

## Kure Beach Shoreline Access, Beach Protection Committee

Minutes of August 1, 2023

### **Members Present:**

Rick Jackson, Co-Chair

Elizabeth Kiwaha, Secretary

Ann Hughes

Randy Bock - Absent

Pat Edgecomb, Alternate – Remote

Pat Triplett, Co-Chair

Don Campbell

John Kiwaha - Absent

Kelly Graves

Dennis Panicali, Council Liaison

The meeting was called to order at 4:59 pm by Rick Jackson.

Rick asked if there were any changes to the June minutes (no meeting was held in July) or the proposed agenda. No changes noted for minutes; Don motioned to approve, seconded by Pat T. No changes noted for agenda, Don motioned to approved, seconded by Ann.

No guests were in attendance.

### **Old Business:**

**Adopt-a-Beach Update:** No new applications were received.

**Beach Sponsorship Update:** Rick asked Don to help him with the Beach Sponsorship, specifically recruitment for beach sponsorship. Kelly volunteered to help as well.

**Kure Beach Ocean Life Project:** Pat T. mentioned that she received a request from Public Works for a report regarding what we've done in the past to inform people to pick up trash. Dennis mentioned that he received these requests for reports in the past and has completed them. Ann stated that we also report on our accomplishments such as 20 people signed up for Adopt a Beach, we distributed approximately 500 brochures to the rental agencies as well as magnets for beach etiquette and safety, both of which mention trash. The phrase, "Please keep our beaches clean" is also on our signage at the beach accesses, 22 of which are public accesses. We also installed 17 cigarette butt receptacles at the accesses for beach goers to discard their cigarette butts in. Liz mentioned that when she's walking along the beach she picks up any trash she sees and the committee stated they all do the same.

**Council Update:** Dennis reported that things are moving forward with The Greenway. The grant was approved. The Sandman lot is also moving forward with the installation of a park. This will be a green space, planting trees, shrubs, adding a walking path, etc. Regarding Joe Eakes Park, they're going to come back with recommendations for this park. The funding has already been approved for this as well.

There is money in this fiscal year for the boardwalk. They need to pick an engineer to look at the structure before moving forward with plans.

Parking, we're ahead of where we were last year in terms of revenue projection.

Pat T. asked about how many ocean rescues we've had and Dennis said, "a lot". Ft. Fisher alone had 70 rescues. They have 6 lifeguards, but only 2 are on at a time. There was one drowning at Ft. Fisher. The park rangers spent almost the entire day directing traffic. Chief Kennedy said when discussed, the Deputy Director of NC Parks didn't say much. 2000-3000 vehicles per day were down there on Ft. Fisher. There were 79 turtle nests they needed to dodge. There are 2 lifeguards on duty on the walk-on beach, none at the drive on part of the beach.

**Beach Pamphlet Update:** Pat E. – Nothing new to report.

**Sign Replacements:** Randy is absent - Rick clarified that we approved the ordering of a few extra signs to have on hand for replacements.

**New Business:**

- **Turtles** - Rick asked if we need to have additional signs for turtles. Ann doesn't think we need them on the posts. Rick asked if we wanted to table this. Don motioned to table the discussion. Ann sent out the Eagle Scout Project for Toy Boxes via email for everyone's review. Kelly mentioned that there is turtle signage on the toy boxes that explains the turtles and turtle safety.
- **Electric Bikes** - Don mentioned that he's seeing a lot more electric bikes in town and kids driving them. There is currently no ordinance for electric bikes. The PD is looking into it. Ocean Isle has recently updated their ordinances banning motorized bikes on the beach. No e-vehicles allowed is something they're considering.
- **Dunes Signs** - Pat E. asked if we could have the "dunes" signs be double sided because people are cutting through vacant lots. Dennis said we would need to get the owner's permission to post a sign on their property.
- **Toy Boxes** - Rick talked with Jimmy. We need the council's permission because he doesn't think we will be allowed to attach these to the lifeguard stands. Dennis agreed. We need to figure out where we will put them and how big they're going to be. CB put theirs on the lifeguard stand. We decided to put them on Atlantic access to test it out. Ann asked why we don't piggyback off the same Eagle Scout Project. Liz motioned to proceed, Don 2<sup>nd</sup>. Everyone else agreed. It was decided that we would start with two bins on either side of the pier. Ann said we can start with the Eagle Scout version, or we can look at what's being done at other beaches up and down the coast. Dennis said anything attached to the lifeguard stands will be problematic because they get moved a lot. We will also need to talk with John Batson to get CAMA approval if we're using pressure treated wood. Kelly said we can maybe look at the Eagle Scout type of box to start, it's made of plastic. Rick said he will talk with the Fire Dept. Pat T. said it's late to get them in place this year. Ann is going to reach out to Eagle Scout to get more info. Don is going to look at the ones CB has up to see how they're secured to determine if they would

be easy to remove when the lifeguard stands need to be moved. Liz asked about the time frame for when they'll be up and the committee agreed that they will only be up "in season" and then they will need to be stored. Kelly brought up the need for maybe a locking lid to be used during storms.

- **September Meeting** – Rick will be unavailable for the Sept. meeting, so Pat T. will be running it in Rick's absence. Rick will prepare the agenda and Pat T. will lead. Rick asked if we have any new business to be added to the agenda for the next meeting to send to him.

Pat made a motion to adjourn, and Rick seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 5:59 pm, our next meeting will be held Tuesday, September 5, 2023 @ 5:00 pm

Minutes submitted by Liz Kiwaha.