

**Town of Kennebunkport**  
**Goose Rocks Beach Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**August 16th, 2021 ~ 6:30 PM**  
**Virtual Meeting (Via Zoom)**

A virtual meeting of the Goose Rocks Beach Advisory Committee was held on August 16th, 2021.

Members participating were Kate Bauer Burke, Jon Dykstra, Carol Sherman, Barry Engel, Joanne Gustin, Paul Hogan, Ed Hutchins, Jennifer Wasserman

*PRESENTATION BY KENNEBUNKPORT CLIMATE INITIATIVE – 6:00 PM – 6:30 PM*

1. *Call to Order – Roll Call*

Chairman Kate Burke called the meeting to order and performed a roll call of all members of Goose Rocks Beach Advisory Committee.

2. *Approval of minutes of June 29, 2021 meeting and July 19, 2021 meeting.*

Ms. Burke noted a deletion to be made to the June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Beach Advisory Committee meeting minutes. Mr. Hogan made a motion to approve the amended minutes. Mr. Dykstra seconded the motion, and the vote was 7-0-1. Mr. Hutchins abstained from voting.

Mr. Hogan made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Beach Advisory Committee meeting. Mr. Dykstra seconded the motion, and the vote was 7-0-1. Mr. Hutchins abstained from voting.

3. *Updated on previous Committee actions: Animal Control Ordinance, Beach Campfires, Dinghy Point*

Ms. Burke stated after speaking with Police Chief Sanford, they have reported that so far things have been good in terms of compliance with the new Animal Control Ordinance and the Beach Fire change. The number of beach fire permits has been less than previous years.

Ms. Burke acknowledged receipt of some documentation from a concerned citizen about beach fire debris being dumped onto the sand and that information has been forwarded to the Police Department which they will follow up on accordingly.

As for Dinghy Point, Ms. Burke noted she has seen more items being left there but think it is best to just observe for the remainder of the season and review in the winter if anything needs to be addressed.

4. *BAC email account*

Ms. Sherman reminded folks if they wish to contact the Beach Advisory Committee they can do so through email at [grbadvisorycommitteemeeting@kennebunkportme.gov](mailto:grbadvisorycommitteemeeting@kennebunkportme.gov). Ms. Sherman added this email account is checked daily and all questions are either answered or forwarded to the appropriate person to answer which may take a few days to respond depending on the nature of the inquiry.

5. *Handicap Wheelchair*

Resulting from the discussion at the last meeting, Mr. Hogan reported someone made a \$100 contribution to the Health Department to fix the handicap beach wheelchair but due to supply chain problems the two wheels that are need are not available won't be available for the rest of the summer. Mr. Hogan added the Rec. Department has a handicap wheelchair that can be reserved for a day for \$15.00 and is available at the Tides Inn.

6. *Subcommittee Reports*

a. *Communications*

Ms. Burke reported the subcommittee is moving ahead with the addition of Fred Stafford who has a background in communication and hope to have their initial meeting during the week of Labor Day. Information and announcement of the meeting will be sent in hopes of having a good attendance. Ms. Burke identified one of the main items on their agenda is the issue of the proliferation of signs and how effectively they communicate.

b. *Natural Resources*

1. *Dune Grass*

This item was not discussed.

2. *Endangered Birds*

Ms. Sherman provided the Plover Report stating the State of Maine has fledged 208 plover chicks as compared to last year when the state fledged 199. Goose Rocks beach has fledged 22, Ms. Sherman added, which is the best that has been done in decades.

To answer the question asked when is an endangered animal such as the plover, no longer classified as such, Ms. Sherman explained it is determined basically due to their reliance on coastal beaches, habitat, increase in habitats, decrease of human disturbance and many other criteria. Ms. Sherman added she was told by the Audubon Society it is doubtful the plovers will meet the criteria to be placed off the endangered species list within our lifetime.

3. *Proposed Resolution regarding water pollution issues*

Mr. Dykstra shared his presentation slides on the screen for the Committee members and the viewing audience. Mr. Dykstra gave a detailed presentation on the proposed resolution the Natural Resources subcommittee composed as a result of their subcommittee meeting.

After some discussion, the Committee members agreed getting accurate data and continue the water testing program is critical to determining the next steps to cleaner water at the beach.

Mr. Hogan made a motion the Beach Advisory Committee adopt the proposal as shown on the screen and delivered to all members of the board. Ms. Gustin seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 7-0-1. Mr. Hutchins abstained from voting.

c. *Traffic & Safety*

Mr. Engel reported two community members have joined the Traffic & Safety subcommittee and they had their first meeting last week. The subcommittee agreed they need to solicit ideas and gather much information from the greater community which they can then formulate into some recommendations to bring back to the BAC.

7. *Public Comments on Matters Not on the Agenda*

There were no comments or questions from the viewing audience.

8. *Future Meetings*

After some discussion the Committee members agreed to look for a possible meeting date in the first half of October and try to lay out possible meeting dates for the balance of the winter and spring.

9. *Adjourn*