for the board.
 - More information is available on the Village Web page.
- *Learn more about what's happening with the Village Council on their website:*
<https://estero-fl.gov>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Don Eslick Retirement Party**
 - A retirement party is being planned for early November 2019.
 - The Planning Committee, chaired by Linda Tecco-Roach, met earlier in the week and discussed several details including date, venue, etc.
 - More information to follow
- **Participate in 2020 Census**
 - Don Ratcliff of the US Census Bureau is soliciting help for the 2020 Census.
 - Estero residents have stepped up and signed up to help but Don could use additional assistance. Those interested should contact Don at donald.l.radcliff@2020census.gov Recruiting Assistant, (678) 793-2676
- **ECCL Strategic Planning**
 - Although the task force is not meeting you can send any opportunities to Mark Novitski, marker21101@gmail.com

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES CAN IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE

- *Carolyn Rogers, Southwest Florida Community Foundation (SWFCF)*

- **SWFCF's mission is to support those who live, work, and play in southwest Florida**
 - Community activism is changing and so is philanthropy. Many individuals are contributing to causes they are passionate about while they are alive and SWFCF can help. "Money launderers for good", SWFCF has solutions to convert resources to actions. They offer endowed and non-endowed funding and as a 501(c)(3) all contributions are tax deductible. In addition to cash, property can be endowed.
 - Besides specific funds like the ECCL Estero Advocacy Fund, SWFCF also has a grants fund whereby they can award grants to selected organizations. In 2019, \$550,000 was distributed.
- *Learn more about the Southwest Florida Community Foundation on their website: www.floridacommunity.com*

ECCL Estero Advocacy Foundation (EAF)

- *Jim Gilmartin*

- **ECCL Estero Advocacy Foundation (EAF)** is organized as a Field of Interest Fund and a component fund of the Southwest Florida Community Foundation (SWFCF)
- **EAF's purpose** is to secure private funding and government and private grants to support ECCL advocacy activities and operating needs that contribute to increasing the quality of life in Estero. Funds are broad in scope, and donations to the EAF provide ECCL the opportunity to target our support for policies, programs and projects most important to the community.
- **Benefits include:**
 - ECCL can use the SWFCF's 501(c)(3) designation when applying for available grants
 - A straightforward, simple way to give tax free deductions to the EAF through SWFCF
 - A board of directors consisting of ECCL and SWFCF members determines an appropriate spending policy to protect longevity
- **Fees** – the 1.5% Administrative fees are assessed annually. Additional fees may be charged for any mutually agreed- upon extraordinary legal, banking or other services rendered on behalf of the EAF
- **A customize committee** of foundation and ECCL personnel will be established to manage the fund and determine how to disperse the funds in support of our priorities and objectives
- **You can donate now:** <http://esterotoday.com/contribute>

BOARD ACTIONS

- Approved funding to expand the ECCL brand and reach more concerned citizens in Estero and beyond

- Approved strategic pause on audio/video recording of member meetings and professional editing of member meeting write-up

2019 LEADERSHIP TRANSITION TASK FORCE

- *Jim Gilmartin*

- **Transition Committee** established in Mid-March
- Draft organization structure is designed to support the ECCL's: Vision; Strategic Pillars; and Core Values as well as it's need for resources
- Drafts of Executive Management Team Responsibilities and Leadership Position Descriptions have been created
- **Summary of next steps:**
 - Present recommendations to ECCL Board - Solicit support
 - Present recommendations to ECCL Membership - Solicit support
 - Present proposed By-Law amendments to ECCL membership
 - Transition Committee assumes nominating Committee Responsibilities:
 - Solicit nominations for BOD and Executive Management Team
 - Email Notification
 - Applications for positions and position descriptions online
 - Recommends slate of candidates to membership
 - Members vote
- **Goal: New leadership structure in place by October 1, 2019**

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

- Membership Director *Barry Freedman*

- ECCL representatives are available to come to your community meetings
- Please consider joining the **Membership Committee!** Contact Barry at ecclmshp@gmail.com.

ESTERO EDUCATION OUTREACH COUNCIL (EOC)

- Committee Co-Chair *Jim Gilmartin*

- **EOC's mission** -"to collaborate with the Village of Estero and Estero Area School leaders and professionals, to support students, teachers, and administrators in ways that enhance the quality of education and contribute to a better quality of life in Estero."
- **EOC's successes include:**
 - **Junior Achievement 2-5-8 Graduate Program**
 - Completed all JA Program classes 2018-2019
 - Estero High School "11th grade JA Career Success" classes scheduled for May 13-22, 2019
 - Full contingent (87 to date) of Estero Education Ambassadors remain in the program. We continue to recruit more
 - Pilot program will continue in school year 2019 – '20

- **Institute for Entrepreneurship**
 - Mentor program for students & veterans is at maximum capacity.
 - Will respond with available resources for future project requests
 - **Lee County School Volunteer Recruitment**
 - Will respond with available resources for future project requests
- *Learn more about the EOC on the ECCL website:*
<https://esterotoday.com/educationoutreach-council>

COMMUNITY PLANNING REPORT

- Planning Director *Jim Tatoes*
- **New Members Welcome** - Anyone interested in joining the Community Planning Committee should contact Jim at jetatoes@prodigy.net

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT

- Transportation Director *Bob King*
- **Continuing to monitor London Bay on “Weeks Fish Camp” Property**
- **Estero Bicycle / Pedestrian Master Plan**
 - Final touches being made
 - Presentation to Village Council May 2019
- **Lee County Comp Plan Amendment Limerock Mining**
 - County Commissioners voted to Transmit amendment to Tallahassee
 - Currently under review by Economic Opportunity Department
 - Should be back for adoption hearing in 60 to 90 days
- **CPA2018-10008, Old Corkscrew Commercial**
 - Applicant Takes New approach
 - Withdraw current application to remove 18 acres from DR/GR
 - File new application making the 18-acre commercial parcel an ancillary use of the golf course.
 - Lee County Planning Agency (LPA) voted to not recommend adoption by BOCC
- **Transportation Committee Meetings, etc.**
 - Need volunteer to head up Zone 2 which includes US-41 from the Village North Border to the South Border of Estero.
 - Please contact Robert King if you want more information.
 - May 16, 2019 Transportation committee Meeting 9:30a.m. FineMark Bank on Coconut Road. Donald Scott, Executive Director MPO is the guest speaker.
 - Committee reviewing status of full traffic light versus current flashing light at US41 and EFR fire Station

FINANCE & FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE REPORT

- Finance Director *Bob Lienesch*

- **Summary Financial Report**

- March ended with a total Income of \$2,700 and \$1,066 in expenses resulting in an excess of income over expenses of \$1,634 for the month
- Year-to-Date Excess of Income Over Expenses: \$10,577
- March 31 Cash Balance: \$17,451

- *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 finalized and balanced the 2019 operating budget and was approved by the ECCL Board
- The committee is developing revenue enhancing strategies

HEATH COMMITTEE REPORT

- Health Director, *Lowell Gerson*

- **Million Mile Movement** participation was light. Perhaps competition among communities could drive more involvement
- **Nurses Closet** – committee exploring the idea including the exchange of medical equipment
- **Lee Health has an outreach program for medically underserved communities**
- **The next committee meeting is a Lee Health 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.

- *Learn more about the ECCL's Health Committee at the ECCL's website:*
<http://esterotoday.com/about-eccl/eccl-hospital-committee>

Please join us for the next ECCL meeting, Friday, Jun 14, 2019 at 10:00am at Estero Community Park