

## City of Treasure Island Beach Stewardship Committee

February 10, 2009

1:30 PM

Committee Present: Don Nolan, George Greenfield, Ruth Philipon, and Mary Daughtry.

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. The Mayor and Rick Raus are out of town; however, there is a quorum. Commissioner Gayton, as an alternate, is present for Commissioner Bildz.

A draft of the minutes of the January 13, 2010 meeting had been previously distributed and reviewed by all committee members. Upon appropriate motion, the draft was approved as submitted.

**Changes to the Agenda** – No changes.

**Clearwater Beach Walk** – Chairman Velasco wished to thank the City Manager, Reid Silverboard, for arranging for the trip to Clearwater Beach. He, along with the rest of the Committee, felt the trip was very enlightening and informative to see what Clearwater Beach has done with their beach trail. He also thanked the Commission for being present as well as several residents. Dennis felt that from a Committee's point of view, the closer the Commission and the Committee work together in the beginning of a project such as this, the Commission will be as advised at the same time as the Committee to avoid any confusion or misunderstanding. He appreciated the fact that Clearwater was so open discussing not only their project at the present time but also the problems associated with it and how they had gone about correcting these problems. They will share all the details including designs, specifications, and costs. Therefore, the Committee can move ahead incorporating Phil Graham's proposal and Clearwater's ideas and suggestions in developing this project for the Treasure Island beach walk. It was also felt that with Clearwater's help in providing this information it should help with saving money and time. Once these designs and costs have been completed, the Committee will then submit their recommendations to the Commission.

Pictures of the Clearwater Beach trail/beach was taken by Jeff Jenson and are displayed for informational and discussion purposes. These pictures included Clearwater's older and newer sand fence, the bike racks, playground equipment, lighting, and trash receptacles. The sand wall was designed using 6' concrete with 3' under the sand and also included a footer. The capping on the sand wall may also be used as a bench. The main beach walk has colored concrete in various designs. The City of Clearwater had a large budget to complete this project estimated at \$30 million with some of the amenities paid for by various hotels. This budget, however, incorporated other projects in the area. Clearwater has 12 people who are just committed to maintaining the beach walk. Overall, it was agreed Clearwater has a beautiful beach walk. The

Clearwater Staff giving the tour informed the Committee that there are side walk entertainers on a regular basis on the beach walk. Mary Daughtry asked if the lighting is solar, however, this project was electric. The possibility of solar lighting for Treasure Island should be considered.

Commission Gayton wished to discuss the sand raking controversy stating that Clearwater Beach was moving quite a bit of sand around while apparently Treasure Island is prohibited to do so. A lengthy discussion took place reiterating the various issues on the beach raking along with the permitting, agreements, and interpretation of DEP's regulations. Rick Raus will be meeting with Steve West the week of February 22 and clarification of all the issues and concerns of raking, moving dunes, and blown sand vs. dunes, and the annual permit will be completed at that time.

**Remarks by Members:** Don Nolan reminded all about beach clean-up on Saturday, February 13. He stated he hoped some of the volunteers would stay for "Hands Across the Sand" at 1:30 at the City's beach at 104<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Dennis gave an update on the NOAA Grant stating that Ruth Philipon's drawing was adapted to the signage and the project will be presented to the Commission at the Commission meeting on February 16. He also reminded all that this grant money is from the oil spill several years ago, can only be used for certain projects, and no City money is being used for this project.

Chairman Velasco advised all that the next Beach Stewardship Committee Meeting is on Wednesday, March 10, 2010 at 1:30 here at the City Hall Auditorium.