

**Town of Kennebunkport
Beach Advisory Committee Meeting
32 North Street, Village Fire Station
June 6, 2013 @ 6:30 P.M.**

A Beach Advisory Committee meeting was held on Thursday June 6th, 2013. The meeting convened at 6:30 p.m. in the North Street Fire Station.

Members Present: Richard Driver, Katherine Nixon, Margaret Barry, Robert Sherman, Paul Hogan, Mike Weston

Others Present: Mr. Larry Mead, Town Manager

Items:

1. Call to Order: Bob Sherman, Chair

Reminder to viewers and residents to use the grbadvisory@gmail.com website

2. Secretary's Report: Beth Ramsey

Consider approval of minutes of April 15 meeting

Mr. Driver made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded and the Committee voted 5-0 in favor of the motion. Mr. Weston abstained from voting.

3. Old Business

1. Sign Committee update

Ms. Barry reported the comprehensive sign agreed by the Committee has been put up on wooden posts at all 9 beach accesses. Ms. Barry also reported that the Communications Sub-committee also conducted a survey of the signposts noting which ones contained dog waste bag holders and noted that each of the new beach signposts still needs a brochure holder attached to them. The Committee recommends using this summer season as a learning period to see if any modifications need to be addressed for next spring.

Mr. Hogan suggested placing all beach signs perpendicular to the street. Ms. Barry asked if there could be more dog bag dispensers at the beach. Mr. Mead responded the dispensers cost \$100.00 each plus the cost of bags and suggested placing them in strategic places along the beach.

2. Brochure Status

Mr. Sherman reported the brochures have been distributed to the real estate brokers in towns and many of the hotels and motels. The brochures will also be dispersed with each parking sticker purchased. Mr. Mead stated the brochure holders for the signposts were shipped last week and should be received soon.

3. Plover Update – Bob Sherman

Mr. Sherman reported there are six adult plover pairs currently at the beach, one nest of 4 eggs remaining waiting to hatch and 14 very active chicks. Mr. Hogan asked people to be conscious of the fact the chicks may be down by the water as well in the nesting area. Mr. Sherman noted the Audubon Society and the Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife have been very pleased with the town's efforts in continuing the plover's success.

4. Letter to Beachfront BUA members –communications subcommittee

Ms. Nixon stated the Communications Subcommittee recommends waiting to see if there is any confusion about the beach rules and the reserved area; and if so, then addressing what needs to be done. Ms. Barry added if someone does have a question they can send it to the Goose Rocks Beach Advisory Committee.

Update on items from Larry Mead

1. Affirm “no action” by BAC based on BOS decision to not pursue Beach Ordinance II

Mr. Mead stated the town attorneys advised not to pursue extending the official reach of the management of the beach by a supplemental ordinance since the lower court decision is being appealed by the plaintiffs. Mr. Mead added the Board of Selectmen decided to put on hold adoption of the Beach Use Ordinance II. There will not be any change of consequence that people will see, Mr. Mead concluded.

2. Board of Selectmen decision regarding Melissa Rizzerri request

Mr. Weston stated Ms. Rizzerri was not part of the beach litigation and was a back lot signer who purchased a piece of waterfront property. Without setting any precedent, this was an unusual circumstance where the Board of Selectmen felt it was proper to allow her to join the Beach Use Agreement for the waterfront parcel. Mr. Mead added town counsel would draw up the agreement, send it to the Rizzeris for their signature, the selectmen would sign it and it would then be delivered to the county court.

Mr. Hogan asked if it was the view of the Board of Selectmen if similar house transactions occurred would those people be encouraged to participate in the Beach Use Agreement. Mr. Weston replied the Board of Selectmen would handle it on a case-by-case basis.

3. Updating of Rules on Fire Permits

Mr. Mead distributed an information sheet to each of the Committee members detailing the process for obtaining a beach fire permit. Mr. Mead noted a few changes were made as a result of the Beach Use Agreement and from discussions with the Committee. Mr. Sherman noted this policy is consistent with past practices and is not in any way overly burdensome. Mr. Mead added this has been posted on the town website as well.

Mr. Driver suggested changing the wording on item #12 to state “if a valid complaint is received”. Mr. Hogan also made a suggestion to remove the word “abutting” as it is misleading. The result would be the applicant is responsible for obtaining permission from the beachfront landowner.

4. Low Speed marker

Mr. Mead stated the buoy has been delivered and the Harbormaster will put it in place within the next couple of weeks. Mr. Hogan asked about the marker on the other end of the beach. Mr. Mead said the state has been notified that it has broken loose and the Harbormaster is aware of it as well.

5. Parking signs and issues update

Mr. Driver asked if the parking spaces east of the Forest property were shortened. Mr. Mead replied that changes to the parking spaces near the Forest property are associated with proposed renovations to the adjacent residential structure and will occur once those renovations are sufficiently advanced. The parking space adjacent to Bartlett Avenue will be shortened next week in order to allow adequate space for a bicycle rack.

Mr. Hogan asked for an update on changes to be made for the summer season. Mr. Mead responded the signs on Dyke Road and New Biddeford Road have been relocated, the sign at Jeffrey's Way will be removed and the town will be mowing the area that has been appropriated for off-pavement parking. Mr. Mead also noted a sign will also be put up approximately ½ mile down New Biddeford Road from King's Hwy delineating where the parking area is there.

Mr. Sherman asked if there were any issues to address from the audience members. There were no comments or questions from the public.

4. New Business

1. Expressed interest by some BAC members to be proactively visible and accessible over the summer

Mr. Sherman asked the Committee for their thoughts and suggestions. Mr. Sherman suggested having an informal social gathering at The Tides Inn on Tuesdays from 3pm – 5pm to provide an opportunity for people to meet the Committee members in a more comfortable setting. Ms. Nixon suggested adding pictures of the Committee members to the website to help people become familiar with each of them. Mr. Sherman emphasized it is not the Committee's intent to be hidden; adding anything they can do to increase communication with the beach community would be welcomed.

2. Setting dates for July and Aug meetings near Goose Rocks Beach to encourage and facilitate meeting attendance by property owners in Town

Mr. Hogan reported he received an email from Sean McCarthy that the Goose Rocks Beach Association Board of Directors met and does not support the use of the Community House for these BAC meetings. Mr. Sherman stated the Goose Rocks Fire Station and the Kennebunkport Trust Headquarters at Emmons Preserve are available for a few dates in July and August. Mr. Mead noted meetings held at either of these sites will not be broadcast live on TV but will be taped and replayed on the website.

The Committee agreed on meeting Tuesday July 16th at the Conservation Trust Headquarters and August 20th at the Goose Rocks Fire Station. Both meetings would begin at 6:30p.m. Mr. Hogan and Mr. Sherman will confirm those dates with the Trust and the Fire Station.

3. Outreach to the 14 Beachfront and 47 Backlot property owners who have signed BUA but have not yet designated a voter representative for their property

Mr. Sherman agreed to provide a list to each of the Committee members of all of the backlot and beachfront owners who have yet to designate a voter representative. The Committee agreed collectively to try to facilitate obtaining signatures from those property owners before the summer season is over.

4. Growth Planning Committee positions pertaining to GRB

Mr. Sherman noted the Growth Planning Committee has identified several items that could impact the Goose Rocks Beach area and asked Mr. Mead to provide a copy of those items to the Committee members. Mr. Weston suggested the GRBAC attend one of the Growth Planning Committee's meetings to address any questions about the Comprehensive Plan and its effect on the Goose Rocks Beach area.

5. Consideration of next meeting date and issues

No new issues for discussion were suggested. Next meeting dates and locations will be posted on the town website once confirmed.

6. *Adjourn*

A motion was made to adjourn, it was seconded and the vote was unanimous.