

KURE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL

WORK SESSION

MAY 23, 2005

Mayor Medlin opened the work session noting that the purpose of the work session is to discuss the proposed installation of porta potties at several beach accesses.

All Commissioners, Attorney Canoutas and Mac Montgomery, Chairman of the Shoreline Access and Parking Commission were present. Also present were members of the community Mr. and Mrs. Joe Madry and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Ring.

Mr. Mac Montgomery, Chairman of the Shoreline Access and Parking Committee gave a brief summary of how this was one of the issues/concerns mentioned at the community Summit Meeting held in April—the issue was not only the lack of public restrooms but also a health issue. In continuing comments he mentioned that there was no public restroom (on the beach) from the Riggings to Alabama Avenue. He mentioned that his committee had been given this item to review and make recommendations as to various proposed locations for porta potties. The recommendation they presented to Council was for porta potties to be located at E, I, Atlantic and N Avenues from Memorial Day to Labor Day and if approved we could request funding through the TDA for Room Occupancy Tax (ROT). The committee was then asked to notify the landowners adjacent to the proposed beach access sites, which was done.

Comments and concerns mentioned by residents:

- Need more notification to property owners—at least two weeks.
- Who is responsible/liable for spillage
- Why put these in the prettiest area of the beach—the ocean front.
- Seems more interest is being shown to take care of the day visitors instead of the people who live here all the time.

Comm. Fuller noted this matter was prompted by people going to the bathroom on the beach, in people's yard.....Council has not decided to do this (porta potties) we're trying to respond to a problem and these are only suggestions—there is an idea that eventually we'll have permanent restroom facilities somewhere but do not know where as of yet.

Additional concerns/comments:

- Building a permanent facility would be more sanitary.
- Have you thought about vandalism and the possibility of porta potties being blown over.

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Mayor Pro Tem Dugan noted in commenting that this was never intended to be a permanent solution—intended as a summertime solution.

In continuing comments and discussion, Mayor Medlin noted that when it was initially brought up, she thought it might be a good idea, but after additional thoughts and hearing comments from the citizens, she would have to vote against it. If we are going to ask for funds from the TDA, we need to go ahead and ask for funds for permanent restrooms.

Comm. Ufferman mentioned that he is not a “porta potty person”. Several years ago he suggested that we purchase temporary trailers, like the ones located at several of the rest areas—they looked good, were clean inside and could be put on Atlantic Avenue by the pier—if a storm were approaching, they could be pulled out—trailers cost about \$50,000.00 each.

Comm. Fuller mentioned that the Shoreline Access and Parking Committee is presently working on a grant application for a permanent structure at the park.

Mayor Medlin commended the Shoreline Access and Parking Committee for the work put into this matter.

Following additional comments and discussion, Comm. Fuller noted that we are all in favor of trying to do something to address the problem, trying to work it out—we’re not in favor of porta potties, but if the alternative is having people go to the bathroom on the beach or in people’s yards and we can find a place to put a “toilet” in the summertime that will solve that problem then yes we may be interested in pursuing that.....this is only the first recommendation not the last.

After additional comments, the work session was adjourned.

Minutes by _____
F. Jones