

## City of Treasure Island Beach Stewardship Committee

July 12, 2000 1:30 PM

COMMITTEE PRESENT: Robert Minning, Barbara Blush, George Greenfield, Sully Lowe, Sid Rice, Dennis Velasco, Don Hambidge; Cliff Truitt, Coastal Tech;

Audience: Russ Kniff

Chairman Robert Minning called the Beach Stewardship Committee meeting to order at 1:30 PM in the City Hall Auditorium at 120 - 108th Avenue, Treasure Island, Florida

1. The draft minutes of the June 14, 2000 meeting had been prepared and previously distributed to the members for review. On appropriate motion the minutes were accepted as drafted.
2. In Mr. Terry's absence, Don Hambidge provided an update on the beach and groin projects. According to a recent conversation with the north groin project superintendent, two options are being pursued by the contractor to address the lost use of the 117th Street staging area. One option would be to use Madeira Beach Middle School as a replacement staging area. The superintendent was not optimistic about this plan being accepted, but we have no further information at this time. The other option is to continue to barge rock from the Crystal River area directly to the work site. The barge trip requires two days in each direction, plus another day or two to load/unload, making it unlikely that enough material could be brought in to meet next month's contract completion deadline. A question was raised about any cost implications to the City if the groin contract is not completed as required. The City has no direct involvement in the County's contract and would suffer no impact except the loss/delay of "benefits" from the groin. Don also noted that the vacated Isle of Capri rock staging site still has not been cleaned-up or restored; he will follow-up with the contractor.
3. The dredge at John's Pass is still placing fill on Sunset Beach. One report provided to Don indicated that the contractor was running out of sand in the borrow area and the fill width would begin to decrease, starting at the north end of parking lot #3, so as to taper into the existing beach at the Blind Pass groin. Commissioner Blush, however, noted that one of the cruise ships had recently run aground on a new shoal in the pass, suggesting that there was still sand available. Mr. Velasco observed that the fill on Sunset Beach is averaging at least 120 feet wide which is substantially wider than what typically has been placed in past renourishments.
4. Following-up on Dr. Greenfield's question last month about water quality monitoring, Mr. Hambidge reported on a Pinellas County Health Department "Pilot Research Project" which samples and tests 10 beaches on a bi-weekly basis. Only one parameter is screened, a bacteria

typically associated with fecal pollution in water supplies. The data are available on the Department's web site. Don distributed an example report sheet from June 27th which showed the Treasure Island sampling site having a bacteria count of less than 2 per 100 milliliters of water. This value is within the "good" water quality level suggested by the Department's scale.

5. Remarks by members.

Barbara Blush reported that the ceremony at which Governor Jeb Bush signed the Dennis Jones Beach Management Act was well attended and brought positive attention to beach issues.

Sully Lowe asked about a proposed 'sand castle' event. Don replied that many details were unknown about the proposal, but the promoter has retained an engineer to assist him and all potential impacts would be reviewed before the City considered approving it. There was discussion about ensuring that no sand was removed from the beach for the event and, if sand was to be brought in, it should be compatible with the native material.

Sid Rice was asked if he had any news on the proposed new John's Pass bridge. He discussed several of the design proposals and the FDOT planning process, but said there was no real news or firm schedule.

Dennis Velasco reported that Bob Hite with Channel 8 in Tampa was completing a special on beaches and erosion problems which was to air on next Monday and Tuesday. It will include discussion of several erosion control ideas including the 'speed bumps' marketed by Richard Holmberg.

There were no further member remarks or suggestions.

6. The Committee discussed and agreed that they would not meet in August. Also, the second week in September conflicts with the upcoming Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association annual meeting. Therefore, the next meeting was set for September 6, 2000.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM.