

Truro Beach Advisory Committee

Minutes of July 13, 2022

Attending: Damion Clements, Beach Director; Eliza Harned, Chair; Ann Courtney, member; Shari Stahl, member and secretary.

1. Public comment: none.
2. Beach Director's Report: The Town Manager's reorganization plan combines the COA and Recreation Departments under a new department of Community Services. An assistant director position is open and being advertised. Damion is the interim COA director and Rec and Beach Director. It is not determined at this point who will be Truro town staff liaison for the Beach Advisory Committee. No kayak policy to date. Ann Courtney has photos of the Corn Hill Beach overflow of boats on the dunes which represent a danger for erosion. Excess foot traffic on the dunes results when boats are stored beyond a designated and approved area. Paddlecraft racks would ameliorate the foot traffic on the dunes. The Select Board approved Ice sales. Head of Meadow and Corn Hill beaches have power, cable and working phone but are not yet processing credit cards. Ballston Beach has some hazard for swimmers due to old infrastructure of galvanized pipes. DPW, along with the Harbor Master and Fire Department, will need to be deployed to address the hazard at low tides. On Cold Storage a proposed bench needs approval from the Conservation Committee. A beach wheel chair has been donated for disability access. At Noons Landing a portable restroom is being installed after complaints of its omission during construction there. Staffing for lifeguards and clerks in the beach office is adequate, but there is still a shortage of beach attendants. Pet closures due to shorebirds are updated on the website. Long Nook is open to left/north, and Ballston to the north is open. Head of Meadow, Coast Guard, Ryder, Corn Hill and Fisher remain closed per order of the Audubon, and Truro Conservation. Ann Courtney raised the issue of enforcement of pet closures and observed three dogs on Coast Guard Beach on Friday of Fourth of July weekend. Beach Department Staff have power to inform, but no ability to write tickets. Animal Control has the jurisdiction to write tickets. Conservation Agent Emily Beebe and staff person Zara have been to some beaches informing dog owners of their violations. Shark sightings at Head of the Meadow have resulted in two closures for swimming.
3. Beach signs: Truro Central School did not participate in producing signage. Signage to dissuade beach goers from being on the dunes is sorely needed, especially at Great Hollow. Ann Courtney observed children sliding down the dunes in a very vulnerable portion of the dunes with complete lack of supervision from their parents. Damion offered to erect some signage there until Stephanie can work with the school to produce signs next year.
4. Paddle Craft Rack Policy: Tabled until next Beach Advisory Committee. Ann will get a draft policy for Damion's review and input prior to that meeting.
5. Approval of Minutes of May 19<sup>th</sup>: Ann moved to approve, Eliza seconded.
6. New business: none.
7. Next meeting: **October 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:15** unless Damion would like Beach Advisory Committee input on some matter, perhaps related to the Town Manager's proposed reorganization, in which case Damion should ask Eliza to convene a meeting.
8. Meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Approved 10/6/22

