

Kure Beach Shoreline Access, Beach Protection Committee

Minutes of January 4, 2024

Members Present:

Rick Jackson, Co-Chair

Elizabeth Kiwaha, Secretary

Ann Hughes

Randy Bock

Pat Edgecomb, Alternate - Absent

Pat Triplett, Co-Chair

Don Campbell

John Kiwaha

Kelly Graves

Dennis Panicali, Council Liaison

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 pm by Rick Jackson.

Rick asked if there were any changes to the December minutes or the proposed agenda. There were two changes noted to be made, (1) Ann Hughes was not in attendance and (2) the request for changes to the previous meeting minutes was regarding the October meeting, not the September meeting. No changes noted for agenda, Ann motioned to approve, seconded by Randy.

No guests were in attendance.

Old Business:

Adopt-a-Beach Update: Ann Hughes - We have a new member. We need to recognize last year's members. It was suggested that we invite last year's volunteers to the March town hall meeting to thank them in person. Ann will email the volunteers.

Beach Sponsorship Update: Rick – No mockup yet.

Ocean Life Project: Pat T. – Turtle talk KB permit holder is giving up their permit. The town doesn't have one and doesn't need one, but we can talk with the mayor about getting turtle talk back under the Town vs. having it under an individual person running it. Dennis thinks the town will support it. Kelly said she has attended these with other moms with kids and they didn't have a positive experience. The SLABPC used to run it and it was well received. CB has a turtle talk at the state park. When it was under Pat T. it was very engaging for the kids. Right now, the talk is geared toward adults and is more of a presentation. Rick asked if we would have a conflict with CB and the response was "possibly, the permit holders won't like it." A good reason for getting it back under SLABPC is that we can incorporate additional education around dunes, riptides, turtle nests as well as create more awareness about ocean life and that cigarette butts are not biodegradable. Dennis said he will raise it with the council and will ask their opinion. He'll need to talk with Nikki. It was suggested that maybe the title could be changed to "Ocean Life" vs. "Turtle Project" since it will encompass more than talks about turtles. The permit holders monitor the turtle nests, etc. Kelly thinks it will be a good time to do it. Dennis will talk with the mayor and Nikki. Pat T. will also talk with the mayor.

Rick asked how long permit holders hold the permits and Pat T and Ann responded that it's a lifetime permit. Ann stated that we already have approval for Ocean Life. All committee members are in favor of pursuing the effort to do turtle talks in KB.

Council Update: Dennis – The town is concerned about John Batson leaving. CB lost their inspector, and they are utilizing the county. KB will be carrying out a search for a new building inspector. They may need to contract with NHC in the interim. This will take a little while to resolve. John will handle inspections up to his departure date of the 16th. We can give the county 6 months' notice when we want to take it back. The challenge is getting records from the county since our system isn't compatible with theirs. They will be advertising a new building inspector.

There is an opening on PC committee next month.

Regarding Joe Eakes Park and the Sandman, the plans are in the works. Atlantic and Boardwalk, work is being done. The study on the Greenway is underway. Crosswalk study is being done. K Ave crosswalk is moving forward. We received a grant for two handicap access points. We may only be able to do one this year and one next year. Alan is meeting tomorrow on a new public works plan.

Rick shared a printout of the Beach Management Plan (attached) and stated that renourishment is planned out every 3 years to 2047. Rick explained the lines on the printout, i.e., the 1st population served is the people on the beach. The redline is the renourishment the 1st dip is the sandbar which is for the fisherman, the 3rd line is for the surfers, etc. Currently it's a 3-year cycle, so 2025 is the next one.

Kelly asked how Bledsoe can shovel sand up to the sandbags. Dennis said he has a permit. Sandbags are permitted, they need permission to have them. The Riggins has permission for theirs. The town isn't involved. The approval/permission is given by the state.

New Business:

- **Toy Box Progress** – Her contact was going to reach out to Jason Allen to get an update. Rick will see if he can find out from Roy Lee who Jason is to make a personal connection.
- **1004.5 Ramp Rails Update** - Rick stated that someone had taken the aluminum handrails, and they were found next to someone's house. The people who had them said they found them on the beach. They were recovered, so we were able to save the town 1000s of dollars.

The signs all appear to be in good shape as well as the ramps. If anyone notices anything be sure to bring it forward.

- Rick sent out a link of giveaways. He was fixated on lip balm. They have everything. He asked the committee to look at the site to see what we might want to give away at the talks, festivals, etc. We can let him know by email, phone, whatever is convenient for us, doesn't matter to him. Dennis – Rick and Nikki mentioned, when considering the giveaways, consider selecting items that are "green".

- **Streetlight placement to protect turtle migration** – Ann asked about the access points that need the light shades to determine the number of shades needed. Dennis suggested looking at the town parking lot public access points anywhere there isn't a house blocking the streetlamps. Once we identify the number needed, Dennis can bring it up with the town.
- **Overall State of Beach and Dunes** – In the spring we will do a sign review and have them up by Memorial Day.
- Kelli mentioned seeing about 10 uni-bikes on the beach. Dennis said he is looking to get the ordinance updated.

Motion to adjourn was made by Pat T, seconded by Don.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

Next meeting to be held February 6th, 2024.

Minutes submitted by Liz Kiwaha.