

## City of Treasure Island Beach Stewardship Committee

April 8, 2009

1:30 PM

Committee Present: Dennis Velasco, Bob Minning, Don Nolan, George Greenfield, Ruth Philipon, Mary Catherine Daughtry, and Nicole Elko.

Chairman, Dennis Velasco called the Beach Stewardship Committee meeting to order at 1:30 PM in the City Hall Auditorium, 108th Ave., Treasure Island, Florida.

A draft of the minutes of the March 11, 2009 meeting had been previously distributed and reviewed by all committee members. Upon appropriate motion, the draft was approved as submitted.

There were no changes to the agenda.

Dennis Velasco gave an update of the beach trail noting that the members had a meeting on March 27 to submit drawings. All drawings were similar in nature, however, one drawing incorporated more detail at the walkovers between the dunes. These plans will be adapted, and Rick Raus, DPW, will obtain approximate costs for the materials including washed shell, curbing, trash receptacles, lighting, and benches. Don Nolan also suggested bike racks be included as noted in the Phil Graham proposal.

The clean up of the properties to the east of the beach walk was discussed, and it was agreed the owners may clean it out themselves, and the Committee will then go back to do the plantings.

Commissioner Minning informed the Committee that he spoke with the City Manager regarding getting a licensing agreement for all properties on the east side of the beach walk for the strip of land between the beach walk and east side of the hotel/motel strip which the City owns. He stated that the City has already entered into licensing agreements with Sloppy Joes and South Beach to occupy that portion of the beach. The licensing agreement states that improvements may be made, however, the area must be open to the public as well, and the property must be maintained to City standards.

Nicole Elko gave an update on beach renourishment stating that everything is still on track. They are presently working on the permits with Army Corp of Engineers and Pinellas County and contacting DEP, the permits are moving right along. She stated the renourishment should begin by approximately October 1, 2009 and all sand for Treasure Island will be taken from John's Pass.

Remarks from members:

Don Nolan noted that beach clean-up is scheduled for this weekend April 11. He stated that last month's clean-up had a good turnout and collected approximately 310 lbs of garbage.

Ruth Philipon noted the beach plantings to the north have been damaged due to weather. She asked regarding signage that would deter walking through the dunes since some of the

damage was due to people walking through the sea oats. It was agreed if they do not come back, replanting will be completed.

Nicole was asked if the County will assist with plants for the beach walk. She stated she will look at the plans; and if the plantings are beach eco plantings, the County will assist with plants.

George Greenfield stated that with the swimming season beginning that consideration to the water quality should be monitored. Nicole informed the Committee that water quality measurement and evaluation has been upgraded. Brandy Downing from the Health Department attended a meeting and gave a presentation, and they do monitor the Treasure Island sites on a regular basis. Nicole stated the updates may be found on the website or email or call Brandy Downing regarding the new testing procedure.

Bob Minning commented on the representation from the Commission which he discussed at the last meeting. Commissioner Alan Bildz will be the representative beginning next month and Commissioner Ed Gayton will be the alternate. Bob Minning informed the Committee that he does plan to continue attending the meetings.

Since NOAA has asked that the City move forward on beach signage, Commissioner Minning will work with Ruth to get some additional concepts and perhaps incorporate and blend what was put before the County. When that has been completed, a schedule will be put together to send to NOAA.

Since there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned. Members were reminded the next Beach Stewardship Committee meeting is on Wednesday, May 13th at 1:30 here at the City Hall.