

## **Minutes Beach Commission Meeting 09/08 2009**

**Attending: Bill Seiple, Dave Leys, Rian Wilkinson, Tim Coen, Joe Benadetto, Tom O'Loughlin, Tim Shaw, Mike McGordy, Frank Boyzan, Steve Ponte.**

**I- Approved minutes- no changes 8/11/2009 meeting**

**II- Tim Coen, beach manager, reported that, even considering the poor June and July weather, the season went very well. Although final figures are not available, August and September were very busy and some of the earlier losses were reduced. Tim cited the excellent co-operation between the beach staff, lifeguards, and town departments as a major factor for the successful season.**

**• Hurricane Bill – Rian Wilkinson, Tim Coen, Mike McGordy- Second Beach was the only Northeast Beach opened during that weekend. The entire staff did an outstanding job in controlling the swim area, and there were no major incidents even in the very heavy surf. A well laid out plan contributed to this successful weekend. Rian distributed a letter to the editor- highlighting not only the lifeguard's professionalism, but their courtesy in administrating to the beach patrons.(Ellen Walsh- Ashland, OR )**

**III- Improvement List- Second Beach**

- New Building- ongoing.**
- Invasive Grass- second application- on or before October 1st.**
- Lifeguard Protection Plan- (rock to main beach)**
  - a. guard captains, management and town administration will meet over the winter to formulate a plan.**
- Seaweed removal- Tom O'Loughlin said this is not practical due to**

the wear on equipment and cost of transporting seaweed to the Johnston land fill.

- Shower- Rock- Tom o.Loughlin reported that the town will apply for the necessary permits – DEM.
- Refurbish Lifeguard Boat- Mike McGordy and Rian Wilkinson reported that the boat needs to have the keel rebuilt, the oar brackets replaced. Re-painting and re-lettering must also be done. This should be started before the new year. Local boat facilities will be contacted and possible "comp" work will be explored. Tim Shaw asked about the cost of a new Van Dyne dory - Rian priced it at approximately \$8500.00 plus shipping. Rian recommended repair rather than replacement and also a heavy duty boat trailer is recommended.
- Fence repair- minor lot fence repair is needed gate #2 and #3.
- Dune Conservation- ongoing- small scale dune grass planting is recommended – Fall '09.
- Truck repair- Tim Coen reported that the 4-wheel drive is not working- which makes emptying the garbage bags into the dumpster difficult. Tom O'Loughlin will have men check out the truck, but feels it may not be worth repairing the 4 wheel drive function.
- Swings- Tim Shaw reported that the wrong parts were received and new ones have not arrived.
- Equipment trailer- Rian Wilkinson felt a small utility type trailer equipped with racks to carry rescue boards and other expensive lifeguard equipment. It would be a good investment. Currently, the boards and other rescue equipment are carried on the beach trucks

or gators- this is causing damage to this expensive equipment.

#### **IV - Third Beach List-**

- **Pollution Problems-** Tom O'Loughlin gave a very complete description of all the problems that caused record closings at Third Beach. Extremely wet weather, changes- both man made and by nature combined to cause extended closings and beach erosion. The town is in contact with the agencies involved and plans are being made to correct some of the run-off problems by next summer.
- **Third Beach received record amounts of seaweed due to two passing hurricanes. Since it is not possible to transport the seaweed, Rian Wilkinson suggested raking the seaweed to the old navy beach. This would act as fertilizer for the dune grass and also help prevent beach erosion.**

#### **Other Suggestions**

**NEW- Fire Pit-** Bill Seiple suggested that the town provide a "fire pit" for public bon fires. This could be located either directly east or west of the concession stand. It could be rented to small groups, families, or organizations. This would provide revenue, as well as, offer an enjoyable experience.

**NEW- Exit- West side of main lot-** Bill Seiple, and Tim Coen- An "exit only" cut in the west lot was recommended. It would ease congestion at the main gate. Also, since it would have an entrance "obstacle", it would allow the patrons, who are using the purposed fire pit, to stay at the beach later. It would also limit the problems of getting all the cars out of the lot by dark, The main gate would be locked and they

could exit via the “exit only” opening.

**NEW- Communication/ Beach Radios- Frank B asked about the number of radios available. Mike m Coen reported that on very busy days the beach staff has to borrow radios from the lifeguards. With increased patrols (rock area), this can present a problem. Tim Shaw told the committee that he orders 2 ea for the guards/2 ea for the Beach staff. At approximately \$500.00 each. However, there are malfunctions and sometimes 2-3 radios are “down”. \*\*\*Tom O’Loughlin asked if a “base” operation would work since it is far more economical. He said he would check with the M.P.D. about their old base unit and radios.**

**Also, at the present time, the beach management, lifeguards and harbor master cannot communicate with each other without switching channels. A base operation would allow office personnel to direct important calls to the correct area. All agreed this should be a major area to improve.**

**To be continued 10/13/2009**

**Meeting adjourned 6:10 pm**