

**Town of Kennebunkport**  
**Goose Rocks Beach Advisory Committee**  
**Kennebunkport Conservation Trust Headquarters**  
**Emmons Preserve**  
**Tuesday, May 19th, 2015**  
**6:30 PM Meeting Agenda**

A Goose Rocks Beach Advisory Committee meeting was held on Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The meeting convened at 6:30 p.m. in the KCT Headquarters, Emmons Preserve, Kennebunkport.

*Members Present:* Robert Sherman – Chairman, Beth Ramsey, Margaret Barry, Katie Nixon, Paul Hogan (via teleconference), Mike Weston  
*Others Present:* Ms. Laurie Smith, Town Manager

**Estimated Allocation of Time**

6:30     *Call to Order: Bob Sherman, Chairman - affirms quorum*

(5)     *Secretary's Report: Beth Ramsey –*

*Consider approval of minutes of April 28, 2015 meeting*

Ms. Ramsey described two minor corrections to be made to the minutes. Mr. Sherman made a motion to approve said amended minutes. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

(5)     *Open floor to questions and comments from guests attending meeting*

Ms. Barbara Barwise asked if the decision about the dog bag dispensers was finalized and if so, how many were approved. Mr. Sherman responded the Committee voted to recommend to the Board of Selectmen to approve the purchase and installation of 9 dog bag signs and dispensers. Ms. Barwise asked what was the cost of the signs. Ms. Laurie Smith replied the dispensers cost \$100.00 each plus the expense to maintain them and refill with the bags.

Ms. Barwise voiced her opinion that having 9 signs and dispensers at each public entrance to the beach was excessive and a waste of money. There does not seem to be a large problem with people not cleaning up after their dogs on the beach, Mr. Barwise argued. Ms. Nixon offered her opinion that she has seen evidence near Sands Point beach of people not cleaning up after their dogs and believes it still is a problem.

Ms. Barwise suggested not having a dispenser sign at every public entrance and only add a few more signs.

Mr. Weston made a motion to reconsider the Committee's suggestion of installing 9 signs/dispensers at each public entrance to the beach. Ms. Barry seconded the motion and the motion passed with a vote of 5 to 2 in favor of the motion.

Ms. Smith suggested one of the Beach Advisory Committee's sub-committees take on this assignment to determine which entrances should have these signs and dispensers and if its possible to combine them with any other beach signs.

Mr. Hogan offered to have the Natural Resources subcommittee investigate this issue and report back to the Committee with a recommendation. Mr. Sherman thanked the Natural Resources subcommittee for their assistance.

(5)     *Status / Results of BAC elections (Beachfront and Back-Lot positions if available)*

Mr. Sherman asked Ms. Smith if she had the final results of the BAC elections. Ms. Smith reported the ballots were due in today and the results were as follows:

- 42 beachfront owners responded and elected John Gorney
- 129 ballots were returned from the backlot owners and elected Richard Driver

(15)    *Report from Natural Resources Committee*

*1. Report on May 16 workday in KCT Dune Grass Areas*

Ms. Barry began her report by thanking the following:

- all of the volunteers who turned out
- the Board of the Selectmen for funding the day

- the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust for partnering on this endeavor

Ms. Barry gave a brief description of the process performed to remove the bittersweet and other invasives along specific locations in an effort to protect the dune grass. The next step is to plant some grasses and other native plants in the area, Ms. Barry stated. Anyone who is interested in helping with the planting can contact the committee at [grbadvisory@gmail.com](mailto:grbadvisory@gmail.com) and they will receive the details of the May 30<sup>th</sup> replanting day. Ms. Barry also noted that after the area has been replanted, the new vegetation will need some watering and asked for volunteers for that as well.

Mr. Weston asked how people were notified this work was being done. Ms. Barry responded the Committee sent out several emails to those who have signed up for notifications from the Committee using Constant Contact. The Conservation Trust also sent emails about the work as well as posting notices on social media, Ms. Barry added. Mr. Weston suggested in the future, perhaps the town could post or send electronic notices of similar work to be done for anyone who is not on either the Committee's or the Trust's email lists.

Mr. Bill Leffler asked if the *rosa rugosa* was also removed during the clean-up day. Ms. Barry replied she believes some were removed but most of those plants were left. Mr. Weston added that *rosa rugosa* is not considered invasive and is classified as a native species in Maine. Mr. Weston continued that those plants provide a good rooting system for the dune grasses.

Mr. Wayne Fessenden asked if the plants that are to replace the removed invasive plants are ones that drop their leaves. Mr. Fessenden cautioned the Committee not to use deciduous plants as the fallen leaves create loam which invites bittersweet to grow. Mr. Sherman asked Mr. Fessenden to consider advising the Natural Resources subcommittee on what type of vegetation to replant.

## *2. Clean Beaches Water Test Notifications*

This topic was not discussed at this meeting.

## *(40) Updates from other sub-committees including areas of focus in 2015*

### *1. Communications*

Ms. Barry distributed copies of the proposed changes to the beach signs and explained the proposal to add any language changes due to the new Dog Ordinance passing would be done as a sticker to be placed over the outdated language. The Committee members and Ms. Smith had a brief discussion on possible minor changes to the wording of the stickers. Ms. Barry made a note of the suggestions discussed and agreed to incorporate those changes.

Ms. Barry provided the Committee with copies of the beach brochure as well for their review. Again, a sticker detailing the potential change in language due to the Dog Ordinance passing was proposed by the Communications Subcommittee. Ms. Barry explained the cost of color stickers would be \$280.00 for 3,000 stickers and \$195.00 for black/white stickers. There are approximately 5,000 brochures remained from last year's order of 10,000. Ms. Barry also offered the cost of reprinting the brochures with the language change would be 430.00 for 2,500 brochures.

Mr. Hogan expressed his opinion against reprinting the beach brochure this year as it should be redesigned if it were to be reprinted. The Committee had a brief discussion on this topic.

Ms. Nixon made a motion to authorize the Communications Subcommittee to print 3,000 black/white stickers to go on the beach brochure. Mr. Sherman seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

### *2. Traffic and Safety*

Ms. Ramsey reported she received an email asking the Committee to re-evaluate the idea of making Kings Hwy a one-way street. Mr. Hogan responded for the Committee to do that they would need to recommend a traffic study be conducted and the BAC had already voted to not recommend a traffic study.

### *3. Dog Ordinance on Ballot for June 9 vote*

Mr. Sherman encouraged the audience in attendance and the general public to please vote on June 9<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Sherman read the following Piping Plover Report of May 19, 2015 into the record:

*"We have four (4) pairs of Piping Plovers at Goose Rocks Beach at the present time. Three (3) pairs are near the West End and one (1) pair is between Broadway and Proctor, beach side. There are 3 nests with enclosures and we think there may be a 4<sup>th</sup> nest near the West End but is really hiding. Maine Audubon is due down today to try to find and enclose it. If all goes well, the first chicks should appear around May 28. Thanks to the generosity of Wells Reserve, with the cooperation of UNE and Maine Audubon, we have a new intern. Sarah Cowles, who just*

*graduated from UNE this month with her bachelor of science in environmental science, will be present for about 20 hours a week at Goose Rocks Beach until July 5<sup>th</sup>. She will be able [to] educate and inform all who want to hear about Piping Plovers in general and specifically the ones that we have at Goose Rocks. Sarah is very pleasant and enthusiastic. She will have on a blue tee shirt with a picture of a Plover and the words "Plover Lover" on it. Say "hello"! I think we are lucky to have her. The state of Maine has only 43 pairs of Piping Plovers so far this year. Though we have had fewer pairs at Goose Rocks the past couple of years (I believe due to changing sand.), we still have been able to protect the plovers allowing them to produce 12 chicks a year. That is wonderful. As an FYI, Old Orchard Beach has 9 pairs this year! Lucky for Larry Mead that he gained valuable experience with us here at GRB. "*

#### *4. Town Manager's Update*

Ms. Smith reported the town is a little behind in painting the traffic markers at Goose Rocks Beach which will be done by the beginning of June. Ms. Smith also provided the Committee members with copies of the Beach patrol schedule for this summer.

#### *(10) Establish dates for next BAC meetings:*

##### *1. June 16 (Tuesday)*

The next BAC meeting will be held on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

##### *2. July 21 or 23*

##### *3. Aug 18 or 20*

The Committee agreed to postpone scheduling the July or August meeting dates until the new Committee members are present.

*7:45 Adjourn meeting*