

## **Kure Beach Community Center**

### **Committee Minutes**

**January 13, 2026**

**Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 9:31 AM by Chairperson Ellen Owens. Other committee members in attendance were Jim FitzGerald, Mike McMahon, Alice Gilliland, and Shelley Germain. Town Council Commissioner Connie Mearkle and Recreation Director Nikki Keely were also present. The meeting was held in the KB Community Center in order to facilitate setting up for the Community Center open house later that evening.

**Approval of Minutes:** The December committee minutes were approved.

**Rental Update [Recreation Department]:** Nikki provided an update on recreational activities and the state of community center bookings. Interior painting in the community center was recently completed.

#### **Community Center Old Business:**

**Genealogy Interest Group:** GIG continues to meet monthly. 2 persons + Jim attended the January meeting. The GIG will be sponsoring a "Genealogy Beginners Night" on Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 7PM. Next regular meeting is February 5, 2026 from 1:00-2:00PM.

**Ping Pong:** A Ping Pong tournament is to be held on Sunday, January 18, 2026 from 3-5PM. Shelley will attend and will follow up with Christine to see if we need anything else. Sunday, April 19, 2026 is the target date for the next tournament.

Drop in ping pong continues to show up in the local newspaper even though that has been discontinued. Also, Christine's number is being included with that article. Alice agreed to follow up with the paper to remove drop in ping pong and also the posting requesting new members for the community center committee as we currently have a full quorum.

**Lectures:** Mike reported we have confirmed a Medicare lecture by Steve Swiss and Monica Rohena of the New Hanover County Senior Health Insurance Information Program on Tuesday, February 10 at 7PM. People will plan to show up around 6PM to set up.

Shelley completed a flyer for the event.

Ellen has scheduled a gardening lecture/plant swap with the Botanical Garden Extension for March 21 at 1PM – similar to what we did last year. Ellen was going to consider potentially adding the Wilmington Plan Swap Group to be part of the event.

Nikki has organized a lecture on ID Theft by Civic Federal Credit Union representative Tim Johnson for Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 7PM. Discussed potentially inviting the KB Police Department to also participate.

Discussed other lectures/activities including pasta making class, bird photography, knitting, Mahjong lessons, or rock painting. Also acknowledged we may get more ideas at the open house.

### **Community Center New Business:**

Nikki requested we consider an effort to clean up the flower beds in front of the community center. May need to consider rain barrel or other system to water whatever is planted. Potentially planting native grasses or plants was also discussed.

Community Center Open House: Community Center Open House is scheduled for Tuesday, January 13, 2026 from 6-8 PM.

Tables will be set up for the instructors of current classes (yoga and Zumba) and Community Center Committee to show case genealogy and ping pong and to ask for community input on ideas for use. Jim offered to bring a whiteboard and sticky notes. Also, Friends of Kure Beach and the Bike/Ped committee are expected to be in attendance. The Rec department also plans to have a table to showcase the center as a wedding reception venue.

Plan is to use Spotify for background music and to buy cheese/fruit trays and have coffee, tea, water bottles. Nikki will pick up the food.

Shelley made the major HOAs aware so they could communicate about the open house to their members.

Upcoming committee events include:

- January 13 – Community Center Open House (6-8PM)
- February 5 – Genealogy Interest Group (1PM)
- January 18 – Ping Pong Tournament (3-5PM)
- January 27 – Genealogy Beginner's Night 7PM

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 10:25AM and the next meeting will be held on February 10, 2026 at 9:30AM in the town hall.