

Kure Beach Shoreline Access, Beach Protection Committee

Minutes of December 5, 2023

Members Present:

Rick Jackson, Co-Chair
Elizabeth Kiwaha, Secretary
Ann Hughes
Randy Bock
Pat Edgecomb, Alternate

Pat Triplett, Co-Chair - Absent
Don Campbell
John Kiwaha
Kelly Graves - Absent
Dennis Panicali, Council Liaison

The meeting was called to order at 4:58 pm by Rick Jackson.

Rick asked if there were any changes to the September minutes or the proposed agenda. No changes noted for minutes; Don motioned to approve, seconded by John. No changes noted for agenda, Don motioned to approved, seconded by John.

No guests were in attendance.

Old Business:

Adopt-a-Beach Update: No new submissions. Ann is open to ideas to ramp up interest.

Beach Sponsorship Update: Rick – Kure Beach First Baptist paid for a sponsorship; we're currently waiting for the mockup. Mike Bledsoe renews each year; he has two sites that he sponsors.

John suggested adding a QR code to these that leads to the business website so people can learn about the sponsor if they're not familiar with the business.

Ocean Life Project: Pat T. – No update, Pat T. was absent.

Council Update: Dennis - Upcoming Legislative Hearing – Beach Management Plan Town of Kure Beach meeting to be held 12/15. Our beaches get renourished every 3 years. The town will develop their own beach management plans and CAMA will review and approve the plans. CAMA changed the ruling regarding construction on homes that are on or adjacent to the beach. They now allow for homes that are parallel to the other homes to be rebuilt if the beach gets washed away and the homes get damaged.

Election outcome: Connie Merkel is the new Council Member and Alan Oliver is the new Town Mayor. Dennis will be supporting the mayor and will still have oversight of the SLABPC.

New Business:

- **Toy Box Progress** – Ann is waiting to hear back on the estimate on the new design. More to come.
- **Budget** – Rick mentioned that we have a budget, and we need to think about how we're going to use it. Pat E. asked if we were in good shape with our signs and brochures. Don asked if we'll have an opportunity to attend a festival or other activities to promote awareness. John asked about the handicap rail being removed/down at the 1004 ½ beach access. No one was aware that it was down. Rick suggested we take another inventory of signs in March and overall access conditions. Randy asked if we noticed if the stickers that were added to the signs were holding up. Don said the ones he has passed look okay. No one else has noticed any peeling stickers, so they appear to be holding up.
- **Streetlight placement to protect turtle migration** – Dennis provided an update regarding the streetlamps on Ft. Fisher that Ann brought up affecting turtle migration. Dennis was able to confirm that this is Duke Energy's responsibility. Mandy informed him that shades can be put up if the committee could go out and determine where we need them, e.g. at the access points where the lights would have an impact on turtle migration. It could be a dozen or so. The town would need to pick up the cost, Duke will not.
- Dennis mentioned that another item we can investigate is **drainage areas**. The more storm water drainage pipes we can get rid of would be better. The plan would be to have them go under the dunes.
- Rick is going to talk with Nikki about any **giveaways**. Don suggested maybe a floatable key fob as another giveaway option.
- Dennis mentioned **sponsored beach cleanups** arranged around Nikki's events. The best times are after the busy tourist weekends. Pat E. said they had some high school kids come out to help with cleanup and that went well.

Motion to adjourn was made by Liz, seconded by Don.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Next meeting to be held January 2nd, 2024, or possibly the 3rd or 4th. Rick will keep us posted.

Minutes submitted by Liz Kiwaha.