



Trails and Greenways Committee

Monday, April 11, 2022 at 6:00 pm

1. CALL TO ORDER, PRAYER AND PLEDGE
2. ROLL CALL
3. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES
4. CONSENT AGENDA
 - a. Approval of Minutes of 03/15/2022 & 03/29/2022
Exhibit: Agenda Report Number 4a

Attachments:

- **Agenda Report Number 4a** (Agenda_Report_Number_4a.pdf)

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS
6. ACTION ITEMS
7. DISCUSSION ITEMS:
 - a. Trail, Kiosk and Firebreak Conditions
Exhibit: Agenda Report Number 7a

Attachments:

- **Agenda Report Number 7a** (Agenda_Report_Number_7a.pdf)

- b. Eagles Nest Trailhead
Exhibit: Agenda Report Number 7b

Attachments:

- **Agenda Report Number 7b** (Agenda_Report_Number_7b.pdf)

- c. Discussion of Fiscal Year 21/22 Funds
Exhibit: Agenda Report Number 7c

Attachments:

- **Agenda Report Number 7c** (Agenda_Report_Number_7c.pdf)

- d. Next Field Event - TBD
8. OLD/NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Board Member Comments
 - b. Staff Reports

c. Next Scheduled Meeting Date

9. ADJOURNMENT

Contact: Richard W. Kohler (rkohler@townofmalabar.org 321-727-7764) | Agenda published on
04/07/2022 at 4:13 PM

TOWN OF MALABAR

TRAILS AND GREENWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA ITEM NO: 4.a
Meeting Date: April 11, 2022

Prepared By: Richard W. Kohler, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

SUBJECT: Approve Minutes of 3/15/2022 & 03/29/2022

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

- a. Summary of Actions at the Trails and Greenways Committee Meetings of 03/15/2022 & 03/29/2022.

ATTACHMENTS:

- a. Draft Minutes of T&GC Meeting of 03/15/2022 & 03/29/2022

ACTION OPTIONS:

- a. Request Approval

MALABAR TRAILS AND GREENWAYS COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
March 15th, 2021, 6:00 PM

This meeting of the Malabar Trails and Greenways Committee was held at Town Hall at 2725 Malabar Road.

1. CALL TO ORDER, PRAYER AND PLEDGE:

Meeting called to order at 6:00 P.M. Prayer and Pledge led by Chair Thompson.

2. ROLL CALL:

CHAIR:	DREW THOMPSON
VICE-CHAIR:	MURRAY HANN
BOARD MEMBERS:	ANNELIE HARVEY- Arrived 6:15
	BOB WILBUR
	DANIEL WAITE-EXCUSED
GRANT/VALKARIA LIASON:	CRAIG SMITH-EXCUSED
BOARD SECRETARY:	RICHARD KOHLER
COUNCIL MEMBER:	

3. Additions/Deletions/Changes- Chair Thompson presented Vice-Chair Hann with a "Trail Boss" Coffee Mug as a thank you for his hard work and dedication in the Malabar Trail System.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

4.a. Regular Trails and Greenways Committee Mtg Minutes of 2/17/2022
Motion to accept by Hann/Harvey

All Ayes: Carried 4-0.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

6. ACTION ITEMS: NONE

7. DISCUSSION

a. Trail, Kiosk and Firebreak Conditions

Chair Thompson states that the Cameron Preserve needs more signage from the Al Tuttle Trail. With all the activity in the area, we should promote the Cameron Preserve as a rideable option. He would like to have 2-3 more of the brown identification signs posted along the paved trail. He suggests placing one at the L turn of the pavement, one at the bench by the Oak Trees, and one at the north end of the Corey Rd ROW. VC Hann states that there is nothing to differentiate the property boundaries, and with the fences going up, it may be important to do that. Mount the signs 7-8 feet up, so that it is clear where the boundaries are. Also states that there have been considerations in the BMBA to resign the Cameron Preserve. The signs are made of Carsonite and with the price of wood being so high, these are competitively priced. He has also been working on updating the Kiosk maps, and ideas on how to improve the habitat of the Cameron Preserve, including asking the Public Works Department to buy a disc and maintain the Fire Breaks. CM Wilbur states that it would be easier to work through the Division of Forestry and the Fire Department. They have lots of old equipment that could be utilized. Chair states that by April, he would like to have this year's money earmarked. Signage seems to be an achievable goal. VC Hann states that the closure of the Malabar Scrub Sanctuary, the Jordan Scrub Sanctuary has seen an increase in use. The current parking lot is very small, and it is important for us to open that area up. Chair Thompson asks Committee Members to think of projects and prices for the remainder of the year. Chair Thompson expressed concern that the T&GC has not been

included in the discussion. He feels that this groups expertise is not being favored. VC Hann suggests that since the T&GC came up with the initial trail compromise, the T&GC should be able to have input on any response to the County. He offered to walk the Trails with Mr. Knight, and his offer was refused. The right thing to do would be for Mr. Knight to bring his version of the compromise back to this board during a regular meeting and present it. Chair states that he agrees with VC Hann. VC Hann states that he has requested TM Stinnett to go to the County and update them that a compromise is going well, request to remove the fences, and to authorize Mr. Knight to come back to this Committee to present his new plan.

VC Hann/Wilbur moves to recommend to Council that since the T&GC initiated the idea of a compromise, they would like to see the final resolution of it before it moves forward, to have Mr. Knight present it to the Committee and Council, and to have the fences removed as soon as possible.

All Ayes (4-0)

CM Harvey asks if we could request that the EELs program host us? VC Hann states that he would be aggregable to meeting at the EELs program HQ. CM Wilbur states he would prefer to do it in a meeting here, so the meeting is open to the public. VC Hann states that the BMBA has encouraged people to respect the fences. Secretary Kohler states Town Hall has been active in informing citizens that the area is closed and encouraging them to utilize the Cameron Preserve. CM Harvey states we should request asking the County why the fences are up. It is a bad look for government. We should focus our efforts on one or two approaches. Chair states that the review of the plan is the most important issue at hand. We as a Committee initiated a compromise, and the new ideas should be shared here.

- b. **Upland Invasive Exotic Plant Management Program Grant Opportunity Hann/Harvey for recommendation to have staff work towards this grant at Cameron and ENT for Cogan, Mayaluka, and Brazilian Pepper. (4-0) All Aye**
- c. **Next Field Event – TBD**

8. **N/A**
OLD/NEW BUSINESS

a. **Board Member Comments**

- Liaison Smith sent an email to DTC/T Kohler stating that 3/26/2022 is Grant Valkaria Day at Grant-Valkaria Park from 10 AM to 3 PM. that new kiosks were installed in Grant/Valkaria Park. Also noted in his email is that the BMBA will be voting tonight to donate and install a bike repair station in Grant-Valkaria Park.
- CM Wilbur asked if we have looked in the 100 year flood plain, and suggests trying to use that to protect trees.

b. **Staff Reports**

- Secretary Kohler informed the committee that the Parks and Recreation Board has recommended for Council to seek bids on 12x20 pavilion for Eschenburg Park and the Cameron Preserve. Also, staff has been researching trailside repair kits. We are envisioning attaching one to the Cameron Trail Shelter. Any purchases will be brought to this Committee for approval. Chair Thompson suggests that the Town look into dry hydrants for SLFR funds. VC Hann states that there used to be a dry hydrant in County Cove. Chair states the three ideal spots would be Jordan Scrub, Country Cove, and Brook Hollow. Safety, infostructure and great public gain.
- **Chair Thompson/ CM Harvey recommend to Council that some of the ARP funds be used to create dry hydrants/deep wells which will assist in fire prevention in Jordan Scrub, Country Cove and Brook Hollow (4-0) All Ayes**
- **CM Wilbur/VC Hann move to have Council direct PW to complete the extension of North Corey Rd to the gate of the Cameron Preserve. (4-0) All Ayes**

c. **New Business:**

- Next Regular Meeting- April 11th, 2022

9. ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss;

MOTION HARVEY/WILBUR to adjourn. Vote: All Ayes. The meeting adjourned 7:31 PM.

BY:

Drew Thompson Chair

4/11/2022

Date Approved: as presented:

Richard W. Kohler, Board Secretary

DRAFT

MALABAR TRAILS AND GREENWAYS COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
March 29th, 2021, 6:00 PM

This meeting of the Malabar Trails and Greenways Committee was held at Town Hall at 2725 Malabar Road.

1. CALL TO ORDER, PRAYER AND PLEDGE:

Meeting called to order at 6:00 P.M. Prayer and Pledge led by Chair Thompson.

2. ROLL CALL:

CHAIR:	DREW THOMPSON
VICE-CHAIR:	MURRAY HANN
BOARD MEMBERS:	ANNELIE HARVEY
	BOB WILBUR- ABSENT
	DANIEL WAITE
GRANT/VALKARIA LIASON:	CRAIG SMITH
BOARD SECRETARY:	RICHARD KOHLER
COUNCIL MEMBER:	

3. Additions/Deletions/Changes- Chair stated that two applications have been received for alternate positions on this Committee. Mark Britt from Country Cove and Mike Scofield of Brook Hollow. Both have been active in the community and the trails for years, and we are excited to have their opinions.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

6. ACTION ITEMS: NONE

7. DISCUSSION

a. Malabar Scrub Sanctuary Scrub Habitat Restoration Permit Application

Chair stated that at the 3.23 RTCM, Council requested this Committee review a possible permit application for the MSS. There is an opportunity for middle ground.

VC Hann states that there are two clear options, the County can abide by the Town's tree protection ordinance, or they can include a buffer area in lieu of the fees associated with the Town's Tree protection ordinance. He believes that the recent application was well done, but there are still areas to improve.

The Committee then discussed specific areas of the Permit Application included in the Packet. Discussion references areas notated for tree preservation.

Area A: There are 12 oak trees to be saved in the beginning of trail from Malabar Community Park. This is the grand entrance to the sanctuary, its where there is supposed to be an education center/Town Hall, and a popular photo spot. He hopes we can save more of them, as he feels it won't adversely affect the programs goals.

Area B: There is one clump of trees being left. The area is very wet, and the area will never be ideal Scrub habitat. There are massive trees on private property just south of this area, and Turkey Oaks and Pine trees in the sanctuary. This is the only ADA trail in South Brevard and should be treated as such. In this area, the trail is the firebreak.

Area C: There are no other trees in this area, they left the only ones in the area.

Area D: The entire sanctuary used to look like this area. We convinced an old EELs staff member to leave this clump. There are about 20 oak trees here, and it should be left as is. This clump of Oak trees in anecdotally the area we see Scrub Jays.

Area E: This is a good example of what we are trying to achieve. They did a good job, but they can probably leave more trees.

Figure 11: There are 6 oak trees along the paved path being saved, but a slew of large pine trees being removed.

VC Hann suggest everything to the exterior of fire break, and 25 feet in from firebreak, with exception to invasive species and sand pines be preserved.

Chair suggests using the current plan, and add the additional buffer, inspector, and removal of fences.

VC Hann suggests including a 25-foot transition zone on the inside of the exterior firebreaks.

VC Hann states that we requested limited access to the Sanctuary to review the permit, and it was denied.

Chair Thompson read a suggested verbiage of a possible permit. (Attached)

Liaison Smith suggests the permit includes documentation from SJWMD for work in wetlands.

Motion: CM Waite/ VC Hann to recommend Council approve the definition of the VPB waiver, which includes site specific recommendations.

All Ayes (4-0)

Motion : CM Waite/ VC Hann Recommend to Council to approve the Malabar Scrub East Habitat Restoration Permit if all barricades (In Malabar Scrub East & West) restricting public access to public lands are removed, with trails only closed when work is immediately adjacent to the trail, if Malabar may appoint an inspector to verify permit compliance, and either the VPB waiver and site specific recommendations are followed, or the per tree fee is paid.

All Ayes (4-0)

VC Hann believes this provides Council with what they have requested.

8. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Board Member Comments**
- b. **Staff Reports**
- c. **New Business:**

- Next Regular Meeting- April 11th, 2022

9. ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss;

MOTION HANN/HARVEY to adjourn. Vote: All Ayes. The meeting adjourned 9:22 PM.

BY:

Drew Thompson Chair

Richard W. Kohler, Board Secretary

4/11/2022

Date Approved: as presented:

DRAFT

TOWN OF MALABAR

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 30, 2022 2022-DTC/T-4

To: Town Clerk & Town Manager

CC: Town Council and Mayor Reilly

From: Richard W. Kohler, Deputy Town Clerk/Treasurer

Ref: Trails and Greenways Committee Recommendations

At the March 21st RTCM, Council voted to send the Malabar Scrub Sanctuary Habitat Restoration permit application to the Trails and Greenways Committee for review. Council directed the permit for the Malabar Scrub Restoration Project be split into Malabar Scrub East and Malabar Scrub West, with a permit for Malabar Scrub East to be issued first. Conditions discussed for the Malabar East permit are as follows:

- No permits issued until all barricades restricting public access to public lands are removed.
- In lieu of the required Tree Survey and \$40 per tree fee associated with a standard Malabar tree removal permit, the EELs program leaves a 20–25-foot vegetative perimeter buffer.
- The Trails and Greenways Committee approves the permit plan.
- The Town of Malabar should be able to appoint an inspector to supervise the work in progress.

At the March 29th Trails and Greenways Committee meeting, the Committee agreed with the above referenced ideas from Council and provided further insight. The Committee defined a Vegetative Perimeter Buffer as follows:

“A [vegetative perimeter buffer \(VPB\)](#) is defined as being located and maintained within the sanctuary, along all property borders, at a minimum 25’ width. Within the [VPB](#), all oak trees and all native palm trees may not be removed or reduced in height. Any Sand Pines (regardless of DBH), and any other Pine trees less than 5” DBH, and any invasive species, may be removed. Any other reduction of vegetation within the [VPB](#) is limited to a height no lower than 15’. There will be no roller chopping within the [VPB](#).”

The [VPB](#) will be measured from the property border inward, away from the border. In areas where a firebreak is located between property border and scrub, the [VPB](#) will begin at the scrub side of the fire break, measured inward from the inside edge of the fire break.

Where the Al Tuttle Trail is located within the sanctuary, it is to be considered a fire break. For the duration of this permit, no firebreaks will be relocated.”

The Committee also discussed areas notated by the EELs program in their most recent Permit Application. Details of their discussion reference Figures from the Permit Application and are attached to this document.

“Based on mutual (EEL Pgm – TOM) MSS communications to date (as per the 3/21/2022 RTCM Agenda), the following areas have been identified for a higher density of preserved trees offset by a lowering of the core scrub habitat tree density:

Fig 2 – Area A – Preserve all oak trees within 25’ of the trail from entrance to where trail turns south on double-track trail.

Fig 3 – Area B – On “short east-west” section along Al Tuttle Trail, expand VPB from minimum 25’ to a minimum of 50’.

Fig 4 – Area C – No changes.

Fig 5 – Area D – Viewed from left to right, from where trail turns due east and ends at trail intersection, preserve all oak trees within 25’ of the trail.

Fig 6 – Area E – Expand width of VPB from property line to fire break where fire break does not immediately border property line.

Fig 7 – Area F – On west side of lake, treat area from lake high water line as a VPB and expand to a width of 25’ west of existing trail. On VPB at southern-most point of MSS, immediately below lake / north of Malabar Community Park, expand width of VPB to 150’.”

After their discussion, the following motions were made and passed unanimously:

Motion : CM Waite/ VC Hann Recommend to Council to approve the Malabar Scrub East Habitat Restoration Permit if all barricades (In Malabar Scrub East & West) restricting public access to public lands are removed, with trails only closed when work is immediately adjacent to the trail, if Malabar may appoint an inspector to verify permit compliance, and either the VPB waiver and site specific recommendations are followed, or the per tree fee is paid.

All Ayes (4-0)

Motion: CM Waite/ VC Hann recommend Council approve the definition of the VPB waiver, which includes site specific recommendations.

All Ayes (4-0)

Fig. 2 - Area A – 12 Oaks



Fig. 3 - Area B – 12 Palms



Fig. 4 - Area C – 4 Oaks, 1 Pine

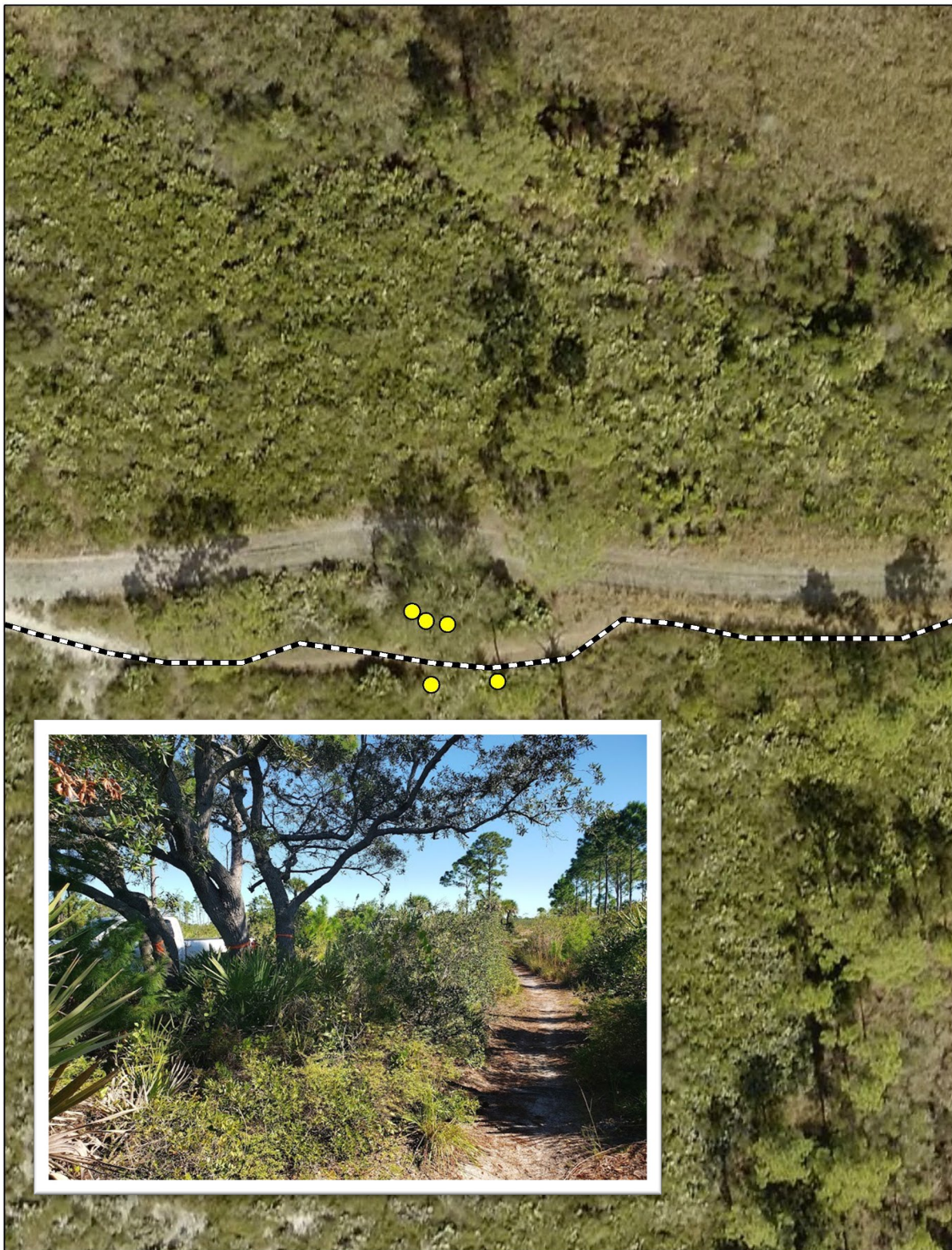


Fig. 5 - Area D – 6 Oaks



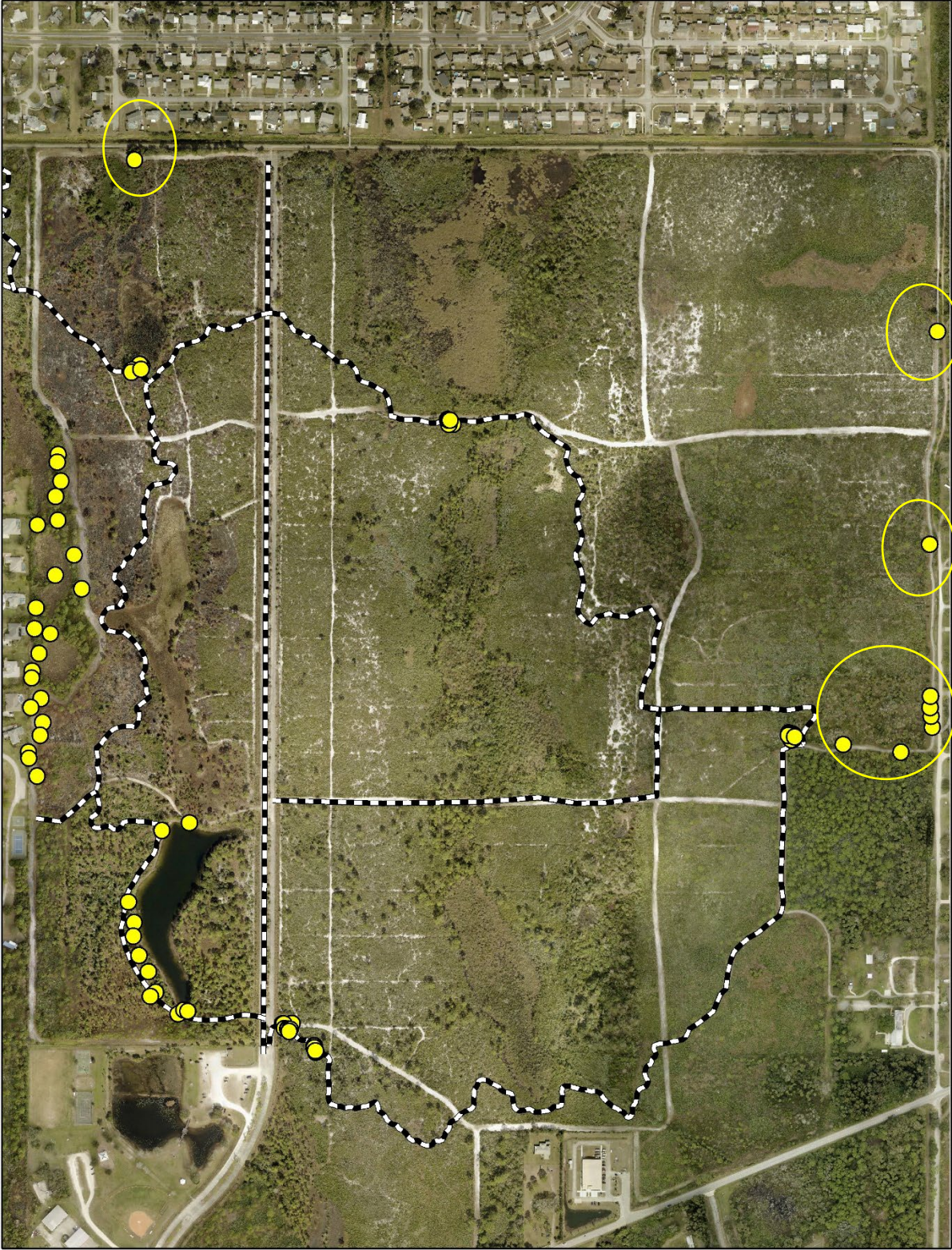
Fig. 6 - Area E – 22 Pines



Fig. 7 - Area F – 12 Pines



Fig. 11 - Paved Trail Preserved Tree Locations – 6 Oaks, 3



TOWN OF MALABAR

TRAILS AND GREENWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA ITEM NO: 7.a
Meeting Date: April 11th, 2022

Prepared By: Richard W. Kohler, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

SUBJECT: Trail, Kiosk and Firebreak Conditions

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

- a. Traditionally, members of the Committee share their recent experiences from the trails and at the trailheads.

ATTACHMENTS:

- a. None

ACTION OPTIONS:

- a. Discussion

TOWN OF MALABAR

TRAILS AND GREENWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA ITEM NO: 7.b
Meeting Date: April 11th, 2022

Prepared By: Richard W. Kohler, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

SUBJECT: Eagles Nest Trailhead

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

- a. The Trails and Greenway's Committee has begun work on the Eagles Nest Trailhead. The main parking area and fence line have been cleared.
- b. Previously, the next step was designated as installing the Fence.

ATTACHMENTS:

- a. None

ACTION OPTIONS:

- a. Discussion

TOWN OF MALABAR

TRAILS AND GREENWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA ITEM NO: 7.C
Meeting Date: April 11th, 2022

Prepared By: Richard W. Kohler, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

SUBJECT: Discussion of Fiscal Year 21/22 Funds

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

- a. Town Council directed that \$10,000.00 of the Town's 21/22 Budget be designated for the Trails and Greenways Committee.
- b. To this date, only \$17.99 has been spent. (Website Costs)
- c. Recently, Committee Members have discussed the need for additional signage around and in the Cameron Preserve.
- d. In the past few years, the Trails and Greenway's Committee has begun work on multiple projects such as the Eagles Nest Trailhead, Zig-Zag Trail in Cameron Preserve, and Briar Creek Blvd "Under the Bridge" Trail which will require funds for completion.

ATTACHMENTS:

- a. None

ACTION OPTIONS:

- a. Discussion/Recommendation to Council for action.