

Beach Advisory Committee Minutes: Remote Meeting

October 21, 2021

4pm

Attending: Damion Clements, Beach Director; Eliza Harned, Beach Committee Chair, Ann Courtney, Tom Bow, Maryellen Kimball, Shari Stahl (secretary).

-Public Comment

Jane Roderick of Truro urged that the Beach Committee should intervene in the taking of a parking space on Great Hollow Beach. Jane asked if the owner had the authority to take away a public parking space at the town beach. During construction, the property owner cut a driveway into the parking lot. Jane pointed out that vegetation was removed to create the driveway and now poses a danger of potential drainage problems and subsequent erosion, in addition to the loss of a parking space. Jane asked the Beach Advisory Committee to report back to her on this matter.

Damion said that Jarrod Cabral of DPW had sent him a photo of the driveway this morning. Damion said the Department of Public Works and the Conservation Dept. (Emily Beebe) have communicated as well. Damion said these two Truro Departments are looking into the driveway situation. The Beach Department needs clearance from Conservation Department, and Emily will work directly with Jarrod. Ann said that it is in the realm of the Beach Advisory Committee to prevent erosion. Damion will follow up with DPW.

Shari said that our select board liaison can gather information for the Beach Advisory Committee on matters that spread over town departments. Eliza said Stephanie had a conflict for today's meeting. Eliza said she would send Stephanie an email regarding this and the other inter-departmental issues the Beach Committee identified at the September 10, 2021 meeting. Health Department (water quality closures), Conservation Dept (shorebird management data) and DPW (communication that doesn't go through Damion). Eliza as chair will also respond to Jane Roderick's query about the unauthorized taking of a beach parking space.

-Beach Directors Report- Damion Clements

Two bike repair stations (10 x 10 structures with basic tools and air pumps) are being built. One will be installed at Head of Meadow parking lot, close to the garage. The kayak rack project is waiting on specs from the Conservation Department. Damion says the Town is aware of erosion at Great Hollow Beach and two catch basins are planned. A new catch basin will go in and the existing one will be replaced. The stair case at Great Hollow has been repaired in the last two weeks.

-Beach Visit review. Ann constructed survey questionnaire for committee members to evaluate Structures, Beach Erosion, Coastal Dune Erosion, Parking Lots, Signage across of road, of General Assessment, Safety/Risk, Loss of Function with a scale of 5=excellent, no risk or risk.

TOWN OF TRURO
11:40 AM
MAY 11 2022
RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
NS

to 1=failed, high level of damage, risk or complete loss. Below is a list of 1 and 2 areas that the Beach Advisory Committee would like to track.

Bay Beaches:

Fisher Beach (by Tom Bow) *parking lines faded, not parking sign was blank*

Ryder Beach (by Tom Bow) *fence bordering private property is wobbly -will not last winter*

Corn Hill (by Maryellen and Ann) *missing over-sand sign, ramps buried, boat storage overflow and not observed/monitored.*

Great Hollow (by Maryellen and Ann). *Most problematic for Erosion high level of risk*

Cold Storage (by Maryellen and Ann) *entrance with drain needed.*

Beach Point (by Maryellen and Ann) *bike rack pushed back in weeds.*

Noon's Landing (by Maryellen and Ann). *Bleed kit missing, no handicap sign, no erosion control sign, wooden bike rack needs repair.*

Ocean Beaches:

Head of the Meadow (by Shari) *Large depression collecting water in entrance by Check-in shack, areas of broken asphalt, many cracks in pavement which will freeze and thaw and break apart. Corridor off parking lot needs sign to keep children off dune grass. Keep off Dune signs needed at entrance. One bike rack needs repair. Left side path needs erosion control sign.*

Longnook (by Shari) *Nesting shore bird sign still up October 1st. Both sides of parking lot have trails up dunes—is this okay? No erosion control signs. Cedar shingles on roof of collection hut falling off.*

Ballston (by Eliza) *Wash up trail – erosion concerns.*

Coast Guard (by Eliza) *Residential Parking working well! And appreciated!*

High Head (by Eliza) – *no concerns noted.*

-Kayak Racks at the beaches – Ann volunteered to write an application for a Community Preservation Committee (CPC) mini-grant of \$20,000 for the Town to contribute to construction. The deadline for grant application is within 2 weeks and the Beach Commission would formally be the applicant. Maryellen asked how the kayaks would be overseen. Damion said the Town Administrator would design the permitting process and the Beach Department would be responsible for enforcement. Shari moved that the Beach Advisory Committee apply for the grant. Maryellen seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

-Erosion control at Great Hollow - Damion reported that the Town has hired an architect who will look at ADA specs for a staircase. Damion has been in communication with Susan Howe, of the Truro Disabilities Committee. It is unlikely that the slope of the dune can accommodate a ramp. Spacers of 6 inches rather than 8 inches would improve access. Ann had forwarded photos to Damion of the erosion for his assessment of damage.

-Dune Erosion signs with the school update and planning. Ann asked Damion about the costs of signage which are provided by DPW. Ann offered to apply for another CPC mini-grant to cover materials for more permanent signage. The committee unanimously voted to approve

TOWN OF TRURO
11:40 AM

MAY 11 2022

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
NS

the application. The Beach Advisory Committee will work with Stephanie Rein, select board liaison and Farmer in the School on recommended content and placement.

-Approval of minutes 7/9/21 and 9/10/21 – approved by unanimous vote. Eliza will submit to Noelle.

-New Business – Maryellen asked about “a friendly presence” for enforcing the dog leash violators on the bay beach. Damion reported that the Police hired an animal control officer toward the end of the summer. The parking lot attendants inform beach-goers of restricted hours for pets and can call the Police to summon the animal control officer. Shari added that the closures to pets on the Ocean side by the shorebird monitoring system severely displace access on National Seashore and Town beaches for dog walkers during all hours from April to the beginning or middle of September.

Eliza asked Damion about rate increases for beaches next year. Damion said he is working on the proposed budget now. The Beach Advisory Committee agreed that keeping the Town daily rate lower than the National Seashore rate at Head of the Meadow would incentive use of the town lot and add revenue. Damion said they consider Wellfleet daily rates when Truro sets daily rates for Corn Hill Beach.

Next meeting- January 13th, 2022 at 4pm

Adjourned at 5:22 pm

TOWN OF TRURO
11:40 AM
MAY 11 2022
RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
NS