

## **Beach Commission Minutes: Meeting of 1/13/2009**

**Attending: Rian Wilkinson, Bill Seiple, John Crimmins, Warren Hall, Helen Flynn, Frank Bozyan, Steve Ponte, Tom O'Loughlin, Tim Shaw, Dave Leys**

**1. Approved minutes of 12/08 meeting with one change. Edward Silvestri Jr. was not in attendance.**

### **2. Harbor Master Report- Steve Ponte**

**A. Steve reported that there has been a major turnover in mooring renters. 27 of the original 65 moorings have changed hands over the last three years. This is very significant because many of these renters never, actually, used the moorings. Steve was commended for his efforts in this area.**

**B. Steve proposed a plan that would allow the town to rent unused rental moorings, with the owner's permissions. The moorings would have to be certified and inspected before being rented. The Beach Commission supported the plan and asked Steve to check with Shawn Brown and the Town Solicitor.**

**C. It is doubtful that the plan for relocating the boat ramp to the Navy Beach, due to the proximity to nesting plovers, will be successful. Therefore, Steve recommended improving the present ramp with up-dated signage, lighting, small docks, and a week-end attendant.**

**The Beach Commission supported these ideas and will add them to our '09 project list.**

### **3. Boat Ramp- Warren Hall**

**Warren reported that a viable plover protection plan was not feasible and without one, the plan to move the ramp to the Navy Beach will not be approved by CMRC or DEM. Conclusion – the plan should be put on hold, but not abandoned, pending future nesting locations. The Beach Commission voted, unanimously, to accept Warren's recommendation. The Beach Commission thanked all, especially Warren Hall, John Crimmins, Bill Seiple and Steve Ponte, who put so much time and effort into this proposal.**

### **4. Addidas Soccer Tournament – Second Beach**

**Tim S. reported on a meeting held with Steve Noble an – Addidas Representative. They want to hold a Beach Soccer Tournament at Second Beach on 6/20/ and 6/21/09. It would be held in the lightly populated area between path #8 and the Rock. It was felt this was a positive use for the beach and would generate beach income and positive publicity. Local establishments would also benefit from dining and over night stays. The Beach Comm. unanimously supported the tournament concept. Fees, signage etc, will be designated by the town.**

## **5. Third Beach Erosion-**

**Storms continue to cause serious erosion to the public beach area. Sand is being deposited in the creek area and a small delta has been formed there. Tom O'Loughlin will supervise restoration efforts in the Spring.**

## **6. Vandalism-**

**Vandalism continues at Second/Third Beaches, although at a lesser rate. Steve Ponte suggested putting cameras on some of the light posts if the vandalism continues. Also, extra MPD patrols, if necessary.**

## **7. Hunting-**

**There have been several complaints of hunters at Third Beach. In some cases, only 10-15 yards from Peabody's Beach. They have a right to hunt from mean high tide. However, common sense dictates that no-one should be allowed to carry a firearm on a public recreation area – even in the winter. Steve Ponte felt that the town may be able to enact an ordinance that would establish a significant buffer area in populated areas – such as our beaches. Tim Shaw will contact the town solicitor for his opinion.**

## **8. Trash Removal- Second Beach-**

**The beach manager has reported that removing trash from Second Beach, on a crowded day, is almost impossible. He would like to**

meet with the Recreation Department, Beach Commission and town agencies to come up with a workable plan. One suggestion was to have the barrels moved to the parking lot side of the walkways. In this way, the beach crews can pick up the trash without driving the truck on the crowded beach. Plan to be finalized at the March Beach Commission meeting.

## **9. Priorities**

- A. Invasive Grass eradication**
- B. Building improvements**
- C. Boat Ramp Improvements.**

## **10. New Business-**

Warren Hall distributed a packet describing the invasive grass eradication plan. Will revisit March '09.

**Meeting adjourned 5:50 pm**