

BEACH AND SHORE PRESERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Indian River County (IRC) Beach and Shore Preservation Advisory Committee (Beach) met at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, November 17, 2008, in the County Administration Building, Building B, 1800 27th Street, Vero Beach, Florida. You may hear an audio of the meeting; review the agenda and the minutes on the IRC website - www.ircgov.com/Boards/BSPC/2008. Please note listed at the end of each agenda item refers to time on the recorded minutes.

Present were Chairman Mayor Tom White, City of Vero Beach Appointee; Bill Glynn, Robert Lindsey, Cheryl Gerstner, Bob Anderson and Stephen Krasco, Board of County Commissioners (BCC) Appointees; Councilmember Paul Johnson, Town of Orchid Appointee; and Councilmember William Ahrens, Town of Indian River Shores Appointee.

Absent were David Barney, BCC Appointee; Mayor Sara Savage, City of Fellsmere Appointee; and Councilmember Dale Simchick, City of Sebastian Appointee (all excused).

Also present were IRC staff: Commissioner Liaison Peter O'Bryan; Jim Davis, Public Works Director; Dr. Jonathan Gorham, Coastal Resource Manager; James Gray, Coastal Engineer; and Terri Collins-Lister, Commissioner Assistant, District 4. Others present were Marty Smithson, Sebastian Inlet Taxing District (The District); Robert Tench, Alternate, Town of Orchid Appointee; Don Dexter, City of Vero Beach; Stephen Boehning, Coastal Waterways; Michael Walther, Coastal Technology Corporation (Coastal Tech); Christian Hendricks, Al Stock, Louise Schmitt, Bill Johnson, William Suddath, Gayle LeGore and Barbara Lange, Interested Citizens.

Call to Order – Chairman Tom White (00:00:06)

Chairman White called the meeting to order.

Approval of the Minutes of October 20, 2008 (00:00:18)

ON MOTION BY Mr. Anderson, SECONDED BY Ms. Gerstner, the members voted unanimously (8-0) to approve the minutes of October 20, 2008 as presented.

2008 Baytree and Marbrisa Dune Restoration Project – Mr. James Gray, IRC Coastal Engineer (00:00:29)

Mr. James Gray, IRC Coastal Engineer, stated in January 2009, the County plans to restore approximately 2,000 feet of shoreline between Baytree, SeaGrape Trail, and Marbrisa with 19,000 tons of sand to construct a modest dune feature. He indicated Coastal Tech would be the engineer for the project and it should take about three weeks to construct the dune. He added the project was unique in that it received state funding with a 50% cost share ratio. He continued Baytree and Marbrisa were picking up the local match of the remaining 50% cost share, therefore the County would be expending no local dollars on the \$350,000 project, in turn the County was acting as the project manager for construction oversight for permitting concerns, special conditions and working in concert with Coastal Tech.

A question was raised on why the State would issue permits for the dune restoration project, but turned down Sea Oaks' permit. Mr. Gray replied the dune restoration project funding and expedited permitting was the result of Tropical Storm Noel in 2007, a named storm. A discussion followed on a building of a seawall at Sea Oaks. Mr. Michael Walther, Coastal Tech, stated the building of a sea wall was not allowed under State regulations based on the conditions that exist on the property. He noted in order to qualify for a sea wall, a building must be eligible and vulnerable under the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) rules. He added the Sea Oaks Dune House was built in the year 2002 and to be eligible, the building could not have been permitted by the state under preexisting "rules" after March 1985. A discussion followed on the "rules".

Discussion on the Beach Preservation Plan (BPP) Update - Dr. Jonathan Gorham, IRC Coastal Resources Manager (00:19:39)

Dr. Jonathan Gorham, IRC Coastal Resources Manager, told the committee he had received comments on the BPP and intended to incorporate them into the current plan.

Mr. Glynn felt there needed to be a revenue stream established to fund beach projects that could be counted on each year. He recommended a County wide district that allowed a minimal amount of funds to be collected from each individual parcel. A lengthy discussion followed on a Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) and a Municipal Service Benefit Unit (MSBU).

Chairman White brought up a letter sent by the Town of Indian River Shores as information on the Town's comments on the funding for future beach preservation projects, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office.

Commissioner Liaison Peter O'Bryan stated he would ask Mr. Jason Brown, IRC Budget Director, for a written summary of the MSTU and MSBU options so the committee would have a better understanding of how the special assessments work.

Status of County Beach Parks – Mr. Jim Davis, IRC Public Works Director
(00:48:56)

Mr. Jim Davis, IRC Public Works Director, reported Golden Sands Beach Park and Wabasso Beach Park was under construction and on schedule. He estimated the completion of Wabasso Beach Park prior to April 2009.

Update from the Sebastian Inlet Taxing District Commission (00:50:08)

Mr. Marty Smithson, The District, announced Ms. Beth Mitchell was re-elected to The District. He thanked Dr. Gorham for incorporating The District's comments in the BPP.

Committee Members Matters (00:50:58)

Mr. Krasco mentioned there would be a public meeting sponsored by Brevard County Office of Natural Resources at the Town of Viera on Wednesday, November 19, 2008 to review the results from a study of a potential artificial reef to serve multi-purposes such as improved surfing and erosion control.

Chairman Matters (00:52:43)

Chairman White read for the record an e-mail from Mr. Steve Trueblood regarding beach cleanup, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office. Chairman White asked if Terri Collins-Lister, Recording Secretary, would forward a copy of the e-mail to the Indian River County Sheriff's Department.

Other Matters (00:53:07)

Mr. Bill Johnson, Interested Citizen, brought up the DEP regulation on the eligibility for a seawall and wondered if the Beach committee could write a letter to the DEP recommending the date of eligibility be raised from the year 1985 to 1986. Chairman White asked staff if they could write a letter to the DEP recommending the eligibility date be raised from the year 1985 to 1986.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.