



## **Planning & Construction Committee**

### **Minutes for March 19, 2007 Meeting**

#### **Attendees:**

**Chair: Gene Tinnie, Board Chair**

**Guy Forchion, VKBPT Staff**

**Mark Walters, Trustee**

**Dick Townsend, Nature & Environment Chair**

**Miguel Germain, Trustee**

**Patrick Range, Trustee**

The Planning and Construction Committee and Nature & Environment Committee convened March 19, 2007 – 6:10pm.

Minutes from the previous meeting were deferred.

The committee discussed construction project updates centering on the status of the Parking Lot and Circulation Road Improvement Project.

Staff Report: The project is still ahead of schedule – the electrical conduits have all been installed, all light fixtures have been installed (only the bollard light fixtures remain).

Additional circulation road compaction is complete and the initial asphalt coating has begun on some sections of the park. Agreements have been made on the route of the pedestrian walking path which cuts through part of the vegetative growth behind the bathhouse. One sea grape tree cluster was re-located in the new paths design. The electrical meter box has been installed in preparation for electrical completion.

There was additional discussion regarding some changes to the current parking lot plan that would include additional curbing in select areas around the flag poles, the bath house, and the addition of concrete formed benches near the bath house entry/exit.

The committee discussed the creation and planning for the beach sand areas in the historic core area around the dance pavilion and concession stand building.

The Virginia Key Beach Park Trust exotic vegetation removal RFP was the next topic of discussion. The project funded with Safe Neighborhood Park (SNP) funds target approximately 17 acres on Historic Virginia Key Beach Park earlier identified by the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE). Important dates pertinent to the RFP were reviewed; March 5<sup>th</sup>; RFP opens, March 23<sup>rd</sup>; Question & Answer period ends, April 13<sup>th</sup>; proposals are due, etc. Interest in bidding on the project has been high. Questions and answers are posted on the VKBPT website.

Trust staff gave a brief update on progress being made on the YMCA Jr. Marine Biology Camp scheduled to begin June 4, 2007. The Marine Biology Camp transports approx. 100 underprivileged youth to HVKBP for swimming, recreation, biology studies, Jr lifeguard training and other activities for approx. 40 days. Further details will be discussed at the next meeting.

The committee discussed several self sufficiency and retail related opportunities related to but not limited to food vendors, entrance fee, fee for attractions, clothing and promotional items, events, rental spaces, etc. Much of the discussion requires in-depth planning and analysis, the committee determined that a “working group” could best handle these issues and come back to the committee at a later date.

High level discussion regarding the 2007-2008 VKBPT budget began with a review of last year’s high level budget requests; it was a first step in planning for the new budget and will continue in depth at the next Planning and Construction Committee meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00pm. **The next Planning and Construction Committee Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 16, 2007 and the next Nature & Environment Committee meeting is schedule for Monday, June 11, 2007.**