

City of Treasure Island Beach Stewardship Committee

December 10, 2003

1:30 PM

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

Chairman Robert Minning called the Beach Stewardship Committee meeting to order at 1:35 PM in the City Hall auditorium, 108th Avenue, Treasure Island, Florida.

1. The draft minutes of the November 12, 2003 meeting had been distributed and reviewed by the Committee members. Upon appropriate motion the minutes were approved as drafted.
2. Without objection a new item was added to the agenda to introduce a draft Request for Proposals (RFP) by the City to secure the services of a consultant to conduct the baseline ecological data collection for future use in an expanded Beach Management Plan.
3. Cliff Truitt reported that he had submitted a formal letter to the City about the potential need for additional work and related costs on the Sand Sharing permit. Nicole Elko had mentioned at the November meeting that USF had collected some sand samples as part of their monitoring, but subsequent discussion with Nicole indicated that the data was not of sufficient scope to meet the State's needs. However, Don Hambidge said that the County was willing to absorb the cost of collecting additional grain size data and turn the information over the City and Coastal Tech to use in the application. This County/USF effort would eliminate about \$14,000 from the Coastal Tech cost proposal.

There was Committee discussion about the timing of the USF input, the overall permit, and whether we should modify the request to a lesser project such as the limited near-waterline 'sand scraping.' Don Hambidge suggested we stay with the original request and make the State act on it – one way or the other. Bob Minning and Barbara Blush agreed and noted that an issued permit could always be modified to allow for a lesser project. Additional discussion continued about the Corps schedule for the next maintenance and past 'slippages.' Barbara Blush said that in the last meeting with the Corps, their project staff had said that the borrow area for the next maintenance *after this one* would be Blind Pass again and our work would be tied to Upham Beach and more likely to stay on schedule.

Dennis Velasco moved that the Committee recommend that the City Commission approve \$10,000 of additional work in the Coastal Tech proposal [eliminating the geological work to be done by the County]. Following a second by Dr. Greenfield, the motion was unanimously approved.

4. Rick Raus distributed a draft Request for Proposals (RFP) to retain an environmental consultant to conduct the baseline ecosystem data collection for future use in an expanded Beach

Management Plan. The draft was provided for Committee review and future suggestions. Dr. Greenfield noted that the wording was very general and wondered if local 'experts' on several of the likely topics might be contacted for their input. Sully Lowe also suggested drawing in the University to help with the scope. Cliff Truitt suggested that staff might also want to look at the City's formal State-approved Comprehensive Plan to see what species/issues may have already been included, mapped or otherwise looked at. Comments should be sent to Rick by January 7, 2004.

5. Committee Member Remarks:

Commissioner Blush said that the City Commission had accepted the private donation of an ATV for use in helping with future beach events. NOAA initially awarded the Federal grant money for the dune project at the Trailhead Park, but asked the City to re-submit some of the application materials; we expect the funds to arrive within the next three months. The City will receive the preliminary design proposal in February. The 'Big C' is again asking members to pass resolutions urging the Legislature to preserve the \$30 million Beach Erosion Control Program Funding amount *and* specifically to retain the present source of that revenue rather than change it to what might be a less stable source.

Bob Minning asked everyone to let him know if there were any groups or associations we missed with the dune education piece. He also noted that the Committee still wants the 'plant-the-beach' field day included as part of the Trailhead project planning.

There were no further remarks.

6. The next regular Committee meeting date was set for January 14, 2004 at 1:30

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 PM.