



**Citizens Advisory Committee**  
Wednesday, January 16, 2008  
CF Industries at Best Western ~ Bowling Green, Florida

Please arrive no later than 9:45.

**Meeting Agenda**

1. Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions: Chairs Kayton Nedza, Warren Bush and Joan Bush
  - a. Membership Committee Report on Quorum: Membership Committee Member
2. Agenda Review: Chair
3. Consent Agenda: Chair
  - *Consider all items together unless motion is made to pull any item from this agenda.* —
  - a. Approval of the minutes of the November 14, 2007 CAC meeting (**pg 7**)  
*Action Item:* Recommend approval of minutes
4. New Business
  - a. Nomination of members for appointment by the Policy Committee (see 1a): Chair (**pg 5**)  
*Action Item:* Consider qualifications of new members then nominate and vote
5. Report from Officers
6. Presentations
  - a. CHNEP support organization: Friends of Charlotte Harbor Estuary, Inc.: Kathleen Rohrer and Kaley Miller (**pg 13**)
  - b. CF/SWFMD Aquifer Recovery and Recharge Project: Richard Ghent, CF Industries, Gary Blitch, CF Industries and Mark Barcelo, SWFWMD
7. Program Reports: Lisa Beever and Maran Hilgendorf (**pg 17**)
  - a. Signing ceremony
  - b. Charlotte Harbor Watershed Summit
  - c. Children's Book: Maran Hilgendorf
8. Partners Reports
9. Member Comments: Members are encouraged to announce upcoming events or current issues.
10. Public Comments
11. 2008 Meetings: January 16, **February 20**, March 19 (suggest this meeting be cancelled because signing ceremony and watershed summit will be held March 24 and 25-27), **April 16**, May 21, June 18, **July 16**, August 20, September 3, **October 15**, November 12
12. Adjourn

*Thank you* to CF Industries for hosting this meeting. They are providing lunch immediately after the meeting and tours of phosphate-related activities will be held in the afternoon.

*All meetings are open to the public.*

*Best Western Heritage Inn & Suites*

2727 US Highway 17 N  
Bowling Green, FL 33834-5124



Highway 17 north. The Best Western Heritage Inn & Suites is approximately three miles north of Wauchula on the left.

The **Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program (NEP)** is a *partnership* that protects the Charlotte Harbor estuaries from Venice to Estero Bay. This partnership gives citizens, elected officials, resource managers, and commercial and recreational resource users in the 4,700-square-mile study area a voice to address diverse resource management concerns including fish and wildlife habitat loss, water quality and water flow. The watershed in the study area includes the Myakka, Peace and tidal portion of the Caloosahatchee and all or portions of Lee, Charlotte, Sarasota, Manatee, Polk, Hardee and DeSoto counties.

The program **Management Conference** is composed of the Management, Policy, Technical Advisory and Citizens Advisory Committees and the Program Office. Each committee serves a specialized role in supporting the program goals and objectives. The **Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)** members represent public concerns and transfer information back to their local communities, including distributing information to the public. The CAC provides a mechanism for citizens to advise the Charlotte Harbor NEP. The committee works closely with staff to reinforce and maintain public support for the NEP, develop public participation strategies, and provide input on public education programs. Membership in the CAC is open to those interested in furthering the goals and objectives of the Charlotte Harbor NEP. **The CAC typically meets at 10:00 a.m. on the third Wednesday six to eight months of the year.**

#### **Committees of the Citizens Advisory Committee as of January 2008\***

##### **Standing Rules Committee**

Debra Highsmith, Chair  
Ellen Peterson

##### **Membership Committee**

Ellen Peterson (added 6/05)  
Gail Giles (added 4/06)

##### **Nominating Committee – bylaws require 5 members**

Kayton Nedza (added 6/05)  
Kathleen Rohrer (added 7/05)  
Ellen Peterson (added 10/05)  
Joan Bush (added 4/06)

##### **Grant Committee – bylaws require a minimum of 5**

Ellen Peterson  
Kathi Rader-Gibson, Chair  
Joan Bush (added 3/06)  
Warren Bush (added 3/06)  
Jon Hubertz, TAC Representative  
Wilma Katz (added 4/06)

Jean Srodes (added 8/07)

##### **Workplan Committee**

Bobbi Rodgers, Chair  
Debra Highsmith  
Kayton Nedza

##### **Environmental Indicators Committee**

Ernesto Lasso de la Vega (added 6/05), Chair  
+ members as they are able to participate.

##### **CCMP Update (Ad Hoc) Committee/Information Exchange and Outreach**

Debra Highsmith, Chair  
+ members as they are able to participate

CAC members also participate in the Legislative Subcommittee, Charlotte Harbor Nature Festival, Charlotte Harbor Watershed Summit and Friends of the Charlotte Harbor Estuaries



# Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program Citizens Advisory Committee<sup>1</sup>

January 16, 2008 ~ CF Industries at Wauchula, Florida

*The list below includes those who've attended a meeting in the past 12 months as well as those who are nominated by the CAC or appointed by the Policy Committee.<sup>1</sup>*

<b>CAC sign-in with volunteer hours</b>															
1-16-08	First Name	Last Name	Organization	County	Appointed	11-14-07	10-17-07	10-4-07 POG	9-5-07 Calendar	8-15-07	7-18-07	5-16-07	4-18-07 Workshop	3-21-07	2-21-07
	Sandra J.	Beardswault	DeSoto County			X									
	Karen	Bickford	Lee County Natural Resources								X				
	John	Breneman	Polk County Extension Service	Polk								X			
	Mike	Britt	City of Winter Haven Natural Resources	Polk								X			
	Ruth	Bromberg	Greater Charlotte Harbor Sierra Club										X		
	Warren	Bush	Lee FYN Master Gardener	Lee/Cape Coral	5-07	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Joan	Bush	Lee FYN Master Gardener	Lee/Cape Coral	5-07	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Bill	Byle	Charlotte County	Charlotte		X					X				
	GeorgAnn	Carlton	Explorations V Children's Museum	Polk								X			
	Kim	Cressman	Cape Coral ERD	Lee	5-07, resigned 10-07			resi gne d	X	X	X		X	X	X
	Marty	Daltry	Riverwatch-CRCA and Sierra Club-Calusa Group	Lee				X		X					
	Roger	DeBruler Jr.	Sea Grant - Charlotte	Charlotte	8-07	X	X	X	X						
	Edie	Driest	Harbour Heights	Harbour Heights			X								
	Gail	Giles	Lemon Bay Conservancy	Char/Sarasota	5-07	X									X
	Ellen	Hawkinson	Peace River Audubon Society	Charlotte	Honorary 2007								Resigned	X	X
	Diane	Herron	PEER Center	Polk	11-07		X								
	Debra	Highsmith	ECOSWF: Environmental Confederation of South West Florida	Charlotte	5-07	X	X				X	X			X
	Rene A	Janneman	Sarasota County	Sarasota	8-07	X	X			X	X		X		
	Carla	Kappmeyer	FDEP Charlotte Harbor Preserve State Park	Charlotte	5-07, resigned 10-07			resi gne d		X	X	X	X		X
	Wilma	Katz	Coastal Wildlife Club, Inc.	Charlotte	5-07	X		X	X						X
	Stefan	Katzaras	CF Industries	All	11-07	X	X								
	Ernesto	Lasso de la Vega	Lee County Hyacinth Control District	Lee/Charlotte	5-07	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X

<sup>1</sup> The bylaws approved in 2007 reads: Voting members are appointed by the Policy Committee with full voting rights. Nominations may be made by any voting member of the CAC. Voting members who have not attended CAC meetings during the previous 12 months will automatically lose their voting rights. Non-voting members can give input only during "public comment" portions of the CAC meeting agenda

# Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program Citizens Advisory Committee<sup>1</sup>

January 16, 2008 ~ CF Industries at Wauchula, Florida

CAC sign-in with volunteer hours															
1-16-08	First Name	Last Name	Organization	County	Appointed	11-14-07	10-17-07	10-4-07 POG	9-5-07 Calendar	8-15-07	7-18-07	5-16-07	4-18-07 Workshop	3-21-07	2-21-07
	Cathy	Loyola	City of Cape Coral	Lee					X						
	Kaley	Miller	Mosaic Fertilizer	Charlotte+	5-07						X				
	Jackson	Mosley	Paynes Creek Historic State Park	Hardee	11-07		X								
	Misty	Nabers Nichols	Gasparilla Island Conservation Island Association	Charlotte									X		
	Kayton	Nedza	Hardee County Outdoor Classroom	Hardee	5-07	X	X				X	X	X	X	X
	Ellen	Peterson	Sierra Club and Estero Bay ABM	Lee	5-07			X	X	X		X	X	X	
	Harry	Phillips	Cape Coral ERD	Cape Coral	11-07	X									
	Kathi	Rader-Gibson	Lemon Bay Park/Florida Native Plant Society	Sarasota	5-07			X							X
	Frances	Reimondo	San Marco Waterways	Charlotte	5-07	X	X					X			X
	Forest	Reynolds	DeSoto County	DeSoto	11-07	X	X								
	John	Reynolds	DeSoto County	DeSoto	11-07	X	X								
	Bobbi	Rodgers	CHEC	Charlotte	5-07		X			X					X X
	Kathleen	Rohrer	Lemon Bay Conservancy	Lee	5-07	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X
	George	Ruby	Peace River Audubon Society	Charlotte	8-07	X			X	X	X	X			
	Marian	Ryan	Friends of the Parks/Polk Sierra Group	Polk									X		
	Rachelle	Selser	City of Winter Haven Natural Resources	Polk									X		
	Thomas	Simmons	DeSoto County resident	DeSoto	11-07	X									
	Jean	Srodes	Turtle Talks	Charlotte	5-07	X		X		X	X	X			X X
	Stuart	Stauss	Sanibel Island/Pine Island Sound	Lee	8-07								Retired	X	X
	Kelly	Westover	Sarasota County	Sarasota									X		X
	Darlene	Wilson		Charlotte						X					
	Rob	Wright	Sarasota County NEST Program	Sarasota Count		X									
	Anne	Yasalonis	Polk County Extension Service	Polk								X			
	Colleen	Young	Fort Myers Beach	Lee/Fort Myers Beach									X		

**Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program  
Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)**

*Draft Minutes of the Wednesday, November 14, 2007 Meeting  
Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council ~ Fort Myers, Florida*

**Attendance of Voting Members**

Joan Bush	Lee FYN Master Gardener
Warren Bush	Lee FYN Master Gardener
Roger DeBruler Jr.	Sea Grant – Charlotte
Gail Giles	Lemon Bay Conservancy
Debra Highsmith	ECOSWF: Environmental Confederation of Southwest Florida
Rene A. Janneman	Sarasota County
Wilma Katz	Coastal Wildlife Club, Inc.
Stefan Kataras	CFI Industries
Ernesto Lasso de la Vega	Lee County Hyacinth Control District
Kayton Nedza	Hardee County Outdoor Classroom
Fran Reimondo	San Marco Waterways
Kathleen Rohrer	Lemon Bay Conservancy
George Ruby	Peace River Audubon
Jean Srodes	Turtle Talks

**Attendance**

Sandra J. Beardswault	DeSoto County
Bill Byle	Charlotte County
Jackson Mosley	Paynes Creek Historic State Park
Harry Phillips	Cape Coral ERD
Forest Reynolds	DeSoto County
John Reynolds	DeSoto County
Rob Wright	Sarasota County
Tommy Simmons	DeSoto County
Molly Meadows	SFWMD
Maran Hilgendorf	CHNEP
Liz Donley	CHNEP

**Agenda Item 1: Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions**

The meeting began at 10:05 with all in attendance introducing themselves. Ms. Highsmith reported that there is a quorum of appointed members.

**Agenda Item 2: Agenda Review**

The agenda was accepted.

### **Agenda Item 3: Consent Agenda**

**Ms. Highsmith moved, seconded by Ms. Rohrer, that the consent agenda of the minutes of the prior meeting be accepted as amended. The motion carried unanimously. Agenda items approved include:**

- a. Minutes of the October 17, 2007 CAC meeting.**

### **Agenda Item 4: New Business (a) Nomination of members for appointment by the Policy Committee**

Ms. Hilgendorf explained that the CHNEP Policy Committee only meets four times a year. CAC members nominated at the last CAC meeting will be considered for appointment by the Policy Committee at their meeting in November so those nominated are not yet appointed and aren't eligible to vote at this meeting.

The CAC did not nominate additional members for the Policy Committee to consider.

### **Agenda Item 4: New Business (a) Nomination of members for appointment by the Policy Committee**

Ms. Highsmith provided a review of the CAC bylaws since last approved by the CAC. The Policy Committee made minor changes to make it easier for the CAC to conduct its meetings. Ms. Donley made changes to the bylaws to conform to the Governor's new Executive Order regarding energy use. Members discussed holding meeting via conference telephone calls. If the CAC opts to use conference calls, the facilities used would have to have that capability. The CAC does not need to use this option but it has to be in the bylaws in order to use it.

**Ms. Highsmith moved to approve the bylaw as amended, seconded by Ms. Bush. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **Agenda Item 4: New Business (a) Nomination of members for appointment by the Policy Committee *continued***

Those who arrived late then introduced themselves.

**Ms. Rohrer moved, seconded by Mr. Ruby, to nominate Gail Giles, Harry Philips and Tommy Simmons to the Policy Committee for CAC voting member status. The motion carried unanimously.**

*Update: Ms. Giles had already been appointed so she was not considered by the Policy Committee at their November 2007 meeting.*

### **Agenda Item 4: New Business (c) Petition to request update of 1978 Environmental Impact Study (EIS) of phosphate region**

Ms. Rohrer provided an overview of phosphate mining and an anticipated increase of mining in the CHNEP watershed in "bone valley" for next 30 years. The Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) supports an areawide regional impact but has no funds to conduct the study. Three counties each pledged \$500,000 for an update of the 1978 EIS targeted at

the phosphate region to include development and agriculture. An update is estimated to cost \$1.5 million and a full EIS is estimated to cost \$4-\$8 million. This is a repeat of the request to also help voice concern on the compact under consideration at this time. Superfund sites in Florida are all the result of phosphate because “they took their profits and walked away.” The current agreement being considered allows the phosphate company to cease to exist with no responsibilities held by parent of that company.

**Ms. Rohrer moved to write a letter to ACOE to request an update of the 1978 regional environmental impact study of phosphate region known as “Bone Valley,” seconded by Ms. Highsmith. The motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Ruby asked if the request should include earth mining. Ms. Giles said that the ordinance for dirt mining will be considered by the Charlotte County BCC on November 27, 2007.

Ms. Hilgendorf said that the earlier letters were for the phosphate region, not industry.

Mr. Nedza asked about the use of the word “primitive.” Mr. Katzaras explained the process of extraction with a dragline.

After discussion, Ms. Rohrer asked that the letter be resent asking that phosphate be prioritized so that all parties can resolve their differences.

Ms. Hilgendorf reminded members that the CHNEP Director can write letters if the issue is already covered in the CCMP and approved by the Policy Committee. If the issue has not been previously considered then the issue must be approved by the Policy Committee or by the chairs of each committee of the Management Conference. One benefit of participating in the CAC is that those in attendance can learn about issues and can take action independently of the CHNEP.

Ms. Giles said at the Charlotte County Board of County Commissions that Mosaic said that they’d support an AEIS of the phosphate region and would provide financial support.

Ms. Highsmith asked if an AEIS gets to the issues. Ms. Giles said that the ACOE information says “past, present and future.” Ms. Rohrer explained that it doesn’t address single mines but all mines simultaneously.

**Mr. Nedza moved to amend the motion to cover the phosphate region to include all impacts, including development and agriculture. The motion carried unanimously.**

Ms. Highsmith explained that since this had already been discussed, there is no need for a second.

Ms. Rohrer asked if the motion can be amended to prioritize phosphate. Mr. Katzaras said that the timing is irrelevant and that phosphate could be listed first. Ms. Rohrer asked

if we could do as Mr. Kataras suggests and that the EIS could be used to built upon and that counties provide financial assistance. Mr. Nedza asked about adding the financial pledge information to the letter.

Ms. Giles reiterated request and Ms. Hilgendorf asked if the committee would go to the next agenda item so that the committee can be provided with copies of the letters CHNEP sent previously.

**Agenda Item 5: Report from Officers**

Mrs. Bush provided an overview of the Management Committee and airboat ride of Lake Hancock. Mr. DeBruler said that fishing poles and other fishing equipment were distributed at the Charlotte Harbor Nature Festival. The committee agreed that the 2008 “calendar is wonderful.”

**Agenda Item 4: New Business (c) Petition to request update of 1978 Environmental Impact Study (EIS) of phosphate region *continued***

Ms. Hilgendorf distributed the letters to ACOE that CHNEP sent November 17, 2003 and September 26, 2000.

Ms. Katz asked if a response had been received from the two prior letters CHNEP sent. Mr. Nedza said it doesn’t believe a response has ever been received. Ms. Rohrer and Mr. Kataras both said that ACOE staff are willing to talk about the study but that funds aren’t available to implement the study.

**Mr. Nedza moved that the letter be resent explaining that funds are available from the counties and that Mosaic expressed interested in an AEIS.**

Mr. Kataras asked that funds be confirmed with Mosaic, counties and others prior to sending the letter. The scientific data in the letter should be updated. Ms. Donley discouraged resending prior letters and that the new letter be kept to no more than two pages.

Ms. Rohrer said that she would like the CAC to consider the request as statement in the first full paragraph in 4c. We want NEPA rules to apply, not Florida’s rules.

Ms. Highsmith said that Ms. Giles, whose judgment she trusts, says that the letter as requested is okay.

**Ms. Highsmith moved that Mr. Nedza’s motion include language taken from earlier CHNEP letters to read “In November 2003 the CHNEP reiterated its request made on September 2000 to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for a regionwide environmental impact statement (EIS) to address cumulative impacts for all types of development –mining, agriculture, residential – in the Peace and Myakka River basins in southwest Florida.”**

Staff was directed to check that EIS-AEIS is correctly used.

Mr. Nedza suggested that the letter from November 2003 be resent with an explanation that funds are available from several counties and that Mosaic expressed interested in an AEIS, perhaps then it'll be more possible.

Mr. Nedza asked that a paragraph be added about potential funding sources for the study.

The CAC then proceeded to vote backwards on the motions presented (recorded above). The last motion carried unanimously. The first motion as amended carried unanimously.

**Agenda Item 6: Presentations (a) CHNEP support organization**

Mr. Rohrer asked members to review the draft letter regarding Friends of Charlotte Harbor Estuary, Inc. The presentation was deferred regarding the Friends organization due to time.

**Agenda Item 6: Presentations (b) Lower Charlotte harbor SWIM Plan**

Ms. Meadows asked if the SWIM Plan talk could be deferred to the next meeting.

**Agenda Item 6: Presentations (c) Landscape ordinances**

Ms. Bickford from Lee County did not attend.

Mr. Janneman from Sarasota County introduced Mr. Wright who then presented information on Sarasota County's landscaping code and distributed material. Mr. Wright explained that the state is proposing their statewide rules and that there was a concern that the counties wouldn't be allowed to set their own ordinances so Sarasota County passed their ordinance prior to the statewide rule. Sarasota asks for a voluntary buffer zone along waters edges.

Mr. Bush stated that Cape Coral Florida Yards & Neighborhoods also has a similar push.

Ms. Giles said there is a landscape tour this weekend.

Mr. Wright said that the majority of those in the landscape business thought they wouldn't have a problem meeting the code.

Ms. Reimondo asked about the cost difference for slow-release fertilizer. While the slow release costs more, it is applied less often, making the cost similar.

Ms. Hilgendorf reminded members that the CHNEP supported the NEST program with a public outreach grant for their project in Lemon Bay.

Mr. Lasso de la Vega asked if the CAC can make the brochures available as PDF files. Mr. Wright said he would be happy to provide them. They'll be posted on the CHNEP FTP site. Mr. Wright said that Sarasota County would be happy to have others use the information.

**Agenda Item 7: Program Reports**

Ms. Hilgendorf encouraged members to read the draft manuscript of the children's book that was included in the meeting packet. The goal is to distribute the book to every third grader in the study area.

**Agenda Item 8: Partners Report**

Mr. Kataras invited the CAC to a tour of phosphate activities and that CF Industries would be happy to host a meeting and offer the tour.

Several members inquired on Ellen Peterson's health.

Ms. Raimando announced that St Antonio will hold a fall festival at the church to be held this upcoming weekend.

Ms. Donley reported that the Babcock conceptual management plan for public lands public hearing on November 27 in Englewood on November 28 in Buckingham. Wednesday, November 28 is annual meeting for Babcock Preservation Partnership.

The meeting adjourned at 11:50.

Minutes were prepared by Maran Hilgendorf.

**6A CHNEP SUPPORT ORGANIZATION: FRIENDS OF CHARLOTTE HARBOR ESTUARY, INC.**

The CAC heard a report from CAC member Kathleen Rohrer at the July 2007 meeting then passed a motion charging Ms. Rohrer and Ms. Kaley Miller to chair a committee to review and update the Friends bylaws and to create a structure for a fund-raising strategy of CHNEP. This agenda item is their report and recommendations.

Recommendation: Consider recommendations in the report and move to decide how to proceed

Attachment: Committee report



# Friends

OF CHARLOTTE HARBOR ESTUARY, INC.

## The Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program

(CHNEP) is a partnership of citizens, elected officials, resource managers and commercial and recreational resource users who are working to improve the water quality and ecological integrity of Charlotte Harbor's estuaries and watersheds. A cooperative decision-making process is used to address diverse resource management concerns in the 4,700-square-mile CHNEP study area.

[www.chnep.org](http://www.chnep.org)

*The CHNEP study area includes the Peace, Myakka and Caloosahatchee River watersheds; Charlotte Harbor, Dona, Roberts and Lemon bays; Pine Island Sound, Matlacha Pass and Estero Bay.*

## We're Seeking Directors – And You Can Help

There's no doubt the CHNEP is a valuable partnership that fills a much-needed role in our watersheds. Our newly-developed steering committee, comprised of Citizens Advisory Committee members, has a vision: For Friends of the Charlotte Harbor Estuary, Inc. (Friends) to become the fundraising arm of the CHNEP, providing financial support that will enhance the CHNEP ability to offer grants to our partners who perform public outreach, research and priority actions.

We're looking for a few good men and women who are committed to harnessing the environmental spirit and wealth within our local communities to become the Board of Directors for Friends. We seek to create a Board that is diverse, and may include members of the business community, retirees, active community members, environmental leaders and elected officials.

### Do you or someone you know meet the following criteria?

- Live in the CHNEP study area
- Committed to environmental stewardship and the mission of the CHNEP
- Able to effectively communicate the basic functions & goals of the CHNEP
- Have some experience in fundraising and/or non-profit Boards
- Have existing relationships with potential donors/sponsors and/or the desire to develop such relationships
- Are willing to enhance their fundraising capabilities through seminars and clinics
- Willing to dedicate several hours monthly during initial startup, and thereafter a few hours monthly for Board Meetings and activities

### The role of the Friends Board of Directors will be to:

- Help the organization get "activated"
  - Develop initial fundraising goals
  - Develop initial communication and implementation plans
  - Develop initial fees for Membership/Sponsorship
  - Set Board Meeting times, locations, structure
  - Ensure proper non-profit corporate status
- Provide leadership for continuing success
  - Evaluate success of Friend's goals, sponsorships, programs
  - Remain flexible, making changes and modifications as needed
  - Provide new ideas and action plans for fundraising opportunities
  - Recruit new Board Members as needed
  - Maintain relationship with CHNEP liaison & provide reports as needed
  - Maintain proper non-profit corporate status; review and revise by-laws

The Board will have support from the CHNEP staff, the Management Conference (three committees) and partner organizations in developing and carrying out its plans. The location of Board meetings will be flexible depending on the members' locations, may even include phone conferences and will certainly utilize email communication.

### TAKE THE NEXT STEP!

Don't be shy! Volunteer! If you or someone you know is a suitable candidate to be a Director of Friends, please pass on the name and contact information to [Kathleen Rohrer at [kathleenrrr@bocagrande.net](mailto:kathleenrrr@bocagrande.net), 941-964-1837]. The steering committee will be setting up meetings with potential Board Members. We are working to fill initial Board positions by the end of 2007, so we appreciate your prompt response to this request.

*Friends of the Charlotte Harbor Estuary, Inc. is a non-profit that was formed in 2000 but has been inactive for the past several years.*

Prepared by Kathleen Rohrer and Kaley Miller, submitted August 14, 2007

### **VISION OF THE FRIENDS GROUP**

- 1) Fundraising arm of the CHNEP
- 2) Harness the spirit of the environmental community and wealth into a framework that will provide a continual funding source
- 3) TO NOT –
  - a. hurt fundraising of other local organizations
  - b. step on other organizations toes
  - c. confuse with other local organizations (need to communicate distinctions)

### **FUNDRAISING IDEAS/RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1) Develop target donors: who are they and what amount of money will you ask them for?
- 2) Develop a communications plan for seeking new donors and renewing past donors
- 3) Funding through estate planning/wills
- 4) Single Memberships: For example - \$5 for students, \$25 for retirees, \$50 regular memberships
- 5) Corporate sponsorship: give recognition for big donors such as on banners, brochures, websites, events. Get creative.
- 6) Events: Annual Luncheon/Dinner/Recognition Ceremony for Director, Members and major donors to be recognized. Invite media and well-known keynote speakers
- 7) Utilizing the web – create a website with PayPal to accept donations via credit card. Recognize donors online.
- 8) Other avenues: Auctions, utilizing the Nature Festival and other already-existing events
- 9) Promotional Items: Selling t-shirts, dry erase boards, posters that are attractive and also list sponsors

### **DIRECTORS**

- 1) Develop a Director profile
  - a. What are we looking for in a Director? Ideally be wise, be a worker, have wealth and connections. Lawyers, doctors, accountants, corporate officers, etc.
  - b. Where are they from? Specific geographic areas? County-by-county representation too restrictive? Too broad a BOD requirement to identify individuals regionally with necessary time and desired talents?
  - c. What will they do? Solicit and manage the donations, donor database, create an endowment fund to help the money grow
  - d. Potential By Law Change – not necessarily have one from each CHNEP committee, but have at least one from a CHNEP committee

- 2) Develop a plan for soliciting Directors
  - a. Who could they be? Make a list. Look at past donors and business people involved in the Charlotte County ELAC referendum, as that represented a good partnership between business and environmentalists
  - b. Communicate the vision to potential Directors
  - c. Personal phone calls
  - d. Letters
  - e. Meetings

### **MEMBERS**

- 1) Process to become a member
- 2) What is their role?
- 3) What avenue will be in place to empower them to help raise money

### **CHNEP STAFF SUPPORT**

- 1) Who on the CHNEP will provide support?
- 2) What level of support should we expect from the CHNEP
- 3) What avenue will be in place to empower them to help raise money

### **COMMITTEE SUPPORT**

- 1) How will the CAC, TAC and Policy Committees support the Friends group?
- 2) What avenue will be in place to empower them to help raise money

### **NAME CHANGE**

- 1) Is there a better name other than “Friends of the Charlotte Harbor Estuary, Inc.”
  - a. If so, what is the process to come up/choose the better name?
  - b. What are the technicalities of changing the name, reincorporating, etc? Confirm Liz will handle.

### **BY LAW CHANGES**

- 1) Develop recommended By Law changes. For example – make it more clear that the Friends group is not to develop programs, but more clearly to seek funds for CHNEP activities. Change Board of Directors composition
- 2) Do NOT actually make all the unnecessary changes, to allow the new Directors to do that, so they have buy-in to the organization.

## 7 CHNEP REPORT

The following deliverables have been completed between October 1, 2007 and January 7, 2008.

<b>Task</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Deliverable Complete</b>
1.1 Management Conference	11/2/2007	Management Committee meeting
1.1 Management Conference	9/27/2007	FY08 Time and Deliverables Tracking Database
1.1 Management Conference	11/19/2007	Conceptual Approval of CCMP Update
1.1 Management Conference	10/24/2007	TAC meeting
1.1 Management Conference	11/14/2007	CAC met at SWFPRC in Fort Myers to discuss several issues being considered by the entire Management Conference. Among other things they passed a motion to request a letter be sent to ACOE to again request an AEIS be conducted of the phosphate region.
1.1 Management Conference	10/23/2007	Draft CCMP Update for Conceptual Approval
1.1 Management Conference	11/13/2007	Presentation to International Estuary Conference on Mangrove Monitoring and Restoration
1.1 Management Conference	10/17/2007	CAC met in Hardee County to discuss several issues being considered by the entire Management Conference. Several members stayed for a walk in the Frazzini Wilderness property and others for a paddle on the Peace River.
1.3 Grants & Contracts Admin	10/30/2007	4thQ FY07 EPA report and WBE/MBE report
1.3 Grants & Contracts Admin	9/26/2007	Revised final invoice - FY2004 contract with SWFWMD
2.2 Events/Outreach	10/25/2007	As part of CHNEP National Estuaries Days Celebration, DeSoto County Parks & Recreation offered a guided canoe trip on the Peace River. Twenty-nine people participated and there was a waiting list of 12 more! CHNEP sponsored this event.
2.2 Events/Outreach	11/20/2007	Exhibited at "Ding" Darling Family Fund Days on October 14 at the National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel Island. Approximately 1,500 attended this event, which culminated a series of public programs.
2.2 Events/Outreach	12/19/2007	As part of CHNEP National Estuaries Days celebration, Keep Lee Beautiful held its annual Monofilament Madness AKA Marine Cleanup on October 28. Volunteers totaling 110 used their marine vessels to remove debris from the watershed, including monofilament fishing line. More than 3,000 pounds of debris were dropped off at four staging areas.
2.2 Events/Outreach	10/15/2007	Approximately 40 to 60 people, primarily from DeSoto County, attended the Florida Friendly Plant Workshop on October 13, 2007 at SFCC in Arcadia. The agenda covered Florida friendly plant principles, an overview of native plants, designing your landscape, a native plant sale and more. The workshop was sponsored by SWFWMD Peace River Basin Board, CHNEP and SFCC in cooperation with Deluxe Trees and Shrubs, Pine Lily Nursery, DeSoto County Parks & Rec, and others. Lunch was sponsored by Peace River-Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority.
2.2 Events/Outreach	11/3/2007	Charlotte Harbor Regional Nature Festival sponsored by CHNEP with more than 50 exhibitors, guided walks and rides, talks, children's zone. Approximately 1,800 attended.

2.2 Events/Outreach	12/5/2007	A professional development course, Coastal Community Planning and Development Training, was held for CHNEP partners. Twenty-one people attended the 2 day course from December 4 to 5 that was taught by NOAA Coastal Services Center.
2.2 Events/Outreach	11/21/2007	Exhibited at WGPU Nature Day on October 27 that was part of FGCU's 10th anniversary celebration. An estimated 100 families visited the WGPU building during the day.
2.2 Events/Outreach	10/25/2007	As part of CHNEP National Estuaries Days celebration, the Peace River Center for Writers offered "Literary passage to Charlotte Harbor and Cabbage Key." Sixty people enjoyed the day while learning about Charlotte Harbor from Missy Christy of Charlotte County, and reciting poetry. CHNEP sponsored this event.
2.2 Events/Outreach	10/25/2007	As part of CHNEP National Estuaries Days celebration, Manatee County Conservation Lands Management led 41 4-H club members on a Conifer Celebration on Duette Preserve on October 6. The volunteers donated 164 hours while planting 700 longleaf pine trees. CHNEP sponsored this event.
2.2 Events/Outreach	10/25/2007	As part of CHNEP National Estuaries Days celebration, CHEC held "Southwest Florida's Native Peoples" on September 29 at the Alligator Creek Preserve with 38 people participating. The program from 9 to 1 included a tour of the site, visit of the Animal Clubhouse and Butterfly Garden and viewing of the film "The Domain of the Calusa" (which emphasizes the wise use of estuarine resources). Butterfly plant seedlings were available along with CHNEP information packets. CHNEP sponsored this event.
2.2 Events/Outreach	10/7/2007	As part of CHNEP National Estuaries Days celebration, Lemon Bay Conservancy held Coral Creek Kayak/Canoe Adventure and Picnic on October 7. Twenty-eight people learned about the history of Coral Creek by narration, enjoyed a paddle and picnic which promoted interest in the preservation of the area.
2.2 Events/Outreach	10/26/2007	As part of CHNEP National Estuaries Days celebration, Charlotte County led 36 people on one of two guided boat tours of Lemon Bay. Participants learned about estuaries, watersheds and actions that deteriorate water quality and ways to reduce harmful impacts. They identified flora and fauna along the way and received information about CHNEP. CHNEP sponsored this
2.2 Events/Outreach	10/1/2007	As part of CHNEP National Estuaries Days celebration, the Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center at Cedar Point offered "Explore Your Estuary" on September 22 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Twenty-seven people participated in guided walks, games, crafts, scavenger hunts, lecture and video.
2.2 Events/Outreach	12/6/2007	The fall quarterly meeting of the Peace River Environmental Education Network (PREEN) was held December 6, 2007. The meeting was hosted by Dennis Guenther of the City of Fort Meade and held at the Fort Meade Recreation Center.
2.2 Events/Outreach	11/18/2007	As part of CHNEP National Estuaries Days celebration, the Friends of Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves held a Matlacha Pass Paddle on November 18. With the assistance of eight volunteers, 26 people learned about the estuary first hand on this guided adventure.
2.2 Events/Outreach	10/13/2007	As part of CHNEP National Estuaries Days celebration, the Friends of Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves held a "mucking about" wading trip in Pine Island Sound on October 13. Seventeen people learned about the estuary first hand on this guided adventure.
2.2 Events/Outreach	10/21/2007	As part of CHNEP National Estuaries Days celebration, the Friends of Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves held a Coral Creek-Cape Haze Paddle on October 21. With the assistance of seven volunteers, 17 people learned about the estuary first hand on this guided adventure.
2.3 Data Management	10/31/2007	2006 Quarterly Environmental Summaries; Jan-Mar 2007 Quarterly Environmental Summary

2.3 Data Management	10/30/2007	April-June 2007 Quarterly Environmental Summary
2.4 Public Outreach Grants	10/25/2007	Students in 31 third-grade classrooms in Lee County enjoyed the Manatee Fantasea Roadshow. The program begins with the students learning about the estuary then they take on the roles of news reporters attending a press conference for the famous marine mammal <i>Trichechus manatus latirostis</i> , a large manatee puppet. A student sound technician circulates with a prop microphone, prompting the student reporters to ask questions. Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center is able to offer these programs because of funding from a CHNEP grant.
2.4 Public Outreach Grants	12/19/2007	The Gopher Tortoise children's activity book was developed and 5,000 copies were printed. Turtle Talk Zander Srodes will distribute to children throughout the CHNEP study area.
2.5 Micro Grants	12/8/2007	The Charlotte Harbor Sierra Club distributed 166 5-minute shower timers at the El Jobean Christmas Parade on December 8.
2.5 Micro Grants	12/19/2007	The Bob Riley Method encasements was used to plant mangroves as an experiment in establishing mangroves along hardened shoreline in Cape Coral. Within the month, the popagules were sprouting leaves and establishing themselves in this harsh environment.
2.5 Micro Grants	12/19/2007	The Myakka River Management Coordinating Council website ( <a href="http://www.MyakkaRiverManagement.org">www.MyakkaRiverManagement.org</a> ) was updated and maintained from April to December 2007. The site has helped the council communicate with council members, the public, media and interested others. During this time, 1,061 visits to the site were made in an average month.
2.5 Micro Grants	10/1/2007	Pilot Club of Fort Myers Beach involved 288 volunteers, including many students, to "think globally, act local" during the 2006 International Coastal Cleanup on September 15 when they picked up 1,484 pounds of debris, including 4,163 cigarette butts and 792 food wrappers and 954 straws. Volunteers included area families and students from Beach Elementary, Lehigh Middle, Franklin Park, Fort Myers High, and Mirror Lake Elementary
2.5 Micro Grants	11/17/2007	Artists Roseline Young and Ricki Howie prepared banners for others to paint during the Art Royale event at Alliance for the Art on November 17. The Blue Waters banners depict the estuary and wildlife habitat and will be displayed throughout the study area to encourage residents to become better environment stewards.
2.5 Micro Grants	10/25/2007	Native plants were installed By Natural Resource Consulting and All Native Garden Center on the west side of the SWFRPC building where the CHNEP office is located.
3.1 Research Coordination	11/6/2007	Estuarine Research Federation conference presentation
3.3 Research & Restoration Partners	12/7/2007	FY08 Research and Restoration Partners Grants application review meeting
4.1 Watershed Coordination	10/19/2007	Quote in Charlotte Sun-Herald regarding SWIM 20th Anniversary
4.1 Watershed Coordination	12/6/2007	For both the CHNEP study area and the Southwest Florida Feasibility Study area, we have 1,730,465 acres under public management and identified needs totaling 871,995 acres. The needs were defined by multiple agencies. This is a 33% increase over current levels.
4.1 Watershed Coordination	10/11/2007	Numerous students and boaters volunteered to participate in a mangrove restoration event which took place on the east and west walls of Charlotte Harbor. The group planted and dispersed approximately 10,000 propagules in an attempt to restore the red mangrove fringing shoreline which was damaged during Hurricane Charley.
4.1 Watershed Coordination	9/28/2007	City of Fort Myers List of Restoration Projects

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| 4.4 Hendry Creek Septic Project | 10/10/2007 | Staff completed and delivered the "Hendry Creek Basin Onsite Treatment & Disposal Systems: Implementing a Voluntary Homeowner Management Program" to the SFWMD along with the final invoice. |
| 4.4 Hendry Creek Septic Project | 10/9/2007  | Final Report to the South Florida Water Management District on the Hendry Creek Basin Onsite Treatment and Disposal System Voluntary Homeowner Management Program.                           |