



TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

Monday, January 18, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

The Kure Beach Town Council held its regular meeting on Monday, January 18, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. The Town Attorney was present and there was a quorum of Council members present.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Craig Bloszinsky
MPT Allen Oliver
Commissioner John Ellen
Commissioner David Heglar
Commissioner Dennis Panicali

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT

Police Chief – Mike Bowden
Fire Chief – Ed Kennedy
Recreation Director – Nikki Keely
Building Inspector – John Batson
Code Enforcement Officer – Bethany White
Town Clerk – Mandy Sanders
Deputy Town Clerk – Beth Chase
Public Works Director – Jimmy Mesimer
Finance Officer – Arlen Copenhaver

Mayor Bloszinsky called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and Commissioner Ellen gave the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

1. Approve Accept the Resignation of Connie Mearkle from the Stormwater Committee
2. Appoint Michael Davenport to the Stormwater Committee
3. Approve application for TDA funding totaling \$35,500 for entertainment provided at the Ocean Front Park for the summer and fall of 2021 and 2022
4. Approve application for TDA funding totaling \$368,752.12 for lifeguard services for the summer of 2022
5. Approve application for TDA funding totaling \$48,825.78 for Ocean Front Park maintenance, improvements and supplies for the period of December 2021 to December 2022
6. Approval of Resurfacing Agreement with North State Resurfacing, Co
7. Minutes:
 - December 19, 2022 Regular

MOTION- Commissioner Ellen made a motion to approve the Consent agenda as presented

SECOND- Commissioner Heglar

VOTE- Unanimous



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ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION- Commissioner Heglar made a motion to remove item 6.1 Presentation by John Kmetz from the agenda and approve the agenda as amended

SECOND- Commissioner Ellen

VOTE- Unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Suzanne Pio resident at 526 Anchor Way read a letter in support of the East Coast Greenway hereby incorporated into the minutes.

Kitty Clark Cole resident at 4326 Terrington Dr Wilmington read a letter regarding the East Coast greenway hereby incorporated into the minutes.

Tim Markley resident at 601 I Avenue read a letter in support of the East Coast Greenway hereby incorporated into the minutes.

John Nadeau resident at 533 Anchor Way spoke in support of Town Council supporting the East Coast Greenway. He stated he fully supports Town Council applying for the grant to do the feasibility study and gathering more data. He firmly believes the study will show it will benefit the community.

Amy Parvis resident at 802 Largo Way read a letter regarding adding pickleball courts in Kure Beach hereby incorporated into the minutes.

Nancy Shumate resident at 107 Ocean View Avenue read a letter regarding adding pickleball courts in Kure Beach hereby incorporated into the minutes.

Jhonae Clark resident at 1334 Fort Fisher Blvd S read a letter regarding adding pickleball courts in Kure Beach hereby incorporated into the minutes.

William Wickliffe resident at 414 N 4th Avenue spoke regarding the need for pickleball courts in Kure Beach.

Tammy Swanson resident at 606 Van Dorn Court spoke in support of the East Coast feasibility study for the greenway.

Mike Salony resident at 1714 Pinfish spoke regarding the need for pickleball courts in Kure Beach.



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Jimmy Carlo resident at 1211 Fort Fisher Blvd Unit A spoke regarding the need for pickleball courts in Kure Beach.

Wyatt Richardson resident at 685 Lewis Rd Leland, NC spoke in support of the East Coast feasibility study.

Town Clerk Mandy Sanders read letters submitted by residents hereby incorporated into the minutes.

Town Council took a 10-minute recess for the Citizens to leave the Council Chambers if desired.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Candy McClernan, President Pleasure Island Disc Golf Club

Candy McClernan presented her letter and statistics that is hereby incorporated into the minutes.

Candy McClernan is requesting for Town Council to approve free parking during the first Sunday of the month for the tournament held at Joe Eaks Park. This is the tournament where the club does maintenance on the course.

Mayor Bloszinsky commented Town Council will take this under advertisement and look at this issue. How many members are currently in the club? Are most of the members Kure Beach and Carolina Beach residents? The Town does have the citizen passes and it may include Carolina Beach as well this year if Town Council approves later tonight.

Candy McClernan commented last year the club broke 100 members. She does not currently have the number of members that live on the island.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. Bike/Ped Committee

Bike/Ped Committee Chairperson Linquist read a Committee report hereby incorporated into the minutes.

2. Historic Preservation Commission

Member Byron Ashbridge commented the Commission had its first hearing this month and the Commission did approve the Certificate of Appropriateness.

3. Shoreline Access and Beach Protection



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Commissioner Panicali commented the Shoreline Access and Beach Protection Committee has elected a new Chairperson Rick Jackson.

4. Stormwater Committee

Commissioner Heglar commented the Stormwater Committee should meet on February 2, 2023.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF DEPARTMENT HEAD BUSINESS

1. Building Inspections Department

Consideration of and action on proposed text amendments to KBC Chapters 11 and 15

Building Inspector Batson commented Town Council held Legislative Hearings on the proposed text amendments tonight before the regular meeting. He is currently working on cleaning up the ordinances and will have more amendments in the future. These changes will help him do his job easier in the future and he recommends Town Councils approval tonight.

MOTION- Commissioner Heglar made a motion to approve Proposed Text Amendments to KBC Chapters 11 and 15 as presented

SECOND- Commissioner Ellen

VOTE- Unanimous

MOTION- Commissioner Heglar made a motion to approve the Proposed Consistency Statement for the Proposed Text Amendments to KBC Chapters 11 and 15

SECOND- MPT Oliver

VOTE- Unanimous

2. Finance Department

Finance Officer Copenhaver commented the department is in the middle of implementing to a new finance software. The department may be converted over to the new system by the end of the week for everything but the utility billing software. The utility billing software will be converted over by April or May.

Mayor Bloszinsky commented he would like to know how many additional hours have been put in from the department to share with Town Council.

3. Public Works Department

Discussion of Water and Sewer System Asset Inventory and Assessment Grant Proposals



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Public Works Director Mesimer stated a few months ago applied for a grant for water and sewer system asset inventory. The Town has received one RFQ back for each proposal from Engineering Services. He is requesting to work with Attorney Eldridge to work on getting contracts from Engineering Services.

Attorney Eldridge commented through the RFQ process the Town does not negotiate price but just receives the qualifications.

CONSENSUS – Town Council directed Public Works Director Mesimer and Attorney Eldridge to work with Engineering Services to receive contracts for the Water and Sewer System Asset Inventory and Assessment Grant

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF OLD BUSINESS

1. Approval of R23-01 to Support the East Coast Greenway Application to the NC Transportation for the Integrated Mobility Division Feasibility Study Grant Program

MPT Oliver commented last month Town Council approved moving forward applying for a feasibility study grant through NCDOT. The grant proposal did not give the Town the opportunity to be a co applicant. The Eastcoast Greenway is applying for the study from the Kure Beach Town limits to the ferry landing. Eastcoast Greenway is the organization applying for the grant. Resolution R23-01 just shows support to the Eastcoast Greenway application for the feasibility study for the Pleasure Island Greenway to Fort Fisher.

MOTION- MPT Oliver made a motion to approve R23-01 to Support the East Coast Greenway Application to the NC Transportation for the Integrated Mobility Division Feasibility Study Grant Program

SECOND- Commissioner Ellen

VOTE- Unanimous

2. Discussion of 2023 Parking Program

Mayor Bloszinsky commented the Finance Department, Administration Department and Commissioner Panicali met to discuss the recommended changes from Premium Parking and Staff for the 2023 Parking Season. Town Staff looked at the following items:



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- Daily/Hourly Rates
- The Carolina Beach Program / Kure Beach Program,
- Kiosk Identification
- Increase Labor Costs of \$1 Per Hour for Staff Retention
- Cut Off Date for Purchase of Guest Passes
- Carolina Beach and Others Continue Guest Passes Other Than Carolina Beach, Set Limits
- Re-think Pick-up Spaces, Reduce the Hours
- Expansion of Dates and Expansion of Hours
- Add Temporary Holiday Pay Parking Spaces
- Increase Violation Fee
- Share Ticket Revenue With Premium, add \$5, Give Them \$2.50
- Increase the Transaction Fee
- Location of Handicapped Spaces
- Business Owner Program
- Golf Cart Spaces
- Signage

Mayor Bloszinsky commented the following parking rules and recommendations are for Town Council to consider and vote on tonight:

- Duration - March 15th through October 15th
- Day Hours – 6:00 p.m.
- Rates Per Hour - \$5, \$20 per day
- Enforcement - \$40, \$2.50 to Premium Parking
- Resident Program Fee - \$20 for 2 cars, any additional \$100
- Business Program Fee - \$20 for 2 cars
- Worker Program Fee - \$75
- Guest Program Fee - \$225
- Carolina Beach - \$20, One per household
- Handicap – Free in Marked Spaces
- Golf cart parking – Same Spaces
- Seventh Street Parking – 3-hour free parking
- Street Paint Signs – Redo
- K Avenue – 2-hour rate/pickup with two additional spots for Happy Hippy 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Registration Process – Workshops
- Premium Staff Pay – Add \$1 additional to retain
- Transaction Fee - \$0.50



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Commissioner Ellen commented he spoke with Mayor Barbee in Carolina Beach if the enforcement fee is paid by a certain time there was a discount and found the tickets were paid better.

MPT Oliver commented the additional 15 days on both ends of the season. Does the Town know how much revenue will give the Town? The additional Hour?

Mayor Bloszinsky commented he believes the estimate was around \$50,000. Premium Parking and the Police Department recommended going to 8:00 p.m. Since every citizen on the island can buy a pass now it would be citizens off the island impacted by the additional hour.

Commissioner Oliver stated he has a hard issue with the 6:00 p.m. Did staff consider limiting the guest program passes purchased?

Mayor Bloszinsky commented staff did discuss it and felt the only thing to do would be to set a date to end the program. Staff will keep an eye on the number and will stop the program if needed.

Commissioner Heglar commented he is hesitating about the 6:00 p.m. as the 5:00 p.m. allowed citizens a change to come to the beach before dark. The duration change will affect the fishermen. Also need to monitor the enforcement as this would be an incentive to write more tickets. His preference would be to stay with the April through September.

MPT Oliver asked has there been any discussion with the businesses about the additional hour or duration?

Mayor Bloszinsky commented no there has not been any discussion with them.

Finance Officer Copenhaver commented the additional hour may help the businesses as citizens right now can come for a few hours to go to the beach and take the spots by the businesses.

Mayor Bloszinsky commented would Town Council rather go March 15th through September 30th for the fisherman in October?

Commissioner Heglar commented yes.

MPT Oliver stated that is a good compromise.

MOTION- Commissioner Heglar made a motion to approve the following recommendations:

- Duration - March 15th through September 30th



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- Business Program Fee - \$20 for 2 cars
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- Seventh Street Parking – 3-hour free parking
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- K Avenue – 2-hour rate/pickup with two additional spots for Happy Hippy 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Registration Process – Workshops
- Premium Staff Pay – Add \$1 additional to retain
- Transaction Fee - \$0.50

SECOND- Commissioner Ellen
VOTE- Unanimous

Commissioner Panicali commented Town Council needs to discuss the Disc Golf parking request.

Commissioner Heglar commented he thinks the 3-hour free parking is fine. The club did not mention now that Carolina Beach is allowed to by a pass the members could park at a friend's house and carpool. The Town also pays for the lease on the property for the course and Public Works Department picks up trash. If the club has to pay the guest program fee for all the Sundays for the year they're contributing.

Mayor Bloszinsky stated there was \$2,300 in ticket revenue from Seventh Street for the parking season. The club does do the maintenance on the course.

MPT Oliver stated he thinks Town Council needs more information before determining a response to the disc golf club.

Town Clerk Sanders commented the Town does have the ability to give out codes for parking for each of the tournaments for the club members.



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Recreation Director Keely commented she can gather any information Town Council needs from the club.

MPT Oliver stated it would be helpful to have the number of members for the Disc Golf Club and bring to Council next month to discuss.

MOTION- MPT Oliver made a motion to table the discussion of the parking at the Disc Golf Course to the February Town Council meeting

SECOND- Commissioner Panicali

VOTE- Unanimous

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF NEW BUSINESS

None.

MAYOR UPDATES

None.

COMMISSIONER ITEMS

MPT Oliver commented he sent Town Council an email this morning from the four engineering firms that presented their qualifications for the interchange program at Fort Fisher and K Avenue. This is NDOT's process, so Town Council needs to make a recommendation by February 1st and forward it to NCDOT.

CLOSED SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION- MPT Oliver made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

SECOND- Commissioner Heglar

VOTE- Unanimous

Handwritten signature of Mandy Sanders in cursive.

ATTEST: Mandy Sanders, Town Clerk

Handwritten signature of Craig Bloszinsky in cursive.

Craig Bloszinsky, Mayor



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NOTE: These are action minutes reflecting items considered and actions taken by Council. These minutes are not a transcript of the meeting. A recording of the meeting is available on the town's website under [government>agendas&minutes](#)

SIGN IN SHEET
KURE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL

MEETING TYPE & DATE January 18 2023

NAME	ADDRESS	COMMENTS
Suzanne Fio	526 Anchor Way	ok
Kitty Clark Cole	4326 Terrington Dr, Wilmington	ok
Tim Markloy	601 E Ave LB	ok
John Nadeau	533 Anchor Way	ok
Amy Purvis	802 Progress Way	ok
Nancy Summote	107 Ocean View Ave	ok
Hand Clark	1334 Ft Fisher Blvd S	ok
Wisk Wickelmaier	417 N. 4th Ave	ok
Tammy Swanson	606 van Dorn Ct	ok
Mike Galloway	1714 Pinkstaff	ok
Simone Escoto	1211 Ft. Fisher Blvd Unit A	ok
Wyatt Richardson	685 Lewis rd. Island NC 28451	support for R23-01 ok

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To: Kure Beach Town Council
FROM: Tim Markley, Resident Kure Beach
RE: Dedicated Bike Path
DATE: January 17, 2023

Dear Council Member,

It is my intent to come to the next town council meeting and speak on the idea of a dedicated bike path that will attach to the current Bike Path in Carolina Beach. I was a community member who completed the earlier community survey. I believe the logic of a dedicated bike path is unassailable. The Carolina Beach path has proven to be a huge success. So much so that when people list their property for sale, proximity to the path is listed as a positive selling point. I have often driven the two hours to Clayton, NC, to Ride on the Neuse River Parkway. I wish we had a similar structure here with 30 miles of dedicated walking and biking paths that are safe from road traffic. There are many houses that back up to that parkway and enjoy easy access to an unencumbered walking and bike path.

Greenways provide a multitude of benefits to the community. These include making communities better places to live by preserving and creating open spaces. They encourage physical fitness and healthy lifestyles. They create new opportunities for outdoor recreation and non-motorized transportation. They strengthen local economies by promoting environmental awareness. They increase safety by reducing the number of pedestrians and cyclists on the roadway.

I was very disappointed when the council missed the opportunity several years ago to be part of the Island Greenway. I do not want us to miss that opportunity again. I understand the concerns of residents along the potential route, but I believe they are overstated. I travel the Carolina Beach portion of the greenway regularly and have never seen the issues they raise coming to fruition. I have also heard suggestions that the path could be moved to Dow Road. That is not my preference, but if it keeps the project moving forward, it is an acceptable alternative.

Finally, let me reiterate my support for a dedicated bike path that links the entire Island in a safe off-road alternative for walkers, runners, and cyclists. I genuinely believe it would benefit current residents and potential visitors. I ask that you support the completion of the greenway and help enhance the Kure Beach way of life.

11/8/23

Good evening, My Name is Amy Purvis and I live at 802 Largo Way

Mr. Mayor, and Council Members, I come before you again tonight to ask the town to install 8 dedicated pickleball courts on the unused baseball field at Joe Eakes Park. I am constantly reminded there are 5 pickleball courts at Joe Eakes Park, but this is not true. Let me be perfectly clear, there are NO pickleball courts at Joe Eakes Park. There is one tennis courts and one basketball court with lines drawn on for pickleball play that allow a possibility of 5 pickleball playing areas. More times than not the tennis court is not available due to tennis play, thus limiting us to 3 areas only on the basketball court. If there is halfcourt basketball play, then we are limited to two areas.

This past summer we conducted an informal 3 Month Play Survey In June, July, and August we averaged 23 players per each day of play. These numbers have not declined in the off season. I dare say there is no other amenity within the town limits except for the ocean and the bathrooms at the oceanfront park that can boast these figures on an annual daily basis.

In order to bring this project to fruition three things must happen: 1) We need approval from the Town Council, 2) We need approved funding in the upcoming budget and 3) we need approval from MOTSU. I would hope that we could count on the Town Council, as servants of the citizens of Kure Beach, to lend their support to this project and provide funding in the upcoming 2023-24 budget. We are aware of the License agreement with MOTSU and the challenges involved to make changes at the park. Carolina Beach recently made some major improvements to their dog park area, added two large utility buildings, added new bathroom facilities, and did a revamp of their playground area. All of this was done at a MOTSU licensed park. Clearly a precedent has been established and Kure Beach should be able to take advantage of this precedent.

If you build it they will come..... they are already here. Pickleball players like to compete in tournaments. Pickleball players pay big money to travel all over to compete for little pieces of medal on a colorful ribbon. Not only can the proceeds from these tournaments support first responders, as in the Heglar Open, but they can bring dollars to the town, including much needed dollars to the parks and

recreation department. Combine first class courts with a first class beach town and you have a win win situation for Kure Beach.

Let's make this happen!!!! Let's install 8 dedicated pickleball courts on the unused baseball field at Joe Eakes Park.

Paddles Up! Thank you.

①

Good evening, Mayor, Councilmen. Hi, my name is Suzanne Pio and I live at 526 Anchor Way. I'm here on behalf of my family and my neighbors that are here with me tonight. We wanted to thank you for your support of the recent application that has been submitted by the East Coast Greenway Alliance. We feel a greenway would greatly benefit our community for future years to come and appreciate your approval of the Bike/Pedestrian plan in May 2022. On a personal note, we sold a condo on Alabama Avenue and the greenway access was a great selling point for us, as my family used the greenway often.

We are both excited and supportive of potentially being awarded the grant to complete the feasibility study for the Pleasure Island Greenway to Ft. Fisher. As you know, 2023 is the "Year of the Trail" and we are very excited to be an overall part of this North Carolina Initiative.

Again, thank you!

40-50
count in
Support

Jhonae Clark

1334 Ft. Fisher Blvd S

Kure Beach, N.C. 28449

Around 2018 we in Kure Beach were looking for places to play the friendly game of pickleball. Many of us had played in other locations but wanted something nearby. One tennis court was lined and 2 portable nets were made available for play, providing the tennis court wasn't being used for tennis. We made due with this arrangement till the basketball courts were finally lined for pickleball and 3 more *portable nets were ordered. Always sharing with basketball groups. By word of mouth the participation grew.* Eventually 3 new rolling nets were provided.

In both 2021 and 2022 the Heglal Pickleball and Tennis Tournaments were held here in K.B. with a participation of 40 players each year. Also \$2000.00 was raised each year for our local K.B. Fire Department.

Our Pickleball community is growing each and every day. I can't stress enough how this group has become a community, a family, and a welcoming committee for new residents, vacationers, and guest.

Thank you

Fwd: Nancy speech

NANCY SHUMATE <nmshumate@icloud.com>

Wed, Jan 18 at 4:07 PM

To: Steve Shumate <kureshumate@gmail.com>

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>> Mr Mayor and councilmen I appreciate all you do for the town and its citizens. Can't imagine how difficult your position is - dealing with all of the challenges of our community. Everyone wants your attention. The Kure Beach Pickleball Group currently has 95+ members with daily play averaging 23+ players a day and that's just our group. There are many others that play who are not on our feed. Our group is requesting that the town approve the building of 8 dedicated pickleball courts on the unused baseball field. You've heard us plead our case many times talking about the terrible condition of the basketball court where we play, the increasing numbers of players, the mental and physical health benefits of the game. We know we don't see the whole picture for the needs of the town of Kure Beach. That is your job. We elected you to represent us and take care of our community needs - big and small. History - Lots of pickleball play was indoor at the Carolina Beach Rec Center until March 2020 and Covid. We moved outside at Kure Beach and loved it. The Rec center floor had dead spots and the lighting was bad. Once we moved outside it was a breath of fresh air. Just put on a lot of clothes in the winter and sunscreen in the summer. We've been working on trying to get dedicated pickleball courts for 2 years. The BIGGEST obstacle we've had has been misinformation. Last year we were told DON'T go to the budget meeting. This years's message we were encouraged to come. Then we were told MOTSU unapproachable and now we hear they just need specifics/drawings for their consideration. We also know that the funding is out there. We just need MOTSU okay and your support. It would be nice if we had an advocate on council. Bless your hearts every month you guys have listened to us make our plea discussing the popularity, numbers, growth, needs. You probably have rolled your eyes at least once. Here they come again. I don't know why council is hesitant. Please help us move forward in getting dedicated pickleball courts for our community and visitors. Thank you.

To: Kure Beach Town Council
FROM: Tim Markley, Resident Kure Beach
RE: Dedicated Bike Path
DATE: January 17, 2023

Dear Council Member,

Thank you for allowing me to
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*Along
Neuse
River*

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I was very disappointed when the council missed the opportunity several years ago to be part of the Island Greenway. I do not want us to miss that opportunity again. I understand the concerns of residents along the potential route, but I believe they are overstated. I travel the Carolina Beach portion of the greenway regularly and have never seen the issues they raise coming to fruition. I have also heard suggestions that the path could be moved to Dow Road. That is not my preference, but if it keeps the project moving forward, it is an acceptable alternative.

Finally, let me reiterate my support for a dedicated bike path that links the entire Island in a safe off-road alternative for walkers, runners, and cyclists. I genuinely believe it would benefit current residents and potential visitors. I ask that you support the completion of the greenway and help enhance the Kure Beach way of life.

Mandy Sanders

From: Tracy Mitchell <tmitch.bw@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2023 2:03 PM
To: Beth Chase; Mandy Sanders; kbbikepedcommittee@gmail.com; Allen Oliver; Mo Linquist
Subject: Bike/Ped Committee Meeting; Public Input

Please pass the following along for public record/reading re: Bike/Ped Committee Meeting 1/17/23 as I will be unable to attend.

As you may know, Beachwalk HOA conducted a survey among our members regarding the proposed bike path behind the homes along Settlers Lane. 85 lots strong, our membership overwhelmingly was and is opposed to this endeavor for a variety reasons the committee and Council have already heard. Those issues include, but are not limited to safety, limited access for emergency vehicles, firebreak concerns, long/short term maintenance issues, and aesthetics from the federal permit mandates.

That being said, it is very concerning that the Bike/Ped Committee did not reach out to Beachwalk or the Town's Stormwater Committee with respect to potential stormwater impacts or existing permits. This proposed path and its impervious surface would also pose a threat of additional water runoff that would impact our (Beachwalk's) stormwater system. Representing the 85 lots in Beachwalk who receive absolutely no financial assistance from this outside water management, we will continue to push back not only to this committee, the Council, but also to our state and federal (MOTSU) oversight. Please know, should there be a threat to our stormwater system, we will respond in kind to protect our membership. We have enjoyed a great working relationship with TOKB and look forward to continuing that relationship of mutual respect and community.

I would encourage the Committee - and Council who oversees this committee - to reach out to me for further discussions regarding this proposed project and how it will impact the citizens of Beachwalk. If the committee wishes to be more effective in their efforts and fiscal responsibility, they will pause this proposed project in the MOTSU easement and focus on other, already designated, bike paths to include making the existing bike path along Fort Fisher Blvd consistent in width.

If there is one takeaway from today's meeting, please remember that as committee members you serve and represent the tax paying, voting citizens of Kure Beach and there is a group who feel they are not being well represented or heard.

Regards,



Tracy Mitchell, President
Beachwalk, HOA
218 Fifth Ave N
Kure Beach, NC 28449
910-512-0030

Mandy Sanders

From: Dennis Maurer <maurer55@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 16, 2023 11:08 AM
To: Mandy Sanders
Cc: Amy Purvis
Subject: Please read at Jan 18, 2022 Town Council meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

To: Kure Beach Town Council,

I am submitting this email to support the need for dedicated pickleball courts in Kure Beach. I am unable to attend this town council meeting in person because of a scheduling conflict in Raleigh, where my primary home is located. I have a second home in Kure Beach that I visit frequently and often play pickleball when in town. I recommend that we have dedicated pickleball courts built on the unused ball field at Joe Eakes Park. These courts will not only address the lack of court availability for local residents, but they will also provide an amenity for pickleball-playing tourists that may encourage a return to Kure Beach for their future vacations. To summarize, dedicated pickleball courts will benefit both locals and tourists while taking advantage of currently unused property in Kure Beach. Thank you for your time.

Dennis Maurer
806 Largo Way

Mandy Sanders

From: Allen Krum <alkrum@verizon.net>
Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2023 8:42 AM
To: Mandy Sanders
Subject: Council meeting of 19 December 2022

I would appreciate this being read at tonight's town council meeting:

I listened with great interest to the discussions regarding the Kure Beach Greenway that took place at the 19 December Kure Beach town council meeting. It's clear that this initiative is of high interest and concern to many residents of Kure Beach and will of necessity require much study and public discussion to reach a final plan that addresses the needs and concerns of those most impacted, positively and negatively, by a greenway/improved pedestrian/bike path. With this in mind I thought it appropriate to add my personal views to the ongoing debate.

To set the stage and in the interest of full disclosure, I have been a property owner visiting Kure Beach often beginning in 2015 and now a resident since 2019. In short, I am a relative newcomer and I have applied for membership on the Bike/Pedestrian committee. I have been a near daily walker/rider on the island for the last 3 ½ years and feel qualified to add my own observations to the debate.

Concerns have been voiced regarding the negative impact a trail would have if it were placed behind homes. When I lived in Northern Virginia our home was in a development that had an extensive network of paths which ran behind many of the homes. I and a number of others purposely purchased homes directly adjacent to the path because we viewed it a plus to have this level of access and I saw no indication that homes on the paths suffered any negative impact to their value. Further, looking back to local news reporting and community newsletters I can't recall reports of any significant crime associated with the trail system. This doesn't necessarily prove these concerns to be wrong but offers a different perspective.

As regards continuing to use the existing bike paths on Ft Fisher and/or Dow Road as the preferred solution I have concerns. As stated previously, I am a frequent walker/biker and was in Northern Virginia with established trail system before retirement and in central Virginia with no designated roadside bike lane. In the 3 ½ years that I've been using the roadside lanes on the island I have had more close calls than in my previous 20 years in Virginia. In the last year alone, I have been run off the bike lane on Dow Road twice and I've lost count of the number of times I've had to wave frantically to get the attention of a driver drifting toward me in the bike lane or had to move off the lane into the sand while they pass. I realize this is only a sample size of one but it is none the less fact.

As noted by an AARP briefing, North Carolina and by extension the Wilmington/Pleasure Island population is aging. As this happens the need for adequate, safe facilities to help us maintain our wellbeing will become even more important and I for one would prefer trails that are quieter and more nature oriented than the ones on main thoroughfares that we currently have in too many parts of the island. I further believe that providing a dedicated path would help move the summer tourist walkers/bikers off the main roads increasing their safety as well.

I'd also like to add my observation from attending a couple of Bike/Ped Committee meetings as well as manning their booth for 5 hours at one of the craft fairs. I've witnessed nothing but professional interaction with the residents and willingness to listen to all concerns and suggestions.

In conclusion I support improving the walkability of Kure Beach and all of Pleasure Island. I believe we need to consider all options to do so. Opinions of the residents need to be aired and responded to and in the end we all need to provide the Kure Beach town council with the facts they need to make an informed decision on a way forward

Regards,

Al Krum

803 Ft Fisher Blvd N

703.609.1958

Dear members of the Kure Beach Town Council,

My name is Eileen McConville and I currently serve as President of the Terry Benjey Bicycling Foundation and past president of Cape Fear Cyclists. This letter comes to you co-signed by leaders of Cape Fear Cyclists, Terry Benjey Bicycling Foundation and the WMPO's Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Board. We congratulate the town council for submitting an application to NCDOT for important funds that will allow the town to study the feasibility of improving bicycle pathways in your municipality.

We are particularly supportive of this application being submitted in concert with the East Coast Greenway Alliance (ECGA). Kure Beach's location on the ECG has the potential to significantly increase tourism dollars in your town. From its website: "The East Coast Greenway is a walking and biking route stretching 3,000 miles from Maine to Florida, connecting our nation's most populated corridor. The East Coast Greenway is designed to transform the 15 states and 450 communities it connects through active and healthy lifestyles, sustainable transportation, community engagement, climate resilience, tourism, and more. The Greenway offers a safe place for bicyclists, walkers, runners, and more — of all ages and abilities — to commute, exercise, and visit new destinations."

The feasibility study grant will allow ECG and the Town of Kure Beach to assess all potential routes for future ECG development. The safest and most cost-effective route will likely be recommended for development.

When new greenways or walkways are proposed in a community, there is often some hesitancy on the part of homeowners if the proposed Multi-Use Path (MUP) is located close to homes or yards. We write today to assure homeowners and neighbors of the positive impacts a MUP or Greenway can have on a community and home values.

According to a research by the WMPO on the impact of Wilmington's Gary Shell Cross City Trail, "The GSCCT has...had a positive impact on property assessment values and final sale price values on real estate sold within 600' of the facility. A 2015 regression analysis model found that the proximity of the trail increased real estate assessment values by approximately 14.5% and real estate final sale price by approximately 12%, compared to properties greater than 600' from the GSCCT."

When the GSCCT's proposed location near UNCW was announced, several home owners expressed dismay and anger because they did not want the trail located adjacent to their backyards. Their perception was this corridor would have the potential to decrease home values and increase crime in their neighborhoods. After the Greenway was completed, not only did crime not increase, but the homeowners wrote to the WMPO and expressed their regret for having fought against this trail. The homeowners discovered they enjoyed having an accessible and beautiful place to recreate.

If the council would like to read a report created by Buncombe County Parks & Recreation on the topic of Greenway safety, the link is here:

<https://www.buncombecounty.org/common/parks/MasterPlan/7-Safety.pdf>

One of the reports findings includes, "A survey done in Cary, NC, in 1995 of residents living near three greenways gauged their satisfaction with the greenways and about any problems. There was a 75% response rate and most residents felt satisfied with the greenways and stated

that problems were minimal. Studies in Mecklenburg County, NC; Denver; Seattle; Tampa; and other cities reported similar results showing less crime on greenways than the communities as a whole.”

The unknown often makes us wary and unconvinced of the need for change. It is hard to envision how a new traffic pattern in a place where traffic was not expected can possibly be positive growth. But research across the world has shown that bicycle, pedestrian, stroller, wheelchair and other non-vehicular access points improves neighborhoods and the overall health of its residents.

We look forward to hearing positive results as you move forward with your feasibility study of this important area.

Sincerely,

Eileen McConville
President, TBBF

Mark Johnnie,
President, CFC

Carol Stein
Chair, BPAC

In 2022, there were 4484 rounds played by 856 unique players at Joe Eakes Park.

In a study by UDisc (an app for score keeping in disc golf) in 2021, they found that only 1 in 5 rounds played were scored with the UDisc app. That means that potentially, there were over 22,000 rounds play by around 4,300 unique people in 2022. Joe Eakes disc golf course is definitely a destination course for disc golfers.

Also, this is not a summer activity. As the chart shows below rounds stay steady all year, with the off-season months of April and October being the most popular. June, July and August average 360 UDisc rounds, while the rest of the months average 378 rounds.



There are 101 reviews of the course in UDisc. Of these, 11 mentioned the poor quality of the tee pads (10%!). These reviews can be seen on the next pages. Many other reviews mention the lack of good signage. Also, when the port-a-johns were gone, it was mentioned in the reviews

Parking is mentioned on some reviews. One suggested going to Arrowhead Park to avoid parking fees.

Joe Eakes Disc Golf Course Reviews

[@zzumwalt](#)
May 7, 2022

3.0

"Meh, it's another NC beach course. Sand, wind, scrub trees. Go to Arrowhead instead - it has elevation changes, free parking, and restrooms. Or even Trinity at Good Hops - it has beer!"

[@justinlor](#)
Apr 10, 2022

5.0

"Great course but UDisc needs to be updated to reflect correct pars. Right now the alternate is just a duplicate of the original but hole 1 should be a 4, hole 3 should be a 5 and a few others are wrong. The distances in the alternate layout are also different than the original and the map even says par 61 in both layouts yet UDisc says par 60 for both layout. Can we get this updated? And I agree about the tee pads, they definitely need to be fixed to preferably concrete."

[@andrewarant](#)
Oct 22, 2021

3.5

"More trash cans. Update wood tees with concrete. Update tee signs with more accurate distances."

[@cpoplin](#)
Aug 25, 2021

3.5

"Great course. Very unique environment to play in and well designed holes. My rate would be higher if signage issues are fixed."

[@willjack22](#)
Dec 25, 2020

1.5

"Extremely difficult for beginners, some of the holes did not have clear indications of where the next tee box was. A lot of the tee boxes were not well kept and difficult to throw off of."

[@tavery](#)
May 25, 2020

4.5

"Fun relatively long course. A few tee pads need improving. One hole got a much needed concrete tee pad, but now it's too sandy to not slip. Also, the trees are short but very thick so you can often waste a lot of time looking for discs up in the trees."

[@brianphillips](#)
Feb 18, 2020

3.5

"Very tight fairways, tee pads are not so great, need cement pads.. also needs better navigation to next pad, seeing there are sections where there are several pads for different holes.. A lot of baskets are guarded very tightly"

[@panthersfan86](#)
Jul 27, 2018

1.5

"Course needs some maintenance. If your tall then you won't be able to use some of the tee pads."

[@enigmagolf](#)
Feb 27, 2019

4.0

"5 stars if it had better tees! Excellent course!"

[@jeremiahdewitt](#)
Nov 12, 2021

2.0

"Course t-pads are trash. Unless you want to risk getting a broken ankle, avoid till they fix them. They are short and uneven. The course layout is good but trying to tip toe on the uneven pads destroyed the experience."

[@willcarr3](#)
May 8, 2022

4.0

" Tee pads could use some work with the sand it's easy to lose footing. Other than that excellent "

Dear members of the Kure Beach Town Council,

My name is Eileen McConville and I currently serve as President of the Terry Benjey Bicycling Foundation and past president of Cape Fear Cyclists. This letter comes to you co-signed by leaders of Cape Fear Cyclists, Terry Benjey Bicycling Foundation and the WMPO's Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Board. We congratulate the town council for submitting an application to NCDOT for important funds that will allow the town to study the feasibility of improving bicycle pathways in your municipality.

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