

Florida Communities Trust Meeting Agenda

Date: December 13, 2023

Time: 10 a.m.

Location: Department of Environmental Protection
Douglas Building, Conference Room Number 137
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Tallahassee, FL 32399

Virtual Go-To-Webinar Link:

Webinar ID Number: 256-386-883.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8543104625380869725>

TO USE YOUR TELEPHONE:

You must register before meeting start time in order to call in. Select "Use Telephone" after joining the webinar and call in using the numbers below.

Conference Call No.: +1 (866) 901-6455. Access Code: 935-969-758.

ITEM 1: Opening

- a. Roll Call/Establish Quorum
- b. Call to Order

ITEM 2: Announcements

ITEM 3: Consider the August 23, 2023, Meeting Summary

ITEM 4: Consider the Upcoming Calendar Year 2024 Board Meeting Dates

ITEM 5: Present the FCT 2022-2023 Annual Report

ITEM 6: Present the 2023 Projects Unopen Assessment Report

ITEM 7: Present Status Update on the FCT Acquisitions

ITEM 8: Consider Preliminary Scoring and Evaluation report of FY 2023-2024 Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts Application, Preliminary Ranking List Consideration and Approval

ITEM 9: Closing Comments

ITEM 1: Opening
a. Roll Call/Establish Quorum
b. Call to Order

The Chair of the FCT Governing Board will begin the meeting with a Call to Order. Members of the Board will participate in a roll call. FCT Staff and other Division of State Lands personnel will be acknowledged for their presence in attendance and participation in the day's meeting.

FCT Board Members:

Deborah Denys (Former elected official of a county government)

Frank Mingo (Former elected official of a metropolitan municipal government)

Noah Valenstein (Representative of a nonprofit organization)

Mara Gambineri (Chair, FCT Governing Board)

ITEM 2: **Announcements**

The Chair of the FCT Governing Board will ask for any announcements to be made by Board members. The OMC Manager for Land and Recreation Grants Section will announce meeting instructions and instructions for public comment.

Parks and Open Space Grant Cycle 2023-2024

Application Deadline: January 10, 2024, at 5 p.m. EST

Contact your regional planner for more information.

Stan Mayfield Working Waterfront Grant Cycle for 2024

Application Period: March 1 – April 1, 2024

Grant Funding Available: \$4.3 million

ITEM 3: Consider the August 23, 2023, Meeting Summary

The Governing Board will vote on the August 23, 2023, Meeting Summary.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the August 23, 2023, Meeting Summary.

FCT GOVERNING BOARD ACTION: MOTION AND VOTE

Motion by: _____

Second by: _____

- APPROVE**
- APPROVE WITH MODIFICATIONS:**
- DEFER**
- WITHDRAW**
- NOT APPROVE**
- OTHER:**

ITEM 4: Consider the Upcoming Calendar Year 2024 Board Meeting Dates

The Chair of the FCT Governing Board will announce the proposed Calendar Year 2024 meeting dates. The Governing Board will be asked to vote to approve the proposed meeting dates in 2024.

STAFF REMARKS:

The Board previously approved February 14, 2024, as the next meeting date and May 15, 2024. Staff is recommending that this date be rescheduled for February 13, 2024, and include the ranking and selection for Parks and Open Space.

Calendar Year 2024 Meeting Dates:

- **February 13, 2024**
 - **Quarterly Board Meeting (10 - 11:30 a.m.)**
 - **Ranking and Selection for Parks and Open Space (1 - 4 p.m.)**
- **May 15, 2024**
- **August 14, 2024**
- **December 11, 2024**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the upcoming Calendar Year 2024 Board Meeting Dates.

FCT GOVERNING BOARD ACTION: MOTION AND VOTE

Motion by: _____

Second by: _____

- APPROVE**
- APPROVE WITH MODIFICATIONS:**
- DEFER**
- WITHDRAW**
- NOT APPROVE**
- OTHER:**

ITEM 5: Present the FCT 2022-2023 Annual Report

STAFF REMARKS:

Florida Communities Trust (FCT), created by Chapter 380, Florida Statutes is a state funded land acquisition program that assists communities in protecting natural resources, providing recreational opportunities and preserving Florida's traditional working waterfronts through the Parks and Open Space and the Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts grant programs. Through a competitive application process, these programs provide funding to local governments and eligible nonprofit organizations to acquire land for parks, open space, greenways, and projects supporting Florida's seafood harvesting and aquaculture industries.

FCT's Parks and Open Space Program assists communities with challenges of growth, supports community development and protects natural resources. Projects funded under this program meet one or more of the following objectives to implement local government comprehensive plans. They include conservation lands, urban open spaces, public parks and greenways. After a project is acquired, FCT stewardship continues in perpetuity through a formal agreement to provide guidance on park development and management oversight.

The Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts program provides grant funding for the acquisition of land for the restoration and preservation of working waterfronts that directly support the commercial harvest of marine organisms. Funding is also used to acquire land for exhibitions, demonstrations, educational venues, and other purposes that promote the economic, cultural and historic heritage of Florida traditional working waterfronts. Once acquired, the site will be preserved as a working waterfront and aquaculture support center in perpetuity.

The 2023 annual report includes 659 FCT project sites in 57 counties statewide for both Parks and Open Space and Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts grant programs.

A copy of this year's final 2023 Annual Report was submitted to the Governor and Legislative leadership on September 25, 2023.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

No board action required; this item is for information only.

ITEM 6: Present the 2023 Projects Unopen Assessment Report

STAFF REMARKS:

During the summer of 2023, FCT Staff conducted a survey of 547 project sites – individual units acquired with the assistance of FCT grant funds. Some sites include multiple grant awards due to phased acquisition projects.

The purpose of this survey was to determine grantee compliance with the conditions of their management plans and special management conditions. Two indicators were evaluated using the survey, whether project sites were open to the public and the extent to which the project sites have been developed per the approved management plans.

The survey results were acquired via Alchemer Survey program, email, and direct phone call. During the course of the survey, Staff has updated contact information, provided technical assistance regarding post-completion stewardship responsibilities and identified additional resources for management plan completion and compliance needs.

Of the 547 sites surveyed, approximately 91% indicated open to the public, 4% have indicated unopen to the public, and 5% of projects were acquired with the intent for conservation only.

Of these sites that are unopen, one is recorded as having sustained damage by Hurricane Idalia, and two are still recovering from Hurricane Michael.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

No board action required; this item is for information only.

ITEM 7: Present Status Update on the FCT Acquisitions

STAFF REMARKS:

FCT Staff will present an update on the status of current acquisitions for the FF19, FF21 and WW23 funding cycles to the FCT Governing Board.

Due Diligence Documentation Review

FCT#	Project Name	Applicant Name	Award Amount
22-001-WW23	Blue Crab Cove, Phase II	Brevard County	\$1,402,000.00
18-009-FF19	Oak Trails Park Expansion	City of Coconut Creek	\$1,135,649.10
18-012-FF19	Fairlawn Acquisition	City of Miami	\$306,248.70
18-016-FF19	Acquisition of Salty's Bayside	City of Marathon	\$1,488,000.00
20-008-FF21	Buffer Land Acquisition	Town of Cutler Bay	\$856,570.00

Management Plan Review

FCT#	Project Name	Applicant Name	Award Amount
18-013-FF19	Isle of Palms Park	City of Treasure Island	\$268,024.20
18-014-FF19	Acquisition of Quay's Bayside	City of Marathon	\$844,800.00
20-001-FF21	Jumping Gully Phase II (Submitted as Grace and Truth Corridor Capstone)	Pasco County	\$1,032,180.00

Project Plan Review

FCT#	Project Name	Applicant Name	Award Amount
20-004-FF21	Gladys E. Douglas Preserve Acquisition	City of Dunedin and Pinellas County	\$2,400,000.00

Execution of Dedication to Public Use and Declaration of Restrictive Covenants

FCT#	Project Name	Applicant Name	Award Amount
20-005-FF21	Wedge Preserve Park (Submitted as 36 Acre Park)	City of Parkland	\$1,500,000.00

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

No board action required; this item is for information only.

ITEM 8: Consider Preliminary Scoring and Evaluation report of FY 2023-2024 Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts Application, Preliminary Ranking List Consideration and Approval

STAFF REMARKS:

Two applications were received for the Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts grant program during the October 1 through November 1, 2023, cycle. After a thorough review, the Spring Creek Revival Society, Inc application was deemed ineligible as the proposed project did not provide sufficient documentation as required per section 62-820.003, F.A.C. Staff reviewed the Business Summary along with comments received from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Based on this review, staff determined that the Business Summary is sufficient for the application. Site visits confirmed the conditions presented in the application.

Grant Funding Available: **\$4,866,190**

FCT #	Project Name	Applicant Name	County	Acres	FCT Grant Request	Match	Score
23-001-WW24	Preserving Cedar Key's Working Waterfront	City of Cedar Key	Levy	1	\$529,200	\$0	109
Total					\$529,200		

Total Amount listed above is the estimated purchase price based on the applicant's 2023-2024 Grant Application.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the FY 2023-2024 Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts Grant Application Cycle Preliminary Ranking List for consideration by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund.

FCT GOVERNING BOARD ACTION: MOTION AND VOTE

Motion by: _____

Second by: _____

- APPROVE**
- APPROVE WITH MODIFICATIONS:**
- DEFER**
- WITHDRAW**
- NOT APPROVE**
- OTHER:**

ITEM 9: Closing Comments

The Governing Board will hear closing comments from Board members.

Adjourn