

# DAVIE AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

FEBRUARY 25, 2003

6:30 P.M.

## 1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 6:50 p.m. Board members present were Chair Hilda Testa (arrived at 6:53 p.m.), Vice-Chair Julie Aitken, Jacque Daniels, and Jason Hurley. Also present was Board Secretary Jenevia Edwards recording the meeting. Barbara Spiece was absent.

## 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 28, 2003

Mr. Hurley made a motion, seconded by Ms. Daniels, to approve the minutes of January 28, 2003. In a voice vote, with Ms. Spiece being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 3-0)**

## 3. DISCUSSION

### 3.4 Equine Liability Signs

Vice-Chair Aitken quoted from the Florida Statutes which stated that a warning notice should appear on the sign in black letters with each letter to be a minimum of one inch in height with sufficient color contrast to be clearly distinguishable. Mr. Hurley indicated that he had measured the letters and the Town's signs were not in compliance with the State Statutes. Vice-Chair Aitken suggested that a letter be written to Town Administrator Thomas Willi advising that the signs were not in compliance with State Statutes and it was the Board's recommendation that the signs be changed in order to limit the Town's liability exposure. A brief discussion ensued regarding liability issues, with the Board's consensus being that the Town would not be afforded the protection intended due to non-compliance with State Statutes.

### 3.3 Loose Animals at Davie Parks

Vice-Chair Aitken suggested that a paragraph be added to the letter suggested in item 3.4 informing the Town Administrator that it had come to the Board's attention that a horse rider had been turning their horse loose in the park. She suggested that a recommendation be made to have signs posted at the entrances as well as along trails in Davie parks.

### 3.2 Nob Hill Equestrian Crossing

This item was tabled until the March 25th meeting.

### 3.1 Equestrian Deed Restrictions for New and Existing Developments

Vice-Chair Aitken commented that her research produced an Equestrian Land Protection Guide; however, the information only referred to how to locate land. She indicated that the Board should draft an Equestrian Compatibility Ordinance and suggested a brainstorming session similar to what was used for the rural preservation ordinance. Vice-Chair Aitken suggested that Boardmembers present ideas to assist in this exercise.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding equestrian compatible styles of new homes and renovation of existing homes and height restrictions for fences or walls. It was the consensus of the Board that there should be no development repeats. Vice-Chair Aitken commented that individualism should be protected and not be allowed to change. She added that hobby farm interests should also be protected against deed restriction.

Vice-Chair Aitken commented that this proposed new ordinance could be modeled after the Right-to-Farm Act. Chair Testa suggested that the Town's ordinance be reviewed to see how many horses per acre were required for hobby farms.

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There was a brief discussion regarding Code requirements for paving of a new property and the percentage that should be covered with concrete. Chair Testa referred to a property in Davie that was covered entirely with concrete and inquired as to the Town's ordinance relating to this. Vice-Chair Aitken commented that the ordinance requirement indicated that only a certain percentage could be covered. She suggested that Chair Testa contact Planner Marcie Nolan who would have the information readily available.

**4. OLD BUSINESS**

Vice-Chair Aitken advised that as of the February 19th Council meeting, the Davie Farmers' Guide had been sent to the printer. She indicated that there had been a brief presentation to which she had been invited by Mr. Willi. Vice-Chair Aitken indicated that she expressed thanks to Mr. Willi and to Council for its efforts in preserving agriculture and the rural character which resulted in the Board's compilation of the Farmers' Guide.

Chair Testa inquired how the Guide would be distributed once it had been received from the printer. Vice-Chair Aitken indicated that this had not been determined, but she assumed some of the Guides would be distributed through Town Hall. She added that Mr. Willi indicated that the Guide would be placed on the Town's website; however, further discussion regarding distribution would take place at a future Board meeting.

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Hurley referred to the Town's trail map and expressed that changes should be made to the lay-out. Vice-Chair Aitken indicated that the map referred to was outdated and once an updated map was acquired, the issue would be discussed at the March Board meeting.

**6. COMMENTS AND/OR SUGGESTIONS**

There were no comments and/or suggestions.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no objections and no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

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Date Approved

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Chair/Board Member

