



Park managers given extension

By **SONYA SMITH IRVINE WORLD NEWS**

The firm hired to help manage the park project was recently given a three-month extension on its contract.

Interim CEO Sharon Landers said at the last board meeting that the contract with Bovis Lend Lease expired in August and was extended for three months while staff examines the firm's work and negotiates a longer, second contract.

The program management company was hired in March 2006 and was paid \$3.5 million for a year and a half.

When Bovis was first hired, the Great Park's manager of engineering, Christina Lo, said the company was "a head and shoulder above all the other firms" that applied.

JOHN HANCOCK

The park designers are being made into pseudo-celebrities as they prepare to autograph copies of the recently approved comprehensive park master plan.

At Thursday's Great Park Board meeting Director Miguel Pulido asked staff to make copies of the large, colorful park plan available to county political leaders and people involved in the park project. Each copy, Pulido said should be signed by the designers.

"I think this (master plan) speaks for itself...other should get a chance to review it," Pulido said.

I LEFT MY HEART...

In San Francisco – the place Master Designer Ken Smith is headed to this weekend.

Smith is one of many who will speak in various workshops and discussions at the annual American Society of Landscape Architects conference this weekend.

Also, artwork by Smith will be one of various artists creations in an auction at the conference. His artwork is a series of three images, each showing digital manipulations of the same image. The "three studies" was created in November 2005, according to the architect's society, and was printed in an edition of three in May.

GREAT GOITER

Register columnist Frank Mickadeit in his Tuesday column wrote that he's been again entered as a "Man of Sage" for the annual Woman Sage conference.

He wrote that whoever wins the bid will be treated to an allexpense paid lunch at the Traveland USA RV park followed by a ride in his VW bus over to the "Great Park for a ride on the Great Goiter" (also known as the orange balloon). Funds raised by the bid go, he writes, to "help middle-aged women who find themselves needing to start second (or first) careers."

For more on the Great Park project, visit www.oeregister.com/greatpark .

Send tips, comments or questions for this weekly Great Park column to sosmith@oeregister.com .