

City of Treasure Island Beach Stewardship Committee

May 14, 2003

1:30 PM

COMMITTEE PRESENT: Robert Mining, Barbara Blush, Sully Lowe, Rick Raus, Sid Rice, Dennis Velasco.

Chairman Robert Mining called the meeting to order at 1:35 PM in the City Hall Auditorium, 120 – 108th Avenue, Treasure Island, Florida.

1. The minutes of April 9, 2003 were approved with one correction. The date of March 14, on the last page, was changed to April 14.
2. There were no additions or changes to the agenda.
3. In Cliff Truitt's absence, Robert Mining read an e-mail from him saying that the Corps had contacted the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Their review typically takes approximately 60 days, but they really do not have a required time frame in which to reply.
4. REMARKS BY MEMBERS:

Dennis Velasco stated how frustrating it is that there was really no original time frame to follow for the sand-sharing permit, and it seemed to be going nowhere. He also stated that he had heard that not only was the beach renourishment delayed, but that Sunset Beach was not included. Robert Mining stated that we are actually at a half way point with the formation and adoption of the Beach Emergency Plan. Barbara Blush stated that there was a glitch in the permitting process that helped to delay the renourishment, and that it was correct that the Sunset area had not been recommended for renourishment. Dennis stated that it was based on the needs of all of the beaches.

Barbara Blush stated that Treasure Island will receive grant money from NOAA for the extension and dune restoration of the Sunset Vista Trailhead Park. Commissioner Blush also stated that a County Commissioner, as well as representatives from NOAA and FDEP will be invited to the Park's ribbon cutting.

Robert Mining stated that the Tampa Tribune had a good article on sea oat planting. The Tampa Bay Sounding's newspaper had a small article about the "Plant our Beach" program and it was announced that the same program had been given to the Capri Island Civic Association on April 14, 2003. Barbara Blush asked why the commission appointed facilitators were not participating in the programs. Mr. Mining responded that he had not had any decent responses to his requests.

Dennis Velasco stated that he had seen, and spoke with, several persons who were doing the sand survey on the beach. Robert Mining said he would contact Nicole Elko to find out when we can see the results of the survey and to verbally invite her to the next meeting.

AUDIENCE REMARKS:

Ruth Philippon, a resident of Treasure Island, spoke about walking the beaches and seeing a need for the City to begin replacing signage that has faded or has been defaced. She also had concerns about the litter that is present in the dunes and how often the beach trash cans are emptied. Rick Raus stated that the cans are emptied twice per week and that the City would begin changing out some of the signs that are rusted or beginning to become illegible.

5. The next regular Committee meeting was set for June 11, 2003 at 1:30 PM

The meeting was adjourned.