

**Town of Kennebunkport
Beach Advisory Committee Meeting
32 North Street, Village Fire Station
June 24, 2014 @ 6:30 P.M.**

A Beach Advisory Committee meeting was held on Tuesday, June 24th, 2014. The meeting convened at 6:36 p.m. in the Kennebunkport Village Fire Station.

Members Present: Robert Sherman – Chairman, Paul Hogan, Beth Ramsey, Richard Driver, Katie Nixon, Mike Weston, Sheila Matthews-Bull

Others Present: Ms. Laurie Smith, Town Manager

Items:

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

Welcome to Sheila Mathews-Bull

6:35 Secretary's Report: Beth Ramsey –

Ms. Nixon made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 1st, 2014 meeting. Mr. Hogan seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. Mr. Weston was not present at the May 1st meeting and abstained from voting.

6:40 Open floor to questions and comments from guests attending meeting

Mr. Alex Lacchiato addressed the Committee to compliment the town on the fine paving job done on Wildwood and Proctor. He suggested creating a gravel shoulder along those locations to prevent problems in the winter.

Mr. Sherman thanked all those who helped with the beach cleanup day especially the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust for organizing the day, Grab Gear, and 20 volunteers from the beach.

6:45 Report on BAC (beachfront) member Election - Sherman

Mr. Sherman announced the voting deadline was May 12th, 2014. Mr. Sherman thanked those who elected him to the Beach Advisory Committee. Mr. Hogan noted there were no back-lot positions open for this election; adding there would be both beachfront and back-lot openings in the 2015 election.

6:45 Status reports regarding top Five focus issues:

a. Dogs / protected species birds – Sherman, Smith

Mr. Sherman reported there is a total of 5 chicks so far at the Goose Rocks Beach and the nests are fenced at several points on the beach.

Mrs. Barbara Barwise asked the Committee why there was fencing put up at Proctor when there are no plover nests. Mr. Sherman suggested Mrs. Barwise contact the plover project coordinator to determine if the fencing at Proctor is necessary or not.

b. Dogs –

Ms. Smith reported since April 1st, 2014, the Police Department has conducted 279 patrols and issued 34 warnings and 1 summons regarding unleashed dogs on the beach.

c. Traffic and Safety – Hogan, Weston, Driver

Mr. Hogan asked Ms. Smith about the outcome of the Committee's proposal to move one parking space along King's Hwy. Ms. Smith informed the Committee that recommendation was on the Agenda for the next Board of Selectmen's meeting. Prior to that meeting, the property owner adjacent to the relocated parking space produced a DEP permit stating the space would block their driveway. As a result, the Board of Selectmen did not vote to move the parking space.

Mr. Lacchiato suggested the town look at reducing the size of the marked parking spaces on Kings Hwy to possibly fit one more space. Mr. Hogan suggested creating a "Compact Car Only" space if the town were to re-align the spaces along Kings Hwy.

b. Parking – Hogan, Weston

Mr. Hogan stated the second parking issue discussed was the potentially hazardous situation on Community House Road and the Wildwood Extension where beachgoers were illegally parking along the street. Mr. Hogan asked Mr. Peter MacDonald, who lives at that intersection, to share some of his observations of the situation. Mr. MacDonald reported, in his opinion, it is an unsafe situation if cars are parked along that area, especially with children riding their bicycles in the street. Mr. MacDonald also reported he has called the police several times about the illegal parking and was told the police cannot issue parking tickets because no signs are posted stating that area is a no parking zone.

Mr. MacDonald also brought to the Committee's attention the large number of children riding bikes in the area that are not wearing helmets.

Mr. Sherman framed the question about parking on Community House Rd as a safety issue. The Committee members and members of the audience discussed at length the parking situation at the beach. The BAC voted 6-2 to make the recommendation that Community House Rd. be designated No Parking/Fire Lane. Mr. Driver made a motion to request a meeting with the Committee, the Board of Selectmen in an Executive session along with town counsel to discuss the complexities of the parking issues raised tonight. Mr. Weston seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

d. Trash – Driver, Ramsey

Ms. Ramsey reported there was nothing new to report. Mr. Hogan suggested having recycling bins as well as trash bins at the beach entrances. Ms. Smith suggested having a recycling bin at one entrance on a trial basis. Ms. Smith offered to speak with Mike Claus of the town's Public Works Department to devise a possible plan for recycling.

Mrs. Barbara Barwise informed the Committee that in years past there were 2 trash receptacles at each public entrance to the beach and noted there were a few entrances currently with only one trash bin.

e. Communication – Nixon, Barry

Ms. Nixon reported the brochures with an insert about the plovers have been printed and distributed to all of the access points at the beach. Ms. Smith added a supply of the brochures have also been delivered to rental and real estate offices in the town.

Ms. Nixon also reported they plan to distribute another electronic newsletter that would contain the results of the election for the Committee, the dates of the summer meetings as well as other reminders of interest to the beach community. Ms. Matthews-Bull suggested adding a section in the newsletter about bike safety and helmets.

7:00 Beach Profiling updates – Meg Barry, Water Testing – Paul Hogan

Mr. Hogan reported the water testing has been going well and there have not been many days with elevated bacteria levels so far this season.

7:15 BAC Organization positions for FY 2015 / Establish Environmental Subcommittee

Mr. Hogan suggested creating a Natural Resources subcommittee. The Board members agreed with this suggestion and asked people to consider volunteering.

The Beach Advisory Committee held elections by ballot vote for the positions of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary.

Mr. Weston made a motion the Committee hold the elections by written ballot. Mr. Hogan seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. Ms. Smith would total the ballots.

Mr. Weston nominated Mr. Sherman as Chairman. Ms. Matthews-Bull seconded the nomination.

Ms. Nixon offered her name as a candidate for Chairman as well.

Ms. Barry was nominated for Vice-Chairman.

Ms. Ramsey ran unopposed for the position of Secretary.

After tallying the ballots, Ms. Smith reported Beth Ramsey was voted as Secretary, Ms. Barry was voted as Vice-Chairman, and Mr. Sherman was re-elected Chairman of the Beach Advisory Committee.

7:30 Town Manager Report – Laurie Smith

Ms. Smith gave a brief report, some of the items discussed were:

- The Committee has spent approximately \$26,000 this year with the only outstanding expense being the reserve officers for the beach
- Public Works Dept. will look into adding an additional barrel to those access points that currently have only one trash receptacle
- In a meeting with Public Works, the Health Dept. and Dispatchers, the town will assume responsibility for removing any dead animals found at the beach if Marine Rescue is unable to come out in a timely manner
- The crosswalks at Jeffrey's Way and Dyke Road have been enhanced for safety.

Ms. Smith also announced on July 10th, 2014, Bob Gerber of Ransom Environmental will have a meeting about the FEMA mapping analysis.

Ms. Smith also wanted to remind the public that those who have a mooring at Goose Rocks Beach need to make sure to register it if they haven't already.

7:55 Confirm Tuesday, July 22 as next meeting date to be held at Kennebunkport Conservation Trust

Mr. Sherman confirmed Ms. Judy Barrett would be attending the next BAC meeting.

August 21 Meeting with Werner Gilliam Location TBD

8:00 Adjourn