



## **Planning & Construction Committee**

### **Minutes for May 24, 2006 Meeting**

**Attendees:**

**Chair: Gene Tinnie**

**Guy Forchion**

**Miguel Germain**

**Neil Hall**

The Planning and Construction committee convened May 24, 2006 – 6:15pm.

Minutes of the April 2006 Planning and Construction Committee Meeting were approved unanimously.

The committee began the meeting with discussion of construction projects. (1) the parking lot and circulation road improvement project. Staff provided resource materials regarding the project; an e-mail from the City of Miami consultant managing the project summarized the project as awaiting final approvals from the State of Florida, providing a Notice to Proceed to the contractor in Mid June 2006 and expecting physical construction on site in mid July 2006.

The parking lot and circulation road completion is necessary for the park to open – the assumption by the staff for the park opening is April 2007.

Trust staff is continuing work to secure the services of an appropriate consultant to complete the ERP process for the construction and enhancements outline in the Trust master plan.

All negotiations for the purchase of the VKBPT Mini Train have been completed. Arrangements are being made for the transportation, storage and repainting of the train to match its historical image. Storage is being located to hold the train until the track is installed and appropriate storage facilities are in place at the park site.

Some capital improvement projects funded by the General Obligation Bond were discussed in brief. The park furniture for the Trust (picnic tables, benches and grills) were discussed. Trustee Tinnie would like to know the cost of making the picnic tables and benches out of "Pau Lope" wood compared to regular wood. This super dense natural wood is resistant to burning and craving.

Staff gave an overview of the staffing and budget impacts that would face the Trust with the City Parks Department taking over various grounds keeping and maintenance duties at Virginia Key Beach Park. The maintenance arrangement would give City Parks the responsibility for grounds keeping and general maintenance next fiscal year and park supervisors, life guards and park supervision during open hours in 2007. The Trust would have additional part-time positions for weekend staff during open hours in 2007. These additional costs are reflected in the Trust Park Operations' budget for 2007.

The Committee recommended that the word "Historic" be added to the beginning of the name Virginia Key Beach Park to create a new official name of **Historic Virginia Key Beach Park**. The item was moved by committee member Hall and seconded by Trustee Germain. The recommendation would come before the Board of Trustees Monday, June 5, 2006 during the next Virginia Key Beach Park Trust Board of Trustees Meeting.

There was general discussion on what food and vendor services would be provided on the beach park while it was open in 2007 (corn dogs, umbrellas, coolers, bikes, etc.).

There was a short discussion on identifying special event areas on the beach park.

Trustee Germain expressed the desire to have the large rocks in the water of the swimming area of the beach to be removed – and what it would take.

Meeting adjourned 9:04pm. The next scheduled meeting is June 19, 2006, 6:00pm.