

Temple of Earth Gatherings, Inc.
Statements sent to *The Wild Hunt* July 21, 2018

For immediate release, July 20, 2018 –

The Florida Pagan Gathering Samhain 2018 Festival was originally scheduled from November 6 to 11 at the Boyd Hill Environmental Studies Area park in St.Petersburg, Florida.

The first week of June we were informed by the City of St.Petersburg that construction projects in the Boyd Hill ESA were going to start in October and that, for safety reasons, no overnight camping would be allowed during the construction period.

Temple of Earth Gatherings, Inc., the presenters of The Florida Pagan Gathering, made the decision not to cancel the festival and started looking for an alternative location. We found that location at the Maddox Ranch in Lakeland, Florida. Due to events that Maddox Ranch had already scheduled, we had to change our dates to October 31 through November 4.

The Temple of Earth Gatherings understands the confusion this may have caused but this scheduling change was necessary in order to continue to present The Florida Pagan Gathering Samhain 2018 Festival.

For immediate release, July 20, 2018 –

The Temple of Earth Gatherings, Inc. (TEG), presenters of The Florida Pagan Gathering, is announcing that it has severed any and all non-binding relationships with the Florida Pagan Alliance, Inc. (the Alliance) at the request of the Florida Pagan Alliance, Inc.

The reason given to TEG by the Alliance was that we were “out of compliance” with the voluntary and non-binding “Community Not Competition Initiative” due to our rescheduling of The Florida Pagan Gathering Samhain 2018 festival.

The Alliance, in their dismissal letter to TEG, stated that “it has been confirmed that their original dates could have been adhered to, and there was no attempt made to communicate with either the other festival or directly with the Florida Pagan Alliance in order to work out an amicable solution.”

The Board of Directors of TEG was never contacted by the Alliance as to why The Florida Pagan Gathering moved its location and date. As announced in a previous release, TEG was contacted by the City of St.Petersburg Florida and informed that, due to a construction project in the park we were renting to hold FPG, we would not be allowed to have any overnight camping. This was a unilateral decision made by the City and they gave us no other options or recourse.

Due to the lead times in renting property that can accommodate a festival, advertising, web site design and updates, along with giving festival participants time to take vacation time off and insure funding for the festival, TEG had to move quickly and decisively to secure a location and date for the Samhain 2018 festival.

It is clear that the Alliance is mistaken in their statement that our original dates could have been adhered to, or that we were contacted by the Alliance, or that any other “amicable” solution could have been worked out with Alliance assistance. The moving of our dates had nothing to do with competition between festivals, only the continuation of The Florida Pagan Gathering Samhain 2018 festival.

The Florida Pagan Gathering will be held from October 31 through November 4 at the Maddox Ranch in Lakeland, Florida.