

**MINUTES  
BEACH ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
OCTOBER 29, 2019 6:30 PM  
VILLAGE FIREHOUSE**

A meeting of the Beach Advisory Committee was held on October 29, 2019 at the Village Firehouse. All members were present except Sheila Matthews-Bull. Chairman Richard Driver called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

1. The Minutes of the meeting held on August 14, 2019 were approved unanimously.
2. Mr. Driver briefly discussed the appearance of signs stating "Abolish the BAC" and suggested that anyone with issues concerning the Committee should address them to the Committee in a public manner.
3. Public Comments:

Barbara Barwise commented that there are still a number of kayaks (4), a canoe, and a beach chair still left out on the beach. A brief discussion followed as to whether there should be a time frame in which all such items should be removed from the beach and whether there should be some sort of registration system so that the owners of water vehicles left on the beach can be contacted for removal. A subcommittee was appointed (Jim Mulvihill, Kate Bauer Burke and Jen Wasserman) to look into the issue and report back to the Committee.

Jean Ciaramentaro of 42 Wildwood Avenue addressed the issue of the number and frequency of campfires on the beach in the Proctor Rd area of the beach almost every night during the summer season. She stated that the smoke from the multiple fires, many of which are quite large, drifts off the beach with an onshore breeze and affects the air quality on their neighborhood, causing health issues for her and her family. She will provide further information to the Committee regarding the health effects of such smoke. After a brief discussion, the issue will be discussed with the Town Manager and Police Dept concerning the number and concentration of campfires.

Bill Van Benthuyzen of Winter Harbor Rd brought up the issue of pop-up structures left on the beach overnight and for as long as a week.

Dave Melly of Sunset Lane raised several issues: 1. The lack of a white line on the side of the road where Dyke Rd turns right onto Kings Highway is a safety issue given the four foot drop-off into the marsh. 2. Should Kennebunkport discuss with Kennebunk participating in that town's electric system to try to reduce the number of power outages. 3. Too much underbrush constitutes a fire hazard. It was agreed that these issues are within the purview of other Town boards.

Fred Stafford of Kings Highway raised several issues: 1. Given the number of violations he has seen of the dog rules, should there be some clarification of signage, specifically for the summer season? 2. We need more protection for the dune grass.

Gianna DiCostanzo of Mitchell Cottage on Jeffrey's Way also addressed the issue of protection of the dune grass – people are ignoring the rules of beach in multiple ways including intrusion into the protected dune grass. Ms. Wasserman added that she has counted multiple kayaks and other water vehicles (an many as 30) left in front of a neighbor's property and in part on the dune grass.

#### 4. GRB Litigation

Mr. Driver gave a summary report of the findings of the ME Supreme Court in the case of ownership rights to the beach. He reported that the status of the beach in front of those property owners who are signatories to the Beach Use Agreement will continue to be governed by the terms of the Agreement.

#### 5. Jeffrey's Way

Mr. Driver reported that new signs are up and kayak deliveries have been prohibited. The Board of Selectmen are interested in hearing from residents of the Jeffrey's Way area.

#### 6. Handicap Parking

After a brief discussion of the number of current handicap parking spaces (4) and the number that should exist (6), **Ms. Gustin made a motion, which was duly seconded, to recommend to the Board of Selectmen to put two (2) more handicap parking spaces at Goose Rocks Beach and Kings Hwy close to the handicap ramp. The motion was adopted unanimously.)**

#### 7. Beach Profile Monitoring Program

Mr. Driver reported on the Beach Profile Monitoring Program. **Mr. Sherman made a motion, which was duly seconded, to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that the Town provide up to \$1,000.00 in financial assistance for the Beach Profile Monitoring Program. The motion was adopted unanimously.**

#### 8. Piping Plovers

Carol Sherman reported on the results of the piping plover and least tern monitoring at the beach in 2019.

#### 9. Town Report re Summer 2019

There is continuous monitoring of water pollution at the beach. Pollution, when it appears, is heaviest at each end where the tidal rivers empty into the ocean. The source and nature of the pollution is being investigated.

There were 941 parking tickets issued with about 93% collected. A discussion ensued about continuous sale of daily and other shorter-term parking stickers when there is such limited parking available. There is some confusion about whether sticker purchasers are advised that there is no guarantee that they will find a legal parking space or be entitled to a refund if they cannot find a space.

#### 10. Other Comments

A discussion arose concerning the increased density of use of the beach and the increased disregard for the rules of the beach. Mr. Mulvihill stated that the beach rules need greater enforcement efforts and more Town financial resources should be devoted to the beach. There was strong support indicated by the audience. **Ms. Burke made a motion, which was duly seconded, to ask the town to consider additional measures to enforce the town and/or beach regulations in place. The motion was adopted unanimously.**

Ms. Barbara Barwise reminded the Board members that this recent request for additional resources for the beach is all part of the budget process for the entire town which impacts everyone in the town not just the beach community.

11. Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Committee meeting would be scheduled for January 2020.

Thereafter, upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously adopted, the meeting was adjourned.