

Town of Kennebunkport
Goose Rocks Beach Advisory Committee Meeting
July 17th, 2023 ~ 6:00 PM
Village Fire Station Meeting Room, 32 North Street, Kennebunkport

A meeting of the Goose Rocks Beach Advisory Committee was held on July 17th, 2023.

Members participating in person were Pam Czekanski (Chair), Barry Engel (Vice Chair), Fred Stafford (Secretary), Carol Sherman, Paul Hogan, Jon Dykstra

1. Call to Order

Ms. Czekanski called the meeting to order and asked the Committee members to introduce themselves.

2. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Hogan made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 26, 2013 Beach Advisory Committee meeting. Ms. Czekanski seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

3. Comments from Public on Issues not on the Agenda

Ms. Czekanski asked the audience in attendance if they had any questions or comments on items not on tonight's agenda. There were no comments or questions from the audience in attendance.

4. Committee Reports

a. Natural Resources

Mr. Hogan reported they did do some planting of grass at Proctor Avenue and Edgewood with the Conservation Commission who received a grant to replenish the dunes in those areas that were badly hit this past winter.

b. Plover Presentation – Erin Sullivan Shorebird Coordinator

Ms. Sullivan gave an informative slideshow presentation on the piping plovers at Goose Rocks Beach, the entirety of which can be viewed on the town website.

Ms. Sullivan also asked if anyone is interested in volunteering to help monitor the beaches and plovers, please contact her through email at kecs1993@gmail.com.

c. Communications

Mr. Stafford asked all those in attendance if they could write down their email address so the sub-committee could verify it in an effort to update their Constant Contact list.

d. Public Safety

Mr. Engel reported he gave a more comprehensive presentation at the last meeting and is still following up on those issues.

Mr. Dykstra added he brought up the Committee's request at the Board of Selectmen's meeting to have a sign placed at the intersection of Dyke Road and Kings Highway to indicate street parking to the left, but it failed to go to a vote.

5. Trash

To address concerns raised to this Committee about the pickup and location of the trash receptacles, Ms. Czekanski stated she did confirm with the town there is daily trash pick-up of the barrels at the beach entrances. However, there is still an issue with other debris left alongside the receptacles, Ms. Czekanski added.

Mr. Stafford suggested perhaps the town should consider what the state parks do is have a carry in/carry out policy with no trash receptacles at all.

The Committee members and several members of the audience discussed the possibility of removing all the trash bins at the beach entrances and switching to a carry in/carry out policy.

After much discussion, Ms. Czekanski suggested the Committee follow up with the town on what the automated curbside trash and recycling pick-up will entail and what will work best for the beach.

6. Discussion of Tides footprint on the beach

With the beach becoming more popular and crowded and the practice of The Tides creating a visual barrier in front of their property by raking off the sand and putting out many chairs, Mr. Stafford asked the Committee and audience members their opinion on how to deal with the issue.

A detailed discussion occurred on the Beach Use Agreement, the 25-foot prescriptive rights of those signers, and the practice of operating a commercial enterprise on town property.

Mr. Stafford made a motion that the town look into the limits of The Tide's footprint on the beach, especially as it relates to a commercial enterprise. Mr. Hogan seconded the motion, and the Committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

7. New Business

Mr. Hogan made a motion to spend \$300 from the beach fund to buy t-shirts for the plover volunteers. Mr. Engel seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

8. Adjournment

The meeting ended 6:45pm

Presentation by Jon Dyktra on latest news on water quality at GRB

Next meeting August 21 at GRB Fire Station in person